

(a unit of Hope @ Joy Society for the Underprivileged)

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Introduction

Asha Deep, a school running under the auspices of the NGO Hope and Joy Society for the Underprivileged, was started in February 2004 with the purpose of providing education to underprivileged children in the city of Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The aim of the school is to give children a chance to break free from the cycle of poverty by providing quality education in a loving environment, enabling them to live with dignity and respect. Asha Deep is located in the Nagwa/Samneghat area of Varanasi (on the bank of Gangaji). The school is run in a rented building with 16 rooms and a playing area. Approximately eighty percent of children belong to parents who are rickshaw-walas and domestic helpers. The rate of alcoholism is high in families of these children.

Asha Deep school is based on the philosophy that:

- 1. Every child deserves to have a good education
- 2. A happy place where children enjoy learning should be available
- 3. Each child should be respected and loved
- 4. Talents of each child should be recognized and encouraged

Along with academic and basic life skills, Asha Deep promotes self-respect; personal disciplines such as generosity, patience, and perseverance; a sincere desire to treat others with respect and kindness and teaches healthy means of conflict resolution.

Number of Children

With a modest beginning in 2004 with 8 children and one teacher, Asha Deep today has 210 children ranging from the age of 5-18 years and seventeen teachers who, apart from teaching regular academics, look after the mental, physical, emotional and social development of the children in classes from kindergarten to 8th grade. Students who complete 8th grade are sent to other schools to continue their studies through 12th grade or beyond. At present there are 22 graduates of Asha Deep studying in other local school in classes 9-12th. Asha Deep pays all school fees & tuitions for students going to other local school after 8th grade. It also supports two of the seven graduates who are currently studying at university level.

Program and Services Offered

School timings for children in LKG to 1st grade are 8 am to 12 pm, and 8 am to 3 pm for children in 2-8th grade. Lunch is provided to children who stay till 3 pm. Lunch offered is healthy and consists of dal, rice, and one green vegetable. Occasionally, roti or puri is provided.

School provides after school tuition from 3:30 -4:30 pm to children who need extra help to succeed in their classes. In addition, Asha Deep graduates who go to other local schools are required to attend these tuition classes. Personal and academic counseling is also provided to these students to ensure they succeed in their future endeavors.

Monthly Budget

Total	R	s <u>3,12,200</u>
Fee/Tuitions for Graduates		47,800
Supplies		35,000
Salaries		1,03,400
Lunch		35,000
Rent + Utilities + Maintenance	RS	91,000

Requested Funding

The proposal is for funding to pay for teachers' salaries. It is requested that 6 months salaries from January to June, 2018 for 15 teachers be considered for funding.

Teachers' Salaries

1,03, 400 X 6 = **_6,20,400**