

# Navjyothi (NJSS)

Half Yearly Update for the year 2020-2021

November 2020

# Important Documents for Half Yearly Review

- Half Yearly Report: [Progress Report – Nov 2020](#)
- Fund Utilization Report has just been received for FY 2019-20 and first half year 2020-21: [Fund Utilization Report – Nov 2020](#)
- Last Site Visit Report: [NJSS Site Visit Report - Mar 2020](#)
- Budget for current year: [NJSS Budget for year April 2020 - March 2021](#)

# Updates from project

- Volunteer from Asha Atlanta (Anish) is helping coordinate remote learning for children for a project in Uttarakhand. He is also interested in starting remote classes for children from ASV
  - Will target children from Class 4, 5, 6 & 7 with Math, Science and English as the subjects
  - Syllabus has been shared with the group so that they can create material
  - Proposed class time - 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm might be difficult in the village setting
  - Questions exist about access
    - How many children have access to smartphone?
    - How many children can attend classes at ASV center?
    - Get laptop/computer and get children together if they are from villages further away
  - **Update** – Plan is to make material available and there will be Zoom meeting between the volunteers and the teachers weekly
  - Austin can also listen in to these calls to understand/contribute to the program
- **Kishori Shiksha Kendra**
  - Center runs for about 3 hours
  - The girls from the center have been split into 3 batches so about 8-10 girls work each hour

# Budget

- Budgets are usually set for the school year from April to following March
- In 2019, fund disbursement happened as follows
  - August (GF) - 12387
  - November (Austin) – 13001
- In 2020, fund disbursement happened as follows
  - July (GF) - 12625
  - August (Austin) – 9306
  - November (Austin) -- ~9306 (pending)
- In 2020, they have not collected any money as fees from children. Local contributions have been mostly used to provide COVID relief

# Funds Utilization – 2019-20

- 2019 - 2020
  - The Funds Utilization report for this year shows about Rs 450,000 as unused funds
  - Some of the programs in the early part of the academic year were scaled down because of uncertainty in funding and finally General Funds were approved only in August
  - According to Nandlalji they do their best to organize all the programs they have committed for, but the programs like the summer camp were scaled down. They do their best to tap into local contributions to support the shortfalls
  - Salaries increments happen when new budgets are approved and new salaries are set going forward from January 1<sup>st</sup>. So there is approximately a 9 month lag
  - Any remaining money is kept as NJSS Corpus Fund with the Asha India Central Account
  - Some of this money is going towards funding –
    - Construction of the ASV classrooms
    - To buy new furniture for Class 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>
    - Adding a filter/cooler for drinking water for the school children
    - Some amount will be used to purchase children's play material
- Any extra money remains in Asha Kaithi account towards the NJSS Corpus money
- Budget items placed in different heads based on audit requirements by Asha India Central team

# Funds Utilization – 2020-21

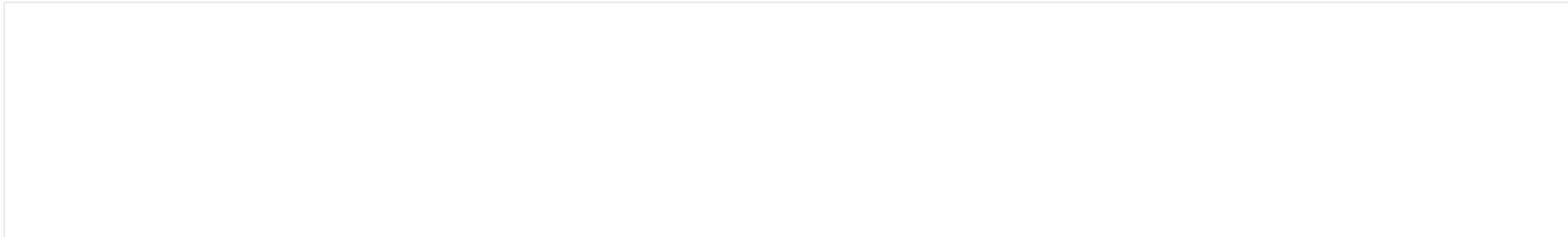
- Received 3 lakhs for construction in 2020 budget, but the overall cost is turning out to be closer to 6 lakhs
  - Local contributions of about 205,000 were expected but that has not happened because of COVID relief work
  - The initial budget included using asbestos roof but the plan was changed to make it a cement roof because of the summer heat
  - Some more work is required - electrical, door, windows and painting
- Normally expect to raise about 10% funds locally

# Q&As on Updates

- What are the cost of mask making?
  - Masks are of 2 -3 types – Rs 6, 8 and 10 – three different types
  - Not being sold but being distributed to SHG members, KSK girls, school and library children – 2 masks each
    - Library - Create an ID card when they join. Membership is Rs 25 and then charge Rs 5/month.
    - Every Sunday – children need to return books in a week
    - Children often interested in books related to syllabus
  - Labor which was surveyed – also received masks
  - About 10,000 masks were distributed
- What is the status of migrant laborers in the area?
  - 60-70% have returned to the cities because they did not have any options in the villages
  - Some others are working as daily labors, farming, opened small shops,
- What is the status of board exams in UP?
  - Schools have not started in UP for lower grades up to class 8.
  - There is no information on what will be done for children's progress this year
  - Board exams have been filled by children doing Class 10<sup>th</sup> and Class 12<sup>th</sup> exams
  - Possibly will have exams with reduced syllabus

# Q&As on Updates

- Help Desk - what is the objective and how is it funded?
  - It is a special program run in partnership with a group in Lucknow called Sahyog. Currently working in 4 villages with following objectives –
    - Gender discrimination
    - Domestic violence
    - Family planning – all responsibility falls on the women. Trying to include the youth/men to be more responsible
    - Abortion is allowed but gender-determination is not allowed by law. People take medicines to induce abortion, which may not be safe
  - With COVID – domestic violence has gone up and also sanitary pads are not easily available to girls. As part of the program they are trying to address these issues through awareness and distribution of sanitary pads
  - Funding is provided by Sahyog – about 5000-10000 rupees





# Fund Utilization Report Q/As

- What is the corpus amount for Navjyothi with Asha-India?
  - Target is to have one year salary in the corpus funds
  - Last year they had about 8-9 months of salary (about Rs 10,00,000)
  - Can provide better estimate in March
  
  - Proposal: Instead of summer camp, plan to work with SHGs to create income generation opportunities
    - Training program to make washing powder, pickles, etc.
  
- What is the difference between the Rs 294000 allocated vs Rs 203900 spent, on the honorarium for the SHG and KSK programs
  - One SHG member has been paid in cash, so the payments do not show in the records
  - Another new member is being Rs 4000 for now on a temporary basis
    - Budgeted -  $(6500+5500) \times 5 = 60000$
    - Utilization Report –  $4000 \times 5 = 20000$
  - Salary a little lower than budgeted (because of 9 month salary lag) ~ 10,000-15000

# Vote

- Do you approve sending INR 6,95,000 as 2nd disbursement to cover operating expenses from Oct 2020 to Mar 2021 of Asha Samajik Vidyalaya (ASV) school and Self Help Groups (SHG)?