



Asha for Education™

UFlorida Chapter

Gators for Asha, 300-9 J W Reitz Union, P.O Box 118505, Gainesville, FL 32601

www.ashanet.org/uflorida

Approval minutes for REWARD

Date : 09/11/16 (evote), budget discussion held on 8/26/16

Attendees : Apoorva Mohan (Project Steward), Devesh Chugh, Poojitha Reddy, Ramya Sivakumar, Namrata kashi, Meera Sitharam, Janani P, Abhinav Rungta, Gayathri Sindhu Srinivasan, Revathi Kedari

Background about REWARD:

REWARD trust is run by scientists at the IGCAR atomic power facility at Kalpakkam, Chennai. Over the last 20 years, they have done a fabulous job in providing a better quality of education to the not-so privileged children in the villages around Kalpakkam. Their working model includes recruiting teachers to the vacant positions in the government schools by collaborating with the Parents teacher association. In addition to this they have improved the overall learning experience of the children by giving supplemental training to the teachers and also by conducting SMART tests which tests the analytical thinking of the children. REWARD's efforts have resulted in a steep increase in graduation rates leading to the rural children achieving high academic standards and getting better job opportunities. They have been supported by multiple Asha chapters including AshaSV, Stanford, Princeton and Asha UF in addition to the contributions from individuals and local agencies.

Funding situation:

In the past two years, there have been funding cuts from some Asha chapters which has resulted in Reward seeking additional funds from chapters like Asha Danbury and Asha Dallas. In 2015-16 calendar year, Asha UF was able to contribute to meet some of the deficit by contributing INR 3.54 lakhs as a one-time funding. In 2016-17, Reward had requested to combine the regular budget and the one-time funding amount and had added 1 more teacher to come under Asha UF, the budget totaling to INR 11.7 lakhs. The detailed breakdown is below.

FLORIDA (10 Tchrs & Rs 10.8 L in 2015-16)					
Budget 2016-17 (Requests Continuation)					
Incentives, Admin, Resource Person expenses taken under Local funds					
	Level	# Tchrs	Rate	Budget	
Thiruvadthur	HSS	2	10500	252000	
Neel,VdkV	HS	3	9500	342000	
Lthr,Klklm	MS	3	8500	306000	
Neel,VdkV	PS	3	7500	270000	
	Total	11		1170000	



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Conference Call details

Participants- Apoorva Mohan, Devesh Chugh, Shivashankar Halan, Ravi Venkataraman, Anand Radhakrishnan, Sridhar Sir

AshaUF had a conference call with Reward on 05/27/16 to discuss about their deficit budget situation. Sridhar sir initially explained the recent achievements by Reward students that 3 students got into SSN engg college and 1 student got into MIT (Anna University) two prestigious engg colleges in the state. Also, since Reward teachers started teaching, the pass % has increased to 70-80% in various schools. And about 65 Reward teachers teach in about 40 schools in the district.

The discussion moved onto the deficit faced by Reward in 2015-16 because of budget cuts by other chapters. He said that the local funds of ~12lakhs was used for emergency purposes and also chapters like Stanford gave them ~10 lakhs to cover the deficit. So all the salaries for the teachers have been paid for in 2015-16. But their emergency reserve has taken a hit because of this. SO Sridhar sir requested AshaUF to replenish the emergency funds.

Devesh Chugh asked Sridhar about the sustainability of the project and the efforts taken by Reward to make it sustainable like local funding drives and corporate sponsorship. Sridhar mentioned about the unwillingness of the big corporates to take up their cause and unfruitful efforts to raise more local funds. He also mentioned about their lack of experience in the funding drives. Also there was a question about starting teaching institutes to make a better impact as well as lessen the financial burden. Sridhar mentioned about not having the bandwidth to do it.

It was decided after the call to not provide one time funding to cover the emergency funds and also consult Dr.Kumaran if he could in any way help Reward in making the project sustainable.

Approval timeline:

During the meeting held on 8/26/16, the budget was presented to the AshaUF team and there were questions about the sustainability of the project and also the members discussed about the additional opportunities that can be created/ways to help Reward to increase the



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local funding. AshaUF will initiate discussions with Dr.Kumaran at UF and determine avenues for increasing the contribution from local funding.

Considering the current financial situation at AshaUF, the overall consensus was that AshaUF should stick to 7 original teachers it was supporting in 2015-16 and any additional teachers will be funded based on other project's demands and the financial scenario at the end of the year. The additional funding will be decided in mid November by the members. The teacher information to be supported by Asha UF in 2016-17 is as follows.

Village name		Monthly salary	Yearly
Nlmnglm	Primary Teacher 1	7500	90000
	High School Teacher 1	9500	114000
Klklm	Middle School Teacher 1	8500	102000
Lathur	Middle School Teacher 2	8500	102000
VdkuVylr	High School Teacher 2	9500	114000
	High School Teacher 3	9500	114000
	Primary Teacher 2	7500	90000
From Jul16 -Jun17 Grand Total (INR)			726000
In \$ approx			11000

All the members agreed to this budget through evote. Also, the members decided to disburse the amount in 2 disbursements.

Total no of votes-10, Yes(9), No(0), Abstain (1).

Yes- Devesh Chugh, Poojitha Reddy, Ramya Sivakumar, Namrata kashi, Meera Sitharam, Janani P, Abhinav Rungta, Gayathri Sindhu Srinivasan, Revathi Kedari

Abstain- Apoorva Mohan

Asha UF will be disbursing INR 7.26 lakhs for the 2016-17 calendar year in 2 disbursements, one in September 2016 (INR 3.63 lakhs) and the next one in January 2017.