

## Meeting Minutes (Asha SV) – April 29, 2009

Attendees (17 + 2)

Amit, Dilip, Manoj, Sridhar, Neehar, Meena, Raghu, Praveen\*, Srikanth\*, Vignesh, Anshu, Shabbir, Govind\*, Roopa, Anand, Digvijay, Pankaj

Dial-in: Partha, Murali

\* new vols (need to be added to ashasv-vol)

### **Gramin Shiksha Kendra (Pankaj, Murali)**

- ICPA project from Asha Austin
  - Introduction to the project presented
  - Non-formal education
  - Schools in Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan self-sustained (urban location, middle-class children)
  - Asha supports Jaganpura & Bodal schools
  - School in faria is upcoming
  - Setup because the existing education setup was not adequate
  - Model schools & outreach activities
  - Goals: setting quality of education, establishing community-owned school
  - 4 schools in the area
  - Initial founder: management professional
  - Teacher training for nearby schools conducted by teachers of GSK in May-June every year (45 days): around 15-20 teachers come from outside school and pay around 2000 Rs. for the training
  - Pictures from Jaganpura school shared
  - Education philosophy
    - \* Should be rational, based on scientific values
    - \* Enhance skills and learning ability rather than information
    - \* Develop thought processes
  - Individual attention provided to each child
  - activity based learning
  - Evaluation is continuous, no exams are conducted
  - There is lot of community participation, and it is ensured everybody contributes to the running of the school (e.g. land, labor in construction of the school, parent-teacher meeting, curriculum decisions, etc.)
  - Teacher : student ratio is about 1:18
  - Oldest kid at the school is about 12 yrs old
  - Four children have mainstreamed into 8th standard at the Rajasthan board
- Q: How have these children fared at the 7th exams?**
- Funded by Asha Austin, Vibha, Asha SV, teacher training program, Yatra foundation & Save the children fund
  - Renewal coming up in July
  - Second half of the funds due to be disbursed