
Subject: [ashasv-vol] Asha SV Chapter Meeting minutes-2/6/13

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To: ashasv-vol@yahoogroups.com;

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asha SV chapter meeting 2/6/13

attendees:

minali, santosh, resh, Protima, Vijit*, Jigesh, Minali, Raghu, Prateek, Amit, Madhu, Mutthu

*On phone

BET

- this is a residential facility for orphaned kids or kids from rural and remote homes in the area of Jammu and Kashmir
- we sponsor about 130 total kids are in the 3 schools
- we support about 70 girls
- for now the kids are from two different villages
- the project main focus was housing and good health of these students, many of whom are orphans
- now they are looking at doing more with the education part with the other kids in the area, as well as their own kids
- right now the focus of the project is to try and fix immediate problems, like there are some kids who are not able to board buses to go to school; there are heating problems in the home in Anantnag
- in Beeru the biggest problem is that they are looking for a new place and may move there by June 1st
- partnerships- miracle foundation is an NGO working in the same area and they are trying to access the place and work with improving the quality of the home and health they provide.
- they are also hoping to get miracle foundation to access other work and admin stuff that they are doing. they are trying to improve their quality of care so they are hoping that miracle foundation will help them in improving their overall quality.
- BeT plans to re-access their work in 6 months once miracle foundation is done and gives their report
- initially the organization started as a home for orphans but there was no consistent criteria on who will get to stay in the homes, who will be able to stay in which home and which school or grade level should the child be admitted into. they are trying to streamline these ideas
- the girls also get to go on trips to other cities to make children more aware. but they want to make these trips more educational. there was no criteria for who goes to the tours and who gets to stay back, etc. and now they want to develop something more uniform.
- they are also thinking of going to other places where there is conflict, like Nagaland and Meghalaya
- BUDGET
- the way their budget works is that we do not provide organization wide funds
- we only provide money per child-so we know how much one child needs and we multiply that by the number of kids that are being supported
- in 09-10 we sent Rs. 16,800 per child, that increased to Rs. 17,500 per child in 10-11 (asking was Rs. 19,200). In 2012 they wanted Rs. 24,000 per child but we gave only Rs. 17,500 per child
- where do they get money for the kids we do not support? they have other agencies that they go for support to make up the money for the rest of the kids
- the current expense for the 2013 year is similar to the old asks-the food is always the highest
- again this year the total is about Rs. 24000 per child.
- the study material was Rs. 4210 and the food is Rs. 15220.
- they are asking if we increase the number of kids we sponsor to 90? this will mean all the kids in Kupwara
- and in return they are asking that we only cover Rs. 19,540 for each child (this is only for food and education)
- the current sponsorship per child is about \$240 (we also have \$360 and \$175)
- if we increase it to \$360, it increases each child's sponsorship amount to Rs. 19,195
- so the question for the chapter is whether we are willing to sponsor more children, and more amount
- because SAC has two projects (Sowbhagya and VidyaKiran) winding down, the SAC commitments are narrowing so increasing the amount might not be a problem

- is there a specific methodology they are using to evaluate what level the kids are in educationally? we dont know the specific criteria but Reshu saw the meeting note that showed the challenges that each of the kids had and they were able to work with other educational agencies to develop some evaluation criteria
- there are agencies like Digantar and Eklavya which have developed matrix to identify these challenges and are able to access learning levels of the kids so that they can become a part of the regular mainstream educational machinery
- if \$360 is too high for one donor, one suggestion was to split the cost into half and allow people to sponsor half (\$180). Right now, there is no way to choose half sponsorship
- \$240 to \$360 and increase number of kids to 90. Setup poll as two different questions.
- Without additional information about what it means to add additional kids, and how much we need from the general pool, can't setup poll
- Expenses per child is ~24INR, Food & Fees ~19.5KINR, current SAC class is ~12.7KINR - Request is to increase the SAC class to ~19.9KINR (\$360)
- Feel is that not a lot of sponsors will drop out since donors are quite attached to BeT
- \$240 to \$360 i just bridging the shortfall between SAC & AFE treasury
- Increasing number of kids 70 to 90 - where is this \$\$ coming from today? Is this to backfill additional capital expenditure? Annual report (total number of children) for last year as well as budget (expected total number of children) for next year might tell us where these \$\$ are going.
- The \$ increase and increase number of children are two separate poll questions.

Need a SAC review (Reshu to setup)

- SAC Website upgrade from the VMWare grant
TRUWDES is listed as one of the SAC supported projects, but it doesn't have any children is listed (not totally setup yet).
- Request to put together a poll questions for the project: should we increase it from
- Should SAC projects be such that the expenditure per child be directly mapped to the SAC \$\$ class

Quiz:

- \$310 so far
- Quiz task list to be posted on the vols list

Spring Run:

- Baylands is booked for 3/24
- Working on registration; posted facebook event; working on poster/flyer; Registration push and publicity push for Spring Run should start on the day of Quiz
- VOLUNTEERS: Please like and promote the event on facebook

Negative propaganda

- Asha was informed (by a QM) that a certain person has posted some inflammatory info on somebody face book wall
- Asha President has been informed
- Consensus is to provide a boilerplate response - Raghu has posted response to said wall

IO Concert:

- Call for volunteers

Pratirodh Sansthan

- Renewal presentation
- Working with backward and marginalized tribes - through education and awareness; specifically focused on girls children
- Training girls to Grade V equivalent into KGBV (govt scheme) for residential schools
- Residential Bridge school (Adhaarshila) - we are funding this as a bridge school (using Degantar for structured learning for

first generation learners); bridge until GradeV - from there on, the girls get into the Nahargargh KGBV school

- Girls are split into three sub-groups - advanced (more structured with state syllabus) (13 students age 9-12), medium skill (24 students - age 9-10), and first time learners (24 students age 9-12). English is a part of the curriculum. Incorporating an eco-conscious learning as part of curriculum.
- Fairly steady number of girls since 2008-2012. Zero drop-offs from Adhaarshila last 2 years. Very little drop-off from KGBV.
- As of now, no plans to expand (infra or number of students).
- Almost every girl in this school are married; girls are married at 4-7 yrs.
- BUDGET
- Huge decrease in healthcare - down from 300INR per month to 5INR per month (due to local dispensary and government scheme providing this)
- Budget increase from 7.58 Lakh to 767680 Lakh.
- Pratirodh Sansthan does not have a FCRA; Prayas has an FCRA and \$ is routed through them
- Sent second installment, project partner sent us the receipt, BoA has also acknowledged. In Jan, project partner responded that they have not received the money.
- Prayas's traditional bank was Bank of Rajasthan, this was acquired by ICICI. First installment went through Asha's BoA fine.
- Have asked Prayas to send us the copy of passbook. Perhaps Prayas will file the FIR. A month and half elapsed since receipt issued and withdrawal attempt. We may not have detailed line item in our account.
- Start enforcing: Advise stewards that going forward, we should get bank statement & receipt from project partner
- Should we hold off on the next disbursement or send it through another FCRA cleared institution? Prayas would have an accounting complication.
- Pratirodh Sansthan might run into Rajasthan's RTE ordinance by next year. Perhaps easy to register since the kids do have to write the State exam before enrolling to KGBV.

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