REWARD Trust

November 2012 Update
Overview

REWARD Trust continues working towards their mission. Updates in this presentation include:

– Teacher Training Activities
– TN Teacher Eligibility Tests HIGH Success Rate
– REWARD petition to CM Cell
– QED Evaluating Learning Outcomes
– Jun 2012-May 2013 Budget update
– Fundraising & Planning for 2013-14 academic year
– Finding a Grant Writing Resource person
**Teacher Training**

- Monthly Mandatory teacher training sessions – REWARD Trustees provide teaching concepts for Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Maths & English
- Some sessions include external tutors/participants
- Engaging group learning approach, not just lectures
- 2011-2012 Activity Report 12 monthly sessions
  
  ![Activity Report Link](https://docs.google.com/document/pub?id=1KZrwbozgtasRWPRAG7lwkPYgKGrC3sK4KO4MJnvu_0vQ)

- 2012-2013 Activity Report to date
  
  ![Activity Report Link](https://docs.google.com/document/pub?id=1rfCkdo552792pJrKPiBY55YHsdh5q7SQ7v1DC3P44)
Teacher Eligibility Tests (TNTET)

- Conducted by TN State Govt. to recruit teachers
- Over 6.7 lakh candidates in TN took the test
- TN set 60% passing marks as recruitment requirement
- 3% total candidates have passed TET
- 5 REWARD Teachers passed TET out of 25 candidates
- Notice of one rural organization has shown 20% success rate when state average is 3%
- REWARD Teachers felt QED SMART Tests were more probing
- 3-5 Teachers to get hired and leave REWARD Trust
- If relaxed to 50% marks, then 10 more teachers will pass TET
- No guarantee that these teachers will be placed locally
CM cell

Mr. Sridhar has written to CM Cell urging them to reconsider 60% pass marks if % eligibility is low.

- TET only fills vacancies for 1:40. At this rate, difficult to achieve 1:30
- Suggest recruiting 50% pass on a probation basis with basic pay
- Key arguments:
  - All professional courses have kept only 50% as pass marks
  - Scoring high marks in an exam that tests info retention is not correlated with the teaching ability
  - Putting them on probation gives them an opportunity to improve themselves in situ.
  - Basic + Grade pay would be more than Rs 10 K per month and this is better than what we pay.
  - At least the children will have teachers to teach them, instead of being left abandoned
QED SMART Tests

• Tests in 5 subjects designed to make test-taker think laterally and apply learnt concepts rather than respond from memory
• 2012 Asha grant $1200 used for 2011-12 tests
• 2013 installment $1200 to cover 2012-13 tests
• Students and teachers take same series of tests
• Intra & Inter school prizes for encouragement
• Lot of participation during discussion of answers afterwards
• Project Partner’s Observations

https://docs.google.com/document/pub?id=1kWvnmFyQCllLeBn6uglHcbC3ueKwC81AJ5adqstxHN4
Update on Proposed Budget
Jun ’12 – May ‘13

Est. Funding Gap as of Jun 1, ‘12: approx. INR 31 lakhs

Funds received:

Asha SV 1st installment: INR 10.5 lakhs
Asha Hyderabad: INR 1.5 lakhs
Asha Stanford 1st installment: INR 3.4 lakhs
Stanford 2nd installment (approved): INR 3.4 lakhs

Total = INR 18.8 lakhs

Requesting 2nd installment from SV = INR 12.2 lakhs
Planning for Jun 2013-May 2014

- Total Expenses expected around INR 45 lakhs
- REWARD Trust self-fundraising (non-Asha):
  - ~60 Individual donors: INR 9.0 lakhs
  - Monodipra Perisetty Foundation INR 50,000
- Continue fundraising efforts at all levels
  - local & foreign; individuals & agency
  - grant opportunities
Funding Requests to Other Agencies

• Monodipa Perisetty Foundation sponsored INR 50,000
• Following up on fundraising opportunities at
  – Infosys, Mahindras, TATA, Integra
  – Agaram Foundation, Sakthi Masala, etc
  – Mr. Balaji at AID India
  – Mr. Rajkumar Sourirajan, and other contacts
  – J-PAL (Poverty Action Lab)
• Use Grant writing resource to identify and pursue more leads
• Use website as a tool for information for potential donors and as a direct donation mechanism
• Pursue creating base of individual donors who will pledge recurring contributions of INR 5000 per year.
Grant-writing resource person

- Reached out to 2 people that did not work out
- Reaching out to some Asha volunteers interested in the area of Govt. Schools.
- Making progress with one potential resource:
  - Niece of a REWARD Trustee who
  - Is a graduate of Tata Institute of Social Studies
  - Co-Founder of an NGO that works on Women’s Empowerment
  - Based in New Delhi
  - Has history of working with Ministry of Human Resource Development
  - Has verbally agreed
www.reward-trust.org

Website under development will provide information and progress updates targeted towards a wider audience interested in their work, and will complement existing project page on Asha website for Asha donors.
Thank you

Questions?