Project Sangamam
Asha Chennai Proposal – Year 2020-21
May 1, 2020

Background:

Project Sangamam at Asha Chennai has been in existence since 2004. For the year 2020-21, the project remains similar to our effort in 2019-20. We supported 7 schools in 2019-20. Four schools namely Polivakkam, Guruvoyal, Arkampattu and Valasaivettikkadu are large schools. Three schools namely Sengadu, Bhakthavatsalam Nagar and AN Kandigai are small schools. Our funding situation is unknown for all projects considering the excess from Asha Central is dwindling and the coronavirus pandemic could put our other funding in jeopardy. Therefore, we will refrain from expanding Project Sangamam in 2020-21.

Project Sangamam for 2020-21 will continue to also act as a buffer for Glovis Sangamam for some unforeseen expenses that have not already been approved by Hyundai Glovis. As Asha Chennai continues to grow, we need to find ways to retain quality staff, help develop their skills, provide an avenue for them to grow as people which will eventually benefit Asha. We need to provide them a working environment that they will cherish. We need to have our staff believe that they are making a difference in the lives of the children they teach and buy into Asha's goals rather than just treat it as a job. Some of the things we do include training, excursions and so on for our staff aside from having meetings that they can have fun at.

We typically do the following work at the Project Sangamam schools we support,

1. Provide a regular teacher where the teacher student ratio warrants it.

2. Provide a computer teacher. Depending on the size of the school we typically provide a teacher for 1 or 2 days a week to work at these schools providing curriculum and computer literacy education to students.

3. Undertake minimal civil works at the schools including blackboard repainting. Optionally more things like building of kitchen sheds, repair roof leak etc.

4. Train our teachers.

5. Maintain the computer labs at these schools.

6. Support the schools in conducting annual day functions.

7. Provide laptops for our teachers. Train the teachers on using the laptops.

8. Provide Internet enabled Wifi hotspots to the teachers along with data plans so that they can all use the Internet. Provide Wifi dongles for the computers in the schools so that they can also access the Internet through these hotspots.

9. Provide contents that are aligned to the lessons in the curriculum to improve the education. We would provide contents suitable for primary schools with particular emphasis in English and Maths.

This project has also been augmented by other projects like [RightStart](). RightStart is the annual teacher training

that is held in May for the teachers of Asha Chennai from all the projects as well as teachers from partner organisations.

Most people in the schools we support are in villages that are extremely poor and are from families who have never had any formal education. The people work as farmers in the fields and some others have found jobs in the industrial enterprises that have come up in these areas. The scenario as regards education in these areas are similar to the rest of Tamilnadu. Government schools exist but with serious deficiencies. Private (read English medium) schools are coming up and eating into the student force of the government schools. But the private schools are often worse in terms of the quality of the teaching. Asha Chennai believes the revival and strengthening of the government schooling system is essential to the implementation of any mass education initiative in India.

Schools/Teachers Covered

We will continue supporting all the 7 schools from last year. The schools are in Sengadu, Bhaktavatsalam Nagar, AN Kandigai, Valasaivettikadu, Polivakkam, Arkampattu and Guruvoyal. Our experience in these schools have been mixed. Many of these schools are used to getting funds from the companies in the area for infrastructure projects. Some of them have RO water facilities, some have Solar panels installed on their roof and some have bathrooms constructed for them. Unfortunately, there is no help in terms of educating the kids the way Asha feels they need to be educated.

In all we will have 3 regular teachers going to Polivakkam, Arkampattu and Guruvoyal. The school in Polivakkam is a middle school and we have provided a science teacher for the school. Although Asha does not provide regular teachers for middle schools in general, we felt there was a need in the school. The rest of the schools just get a computer teacher. We have yet to hire 2 computer teachers to support these schools.

Other Details

Buffer from Glovis Sangamam project includes Rs. 50,000 for external training and the other part of the buffer is Rs. 100,000 for teacher excursions, considering that the excursions are an excellent team building exercise that make the staff feel that they are taken care of.

