

Meeting minutes

2018-08-20 Asha Austin Meeting notes

- Created by Mohit Sood, last modified on Aug 22, 2018

Date

20 Aug 2018

Attendees

- Mohit Sood
- Subra Nathan
- Rangakrishnan Srinivasan
- Vandana Mallempati
- Rana Singh

Goals

- Nethra Voting Results
- KWS Voting Results
- Strides of Hope Planning
- Support a Child Planning - Moved to next meeting

Time	Item	Who	Notes
15 min	Nethra Voting Results	Mohit Sood Vandana Mallempati	<p>Chapter has voted to take up Nethra Vidyalaya as a new project and approve budget for first year. Here are the Results from Online voting.</p> <p>Following volunteers voted :</p> <p>Maneesh Bharath Vandana Subra Mohit Ranga</p> <p>Do you approve adopting Nethra Vidyalaya as new project to Asha Austin?</p>

Time	Item	Who	Notes
			<p>Yes - 6</p> <p>No - 0</p> <p>Abstain - 0</p> <p>Do you approve sending INR 6,86,000 to Nethra Vidyalaya in 2018-19 (to be sent as two installments of INR 3,43,000) ? This will be towards salaries of teachers from April 2018 to March 2019</p> <p>Yes - 6</p> <p>No - 0</p> <p>Abstain - 0</p>

2018-07-30 Asha Austin Meeting notes

- Created by Mohit Sood, last modified on Aug 05, 2018

Date

30 Jul 2018

Attendees

- Mohit Sood
- Rangakrishnan Srinivasan
- Vandana Mallempati
- Subra Nathan
- Arvind Rao

Goals

- KWS Part 3 update
- Mathru short update
- Nethra Vidyalaya FCRA discussion

Discussion items

<p>30 min</p>	<p>Nethra Vidyalaya FCRA discussion</p>	<p>Mohit Sood</p> <p>Vandana</p> <p>Mallempati</p>	<p>Nethra is up for Vote within the Chapter. Voting has not been closed yet.</p> <p>We recently found out that school does not have a FCRA. There are two options to send funds to the school, one through Jeeyar Education Trust & another organization VT Seva both of which fund Nethra Vidyalaya.</p> <p>Going through their websites, we found out both these orgs are headed by Chinna Jeeyar Swami, a spiritual leader in the region.</p> <p>On their proposal form, Chinna Jeeyar Swami is listed as Managing trustee and G. Gangaraju is listed as Chairman of Board. Mr. Gangaraju is MP in India and owner of Laila group of companies according to this link. They are likely not involved in day-to-day operation of the blind school.</p> <p>Both organizations have sister orgs registered in USA. JET USA is registered 501c(3) as religious institution. Their 2015 financials show \$76k contribution to Nethra Vidyalaya.</p> <p>They have Chapters across USA including one in Austin. VT Seva is also registered 501c(3) but not as a religious org. - link. However CEO is Chinna Jeeyar Swami. Pragathi USA has also funded Nethra through VT Seva in 2015 - link. Dont know if they still do.</p> <p>They also have several Chapters in USA maybe fundraising for Nethra - example link</p> <p>The school claims it does not discriminate children based on religion, caste, etc.,which we trust them based on volunteer's experience.</p> <p>If we decide to fund the blind school, it would be best to send funds through VT Seva since their objectives align with Asha principles.</p>
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Action items

- [Mohit Sood](#)
- Setup online vote
- [Arvind Rao](#)

- Discuss with Malathiji as what their growth plan is.
- What does she plan to do when she meets her reserve goal ?
- When does she plan to take more children in ?
- [Vandana Mallempati](#)

- Find out if VT Seva has FCRA.
- High-level breakup of income/donations for Nethra-Varija given in their audit reports to have an idea of their different fundraising channels (JET USA, JET worldwide, VT Seva, local fundraising, etc).

2018-07-09 Asha-Austin Meeting notes

- Created by Rangakrishnan Srinivasan, last modified on Jul 09, 2018

Date

09 Jul 2018

Attendees

- [Rangakrishnan Srinivasan](#)
- [Subra Nathan](#)
- [Vandana Mallempati](#)
- [Mohit Sood](#)

Goals

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- Nethra Vidyalaya followup
- REWARD trust proposal from Subashree for support of 4 teachers
- GSK-Girirajpura Followup
- ARC Feedback Phase 2

Discussion items

Time	Item	Who	Notes
20 min	Nethra Vidyalaya Followup	Vandana Mallempati	<p>12 teachers salaries - 1,07,116 Rs. p.m.</p> <p>Presented line-items to pick up for budget proposal and voting towards teacher salaries</p> <p>Request for English teacher from school</p> <p>First year of funding with max budget of 10k USD, which is close to projected shortfall in funding</p> <p>JET Trust - FCRA - bank account information for routing funds to Nethra Vidyalaya</p> <p>Audit utilization reports to track actual utilization</p> <p>Ranga went over the internal checklists and required documentation</p>

Action items

- Vandana Mallempati - audit utilization reports for actual utilization

2018-06-25 Asha-Austin Meeting notes

- Created by Rangakrishnan Srinivasan, last modified on Jul 09, 2018

Date

09 Jul 2018

Attendees

- Rangakrishnan Srinivasan
- Mohit Sood
- Raju Patil
- Subra Nathan
- Vandana Mallempati

