Approval minutes for REWARD

Date : 05/23/14
Attendees : Apoorva Mohan (Project Steward), Shivashankar Halan, Amey Barde, Kamal Bharti, Poojitha Reddy, Shankar

Background about REWARD:

REWARD trust is run by a group of scientists at the IGCAR, Kalpakkam in Tamilnadu, with the aim of increasing the quality of education of the children in the nearby govt schools by upgrading them to the next level. Their goals are to improve the teacher student ratio and also to increase the graduation rates in the 17 government schools that they are currently supporting. They work in close association with the local Parent-teacher association (PTA) in appointing the teachers and in paying their salaries till the government officially appoints a teacher by itself. They train the PTA appointed teachers using the resources available like the use of teaching aids etc. The average expenditure is close to Rs. 1,25,000/ teacher.

Funding situation:

REWARD has been financially supported by the Asha chapters of Stanford, Princeton and Silicon valley for the last year. Since those chapters reduced the amount of funding for this calendar year, REWARD approached us for funding for this year. They requested us to fund the salaries of 5 teachers for this year.

Approval timeline:

Shivashankar Halan (the previous coordinator of Asha Uflorida) visited this project in June 2013 and presented the site visit report to the Asha Uflorida members. Since the volunteers were new to this project, we subsequently had a conference call with the Mr.Sridhar, Kalavathi on 03/29/14. In the coming weeks, budget discussions were carried out and online voting was conducted to determine if we are willing to fund the project and if so the number of teachers we are funding.
Everybody who participated in the online voting were in favor of funding REWARD. Regarding the number of teachers, 4 (Apoorva Mohan, Amey Barde, Lokendra Bengani and Meera Sitharam) voted for funding 5 teachers (approx $10,300) and 2 (Anand Patil and Poojitha Reddy) voted for funding 6 teachers (approx $12413).

Based on the majority vote, it was decided that Asha Uflorida will fund 5 teachers at REWARD trust disbursing an amount of ~$10,300 for the calendar year 2014-2015.