ProjectSangamamBudget202021

Project Sangamam Asha Budget 2020-21

SNo	Work Description	Cost Details	2019-20 Budget	2109-20 Actual	2020-21 Budget
1	Regular Teachers - 3 Polivakkam, Guruvoyal, Arkampattu	The salaries for 2020-21 is likely to be Rs 9,200 (2019 - 8200 + increase 1000) including conveyance between Rs 1,000 and Rs 1500 per month.	2,04,000	1,94,550	3,46,200
2	Computer teachers - 3 Two teachers in Kadambathur / Kanchipuram side and one in Ellapuram block side. Need to hire one in Kanchipuram and one in Ellapuram	The base salaries for 2020-21 is likely to be Rs 9,700 including conveyance between Rs 1,000 and Rs 1500 per month and a Rs 5,000 bonus during Deepavali for 1 continuing teacher.	3,47,000	1,23,060	3,54,200
3	Coordinator. The coordinator would need to handle the purchases, handle cash on behalf of Asha, travel to Chennai to provide vouchers, collect cheques give to the teachers etc. He should possess the skills required to maintain good relations with the village leaders, school teachers, education dept. officials etc. and ensure smooth functioning of the project.	The coordinator will be used part time for this project while also working on other Asha related activities. His/her salary will be prorated 50% for Project Sangamam out of a total of Rs. 17200 per month + Rs. 5,000 for yearly bike maintenance and Rs. 5000 Deepavali Bonus	1,13,200	1,08,200	1,13,200
4	Computer Technician	New computer technician hired Anand at 13,500, will be increased to 14,500 + 5000 Deepavali Bonus	12,000	69,070	1,79,000
5	Educational and Stationery Materials	Stationeries, educational kits, slates, pens, pencils etc. About Rs. 8,000 per school for small schools and Rs. 15,000 for large schools	1,00,000	1,05,577	84,000
6	Sports Materials	Skipping rope, plastic balls, footballs, board games etc. About Rs. 8000 per school for large schools and Rs 4000 for small schools.	60,000	16,780	44,000
7	Gardening Materials	Since Dharmi Chand left, no one to administer it	6,000	0	0
8	Blackboard and Scribble Area Repainting	This year we intend to paint just once. Expect it to cost around Rs. 2,000 per school for the 7 schools we support	20,000	13,050	14,000
9	Supplies	Printing supplies, Xeroxing, laminating etc. of offline materials for schools.	5,000	0	5,000
10	Mats	Replace Mats at schools 2000*7	20,000	0	14,000
11	School day and other school functions	The allocation is approximate based on our usual expenses in our other schools. 10,000 per school for large schools and 5000 per month for small schools.	75,000	11,237	45,000
12	Data plan for 6 teachers and 1 coordinator	Rs 600 per quarter for each teacher.	12,000	6,171	16,800
13	Administrative Expenses	Conveyance Documentation, etc.	10,000	8,844	10,000
14	Computer Maintenance Hardware and Software Purchases for 8 schools and 5 teachers	There will be a total of about 30 computers that we will manage for this project. About 2,000 per computer	60,000	2,700	60,000
15	Teacher Kits	Two uniform sarees and bag for teachers. Rs 2000 for each of the 6 teachers one computer technician and one coordinator	12,000	10,380	16,000
16	Teacher Excursion	We were able to pawn off excursion to each of the projects last year, so our cost came down, but we might still be on the hook for Glovis project if we are not able to show it as training	1,00,000	49,579	60,000
17	External training	Glovis budget only approves regular training meetings etc for ALL teachers not for specific classes we send some teachers to. We have had such training opportunities like Hindu Step, Auroville computer training etc.	50,000	0	50,000
18	Rent	500 for Thiruvallur 4000 Mylapore	48,000	54,000	54,000
19	Contingency Fund	Needs to cover contingency for all of Glovis Sangamam as well.	50,000	30,000	50,000
	TOTAL		**13,04,200**	**8,03,198**	**15,15,400**