Goals

- Financial health of our current project partners
- Nethra Vidyalaya

Discussion items

Time	Item	Who	Notes
1 hour	Financial Health of our Project Partners	Rangakrishnan Srinivasan	<p>Review of audit reports of project partners GSK and KWS audit reports in their website</p> <p>GSK Steady fundraising every year, with 5-6 big funding partners Income to expenditure ratio 1-1.6 over the years Different fundraising model, WCR < 1 Seek yearly funding Have support from foundations and institutional partners</p> <p>KWS WCR at 1.7-2.4 over the years Total income to expenditure ratio ~ 1-1.7 over the years 2017-19 growth focus on audiometry lab + hiring of personnel 2019- growth focus on hostel/residential home for alumni Crowd-funding with distributed approach, no reliance on a single big funding partner Improved financials with new approach since 2016-17</p> <p>Mathru WCR between 8-12 over the years Higher income to actual expenditure ratio for the past 3 years Focus on increasing their beneficiary strength For 5x increase in their beneficiary strength, their WCR will come down to 2</p> <p>Nethra Income to expenditure maintained at 1</p>

Time	Item	Who	Notes
			<p>WCR at 1.2-1.4, with corpus funds being used to dip into for shortfall in fundraising every year</p> <p>Shortfall met from reserve funds (defined as corpus funds in audit reports, while technically not being used as corpus)</p> <p>Is corpus funds Nethra's share from JET funds?</p>
1 hour	Nethra Vidyalaya	Vandana Mallempati	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Original Proposal with Appendix and Form B</p> <p>Site Visit Report</p> <p>Budget Proposal</p> <p>Specific request for funding of teacher salaries/recurring costs</p> <p>Line-items for funding - consensus to fund teacher salaries - for tracking and accountability</p> <p>Nethra specific audit reports is good for tracking financials of the school</p> <p>Audit reports from JET and not Nethra Vidyalaya as FCRA account is JET to be reviewed for second disbursement</p> <p>It is ok to gate the second disbursement for JET audit reports vs. now as we need to build a working relationship with the school</p> <p>Proposal came in November 2017 with site visit done in March 2018</p>

Action items

- Vandana Mallempati - Prepare budget proposal and line-items for funding
- Vandana Mallempati - JET audit report will gate second disbursement
- Mohit Sood - set up online poll for voting for Nethra

2018-07-1 Asha-Austin Meeting notes

- Created by Mohit Sood, last modified on Jul 15, 2018

Date

01 Jul 2018

Attendees

- Mohit Sood
- Bharathkumar Thandri
- Subra Nathan
- Vandana Mallempati
- Rana Singh
- Maneesh Nair

Goals

- Nethra School update
- GSK Girirajpura School : Annual update : Report, Budget and Proposal
- Proposal to support 4 teachers by REWARD

Discussion items

Time	Item	Who	Notes
10 min	Nethra School Q&A	Vandana Mallempati	FCRA is in the name of JET JET is going to transfer funds sent to Nethra Vidyalaya

2018-03-27 Asha-Austin Meeting notes

- Created by Rangakrishnan Srinivasan, last modified on Jul 09, 2018

Date

27 Mar 2018

Attendees

- Rangakrishnan Srinivasan
- Bharathkumar Thandri

- Subra Nathan
- Arvind Rao
- Vandana Mallempati
- Sowmya Suryanarayanan

Goals

- Site Visit Update on Nethra Vidyalaya

Discussion items

Time	Item	Who	Notes
1 hour	Site Visit Update on Nethra Vidyalaya	Vandana Mallempati	<p>A potential new project for Asha-Austin with proposal originally obtained in November 2017 by Team Asha Runner and Asha-Austin volunteer, Vandana Mallempati</p> <p>Vandana had presented preliminary proposal in Dec 2017 and did a site visit in March 2018 during her India trip</p> <p>Own premises in 2013, free education, includes hostel and food/lodging</p> <p>80 boys + 35 girls with 14 teachers who specialize in special needs education</p> <p>20 kms from Vishakhapatnam main center</p> <p>1st floor - all classrooms/ library/ staff room/ computer room</p> <p>2nd floor - dining area, kitchen, girls hostel, boys hostel</p> <p>6 teachers commute from Vijayanagaram; other 8 teachers are in Vishakhapatnam</p> <p>1 warden for boys/ girls - Non teaching staff for residential premises</p> <p>Current funding - donations and contributions from individuals; corpus funds</p> <p>Mrs. Lakshmi - lead fundraiser for the school, individual donors connect to known charity organizations</p>

Time	Item	Who	Notes
			<p>If there is funding shortfall per month, then they dip into the trust funds to cover the shortfall</p> <p>Government funding - declined with no reason given</p> <p>There is a government girls high school for the visually challenged, couple of miles from this school, which does get government funding</p> <p>Get a list of blind children born in the region and individually go an meet and talk to the families and get them enrolled in the school</p> <p>Organization donated Braille books, local charities donated computers, donated software to them - One time donations</p> <p>Current model of trust funds plus individual donations seem to cover their needs</p> <p>Follow state board syllabus - help with scribes</p> <p>Vocational products - ship to people in US - paper bags, candle making, wire bags, greeting cards, glass painting, friendship bands</p> <p>Music, Dance and Drama given importance in the school</p> <p>Original proposal - teaching aids, hiring english teacher, etc. In the past few months, they have been able to get donors/donations</p> <p>Funding model based on individual contributions and donations - significant dip in the past few months - having tough time paying to regular teaching and non-teaching staff</p> <p>If Asha could help pay for the teacher salaries or food expenses</p> <p>Permanent teachers - 1.85 lacs/ month, Non-teaching staff - 35k/ month, Food expenses - 1.5 lacs/ month, Miscellaneous - 1 lac/month</p>

Action items

- Vandana Mallem pati - what is the status of their trust funds ?
- Vandana Mallem pati - look into their financials and audit reports next time the project comes up for ongoing review.
- Rangakrishnan Srinivasan - What do we need to do to take on a new project ?
- Rangakrishnan Srinivasan - Set up an online poll to see if we take it up vs. solicit other chapters to fund it ?
- Vandana Mallem pati - FCRA clearance and validity
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