

**From:** "Sirish Agarwal" <sirish\_ashadc@hotmail.com>

**Subject:** ASV schools discussion notes

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**To:** <monx1@yahoo.com>, "Manju Krishnan" <manju\_aid@yahoo.com>, "Mona Sehgal" <sehgal\_mona@yahoo.com>, <lobo.c@owp.com>

**Notes from Conference call with Arizona (Caroline) and DC (Sirish);  
August 20, 2005**

**ASV centers (Arizona):**

Caroline: Asha Arizona funds 5 centers, about 250 children. Number of centers and children is expanding. Sonia has mentioned that the need for 500 children exists. Arizona chapter is very keen on teaming up with another chapter for 2005-06 budget and for general support.

Communication has been a problem, hence getting progress reports by phone. Have talked to Sonia three times in last couple of months. Will be calling Sonia for a progress update in a week's time along with additional Arizona chapter volunteers, DC volunteers are welcome to join. Caroline will send the details of conference call.

We also need to ensure we have points of contact that are involved in all stages. In addition to calls to Sonia, should we involve Vallabh and Arundhati in conference calls?

Sirish: Sonia, Arundhati, and Vallabh have all mentioned that they are making efforts to streamline budgeting and progress reports.

**Support A Child Project (DC):**

Asha DC is supporting admission, tuition, and other fees for admission of 32 children to formal private schools. These are schools targeted for poor children and are subsidized by govt. Fees are very modest and total about Rs 3000 per child per year. Sonia's team had asked only for children's support, DC chapter decided to add small amount for a person's half-salary to coordinate admissions and keep progress reports and accounts etc.

Caroline: Will these children continue to receive support after first year?

Sirish: The children will need support for multiple years. The two approaches AZ and DC are funding differ as in one children get the support to attend a formal school, in other we are funding a center to maximize the number of children covered in non-formal or remedial education. Its not clear which model works better for the long term involvement.

Caroline: There is also some plan for an Ashram with long term involvement of community. A vocational training center for tailoring etc has also been started.

Sirish: it would be ideal if the trained children can come back and contribute to the education of next generation. SVYM project (Boston) has been successful in motivating the community in this way.

Q: Would the children in SAC formal schools continue to go to non-formal centers as well? We do know that they will continue to attend the monthly Bal Sabha and Sonia will visit the parents regularly, but doubt they will attend the non-formal center classes as well.

Q: Reason behind choosing Springdale evening center and Kalish Kunj center. Sirish: Perhaps these were the two centers where children were most interested/ready and a nearby private school could be identified.

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Overall Action Items:

Conference call around weekend of August 27th

Hindi language localization software needed for Lucknow, it will help provide reports and keep documents and accounts

Identify a chapter to team up with Arizona (CNJ - Sharique, Princeton - Hansa, DC)