



Ruksana Azhu Valappil <ruksanaav@gmail.com>

Additional questions regarding CDDP

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To: Ruksana <ruksanaav@gmail.com>
Cc: Sethu Narayanan <cddp_ngo@hotmail.com>

Sat, Nov 10, 2012 at 9:53 AM

Dear Ms.Ruksana,

The following are the responses to the questions:

1. We are trying to get local sponsors. Apart from Asha sponsorship of 162 children, we have obtained sponsorship for another 18 children during this academic year. As you know, we have already constructed a Asha school building at Nemili with a local donor. We are gearing up the local sponsorship and we hope to reduce the Asha dependency by about 30% in next academic year 2013-14, and another 40% in 14-15 and finally another 40%,15-16. Hence, the Asha sponsorship will complete in the year 2016.

2. Asha schools have generated a consciousness on the value of education to the first generation school going children and also to their parents. They are all from the poorest of the poor tribal and untouchable communities. Earlier to our intervention, among these communities, 92% of the children were either non-school going or drop out during the primary school stage itself. After we have started our schools, the drop out ratio has considerably reduced.(must be around 70 to 80%).

3. There is marked difference between the students attending exclusively Govt schools and also the students attending our Asha schools. The main differences are: 1. Good behaviour 2. Clean habits 3. Confidence in speaking 4. Socialization 5. Concern for others 6. Skill in effective learning techniques. 7. Involvement in life education and in extra-curricular activities. 8. leadership skills 9. respecting parents, teachers and elders etc. Some of these have been mentioned specifically by some of the Asha volunteers who have visited our schools during earlier years.

4. Our Asha school children need specific personal attention. The reasons are: 1. They are the first generation children from their families to attend schools. 2. they are from different age groups and different classes. 3. There is marked difference in IQ and learning capabilities among the children. Hence, there is a need for individual attention for each of the children. Such personal attention is possible only if the number is 25 and less. The teachers find it comfortable to deal with 25 children.

Excepting 162 children studying under the Asha project, another 180 children are in our official waiting list. Besides, there must be approximately around 300 children who would like to come into the waiting list.

5. We encourage our well-wishers to help our target children/people directly by way of materials/money. For example, the Asha school building at Nemili was constructed with a cost of around 5 lakhs rupees. We requested the sponsor to pay directly to the masons, workers, materials for the construction etc. Hence, this is not reflected in our accounts. The value of such help is quite considerable.

Barring this direct help, as per our accounts, we have 50% of the help is from Asha and the balance from other helping sources.

sethunarayanan

On Thu, Nov 1, 2012 at 10:06 AM, Ruksana <ruksanaav@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. Sethunarayanan,

It was a pleasure talking to you over the phone yesterday. I thank you for answering the additional questions from Asha silicon valley volunteers. As we discussed I am also sending these questions via email.

1. Do you an alternate funding option apart from Asha? What will happen if Asha funding doesn't come through?
2. What effect has Asha funding had over the last 17 years of support for CDDP? Do you have specific examples?
3. Has there been consistent improvement in the life of the students attending CDDP schools as compared to those who attend only govt. school?
4. The site visitors mentioned that you have a limit of admitting 25 students per school due to funding limit. Are many kids turned away?
5. CDDP has other projects apart from Asha schools. What percentage of your overall budget are the schools?

Kindly send your responses. I will then add them to the document I am already preparing to be send to Asha Silicon Valley volunteers, so that we can vote on the budget for the current year. As we discussed, please also send any supporting documents you may have in regards to the above questions.

Thank you very much.

Best,

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Ruksana