STEP II – Asha-SV New Project Proposal Template

Project Name: Sandnya Sanwardhan Sanstha
Date Received: Aug., 5, 2008
Referred By: Sowmya Subramanian

Project Contact Information Asha Contact
Name: Sowmya Subramanian

Contact Name of the main project contact person: Navin Deshpande
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Part I: Information about your group/organization
Please feel free to attach any additional sheets and/or information such as brochures, press reports etc.

1. Name of the group/organization requesting funds.
   Sandnya Sanwardhan Sanstha

2. When was the group established?
   1993

3. Briefly describe the motivation for starting this group.
   Current and founder chairman of SSS has mentally challenged son. During 1993 there were no institutes offering services to profoundly retarded children in Nagpur and surrounding area. This prompted him and his[chairman]like minded friends to take up the challenging and tough task of serving the noble cause of mental disability.

4. Name the key people running the organization and describe their background
   Chairman---  Dr.R M Uttarwar, a parent of mentally challenged son,he is a professor in Hislop College, Nagpur .He is founder chairman.
   Secretary------ Navin V Deshpande, a businessman and has got medical background.
   He is the founder secretary of the organization.

5. Briefly describe the aims of your group.
   The sole objective of SSS is to improve the quality of life of mentally challenged through scientific approach and with absolutely sincere, honest and transparency.

6. Does your group have any religious or political affiliation? If yes, please describe the type of affiliation and the reason for it.
   Though SSS believes in the divine intervention in the conduct of worldly affairs, it does not have any religious or political affiliations or ideology.

7. What non education-related community development activities is your group involved in?
By all means all our activities are directly or indirectly aimed at the welfare of mentally challenged children i.e. special education, Vocational Training, Rehabilitation and awareness programmes.

8. **Does your organization have FCRA (Foreign Contribution Regulation Act of 1976) clearance from the Indian government? This is required for you to receive foreign funds. If yes, please provide FCRA details. If no, have you applied for Prior Permission (one time acceptance of foreign funds)? If yes, when was the application submitted?**

Yes we have FCRA clearance and the NO is------

**Part II: Details about your educational project/s**

1. **List the school/s run by your group, and their locations. If you are requesting funds for only a few of several schools, please specify which one/s.**

   We have only one special school, Vocational Training centre, Rehabilitation centre and all at one place.

2. **Who owns the school legally? Is it the organization or trustees or an individual. Please provide details.**

   The whole activity is run by SSS which is a charitable trust duly registered with charity commissioner’s office at Nagpur.

3. **Location of schools Urban Rural/ Other**

   It is in the semi urban area.

4. **Specify the type of education provided (e.g. basic literacy, vocational training etc.).**

   The type of education provided to mentally challenged is called as special education and is absolutely individualized as per the need of each child. Similarly vocational training to mentally challenged is provided according to the individual ability and compatibility. Since we give more personal attention we need more no. of trained staff.

5. **Please tell us about your teaching techniques (conventional vs. alternative).**

   As said earlier the curriculum of mentally challenged is absolutely individualized and thus needs specific technique depending on the degree of retardation and other concurrent deficiencies or disabilities like lack of speech and language and/or physical disability. As the curriculum is individualized the teaching technique used is also different for each child. The focus is on giving more opportunities for learning.

6. **What is the literacy rate in your local community? Please give a breakdown between boys and girls if possible.**

   In case of urban population, it could be about 85% and in case of semi-urban population it would be about 70%.
7. Describe the socio-economic background of the children and their parents (e.g. education, occupational). If any of your students are employed, please tell us about that as well.

The prevalence rate of mental disability is same irrespective of cast, creed, religion, or socio-economic status as such. About 70% parents are having at least higher secondary education. About 80% are employed, remaining are agricultural labourers. About 50% come under economically backward class.

8. What is the admission criteria for the students to join your school? Have you ever turned away Students? If so, why? How many children attend your school currently? How many teachers do you have? How many full time students? How many part time teachers? How much is the fees?

Is there an admission one time fee? Do you have parent teacher meetings (parent involvement)?

Admission criteria: Child should be essentially mentally challenged and certified by Civil Surgeon who is a government assigned authority. The admission age of the student is between 4 – 40 years.

We do not turn down admission to any student on the grounds of severity of retardation or caste – creed, religion or socio-economic status of the parents. The only condition under which admission is refused is that if we do not have vacancy in that particular class. Currently we have -- 80 students all inclusive.

Staff: We have 9 special educators, 7 -- assistant teachers, 1 - Cl.Psychologist, 1 – Occupational therapists, 1 -- Physiotherapists, 1 -- Social worker, 1 – Vocational teacher, 1 – Music teacher, 4 – ayyas [care takers], 4 – Peon, Office staff—6[Nag+Butibori], 3- drivers, etc.

Fees: In general Rs.150/- is the monthly tuition fees. But no fees is charged to economically backward class. Further no fees are charged for vocational training and rehabilitation serices.

We call parent-teacher meetings regularly and apart from this we have one to one parent-teacher meeting also to evaluate individual need of the child.

9. In addition to education, does your group provide any other services to the children in your Schools (e.g. food, health care, clothing, etc.)?

Apart from special education we provide adjunct therapies like occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech therapy, music therapy, for behavioral modification services of Cl. psychologist are also provided. In specific need clay therapy and sand therapy is also given. A physician visits school every month for general health checkup of students. A outdoor picnic is also arranged along with normal children as a integration attempt. Visit of normal students from various schools to our campus is also arranged. Apart from this we undertake awareness program on large scale in rural and urban population.
10. How do you perceive that education will improve the lives of the children in your village?
The special education which we provide along with other adjunct services not only improves the quality of life but also helps in increasing confidence level in our special children which in turn facilitates integration of these children in the normal stream. This process of social integration gives additional work opportunities to our special children. And their rehabilitation becomes easier.

11. Does your school have:
Its own building(s): Yes No Number
Number and type of classrooms (e.g. Pukka):[ RCC construction]
We have our own campus of one acre, the built up area is more then 6600 sq.ft. No. of class rooms is 8 and there are two halls admeasuring 850 sq.ft. for rehabilitation units and 2000 sq.ft. for meetings.
Toilets Playground Toys -- YES
Chairs & Tables Blackboard Library -- YES
Drinking water Electricity Computers ---YES
Laboratory Teaching aids (e.g. books/slates) --YES
Garden and play ground -- Yes

12. What is the age group of the children currently enrolled in your school(s)?
Age group -- 4 years to 18 years in special school.
- 19 years to 40 years in vocational training.

13. How many staff are employed at your schools?
39.
The profile of the employed staff is as follows:
1] Occupational therapist / physiotherapist
2] Speech therapist
3] Clinical psychologist
4] music teacher
5] social worker - MA [social work]
6] accountant
7] clerk
8] Assistant teachers
9] Attendants (care takers)
10] peon
11] Campus Manager [Voluntary]
12] Drivers

14. Average distance the children travel to attend your school
The average distance traveled by children is 25 km.

15. Please answer this if your school has existed for atleast 5 years. How many children have gone through your program in the past five years and what are they doing currently? Please tell us about their future education possibilities. How would you visualize their future employment possibilities?
About 16 to 20 children have gone through our rehabilitation program. 10 are working and earning their livelihood. Mentally challenged do not go for further education in most of the cases. An institute like ours is supposed to take them up to rehabilitation stage. From here onwards parents are supposed to carry forward. We trained our students in a particular trade, and then bring 4 - 5 children of identical ability in a group. Then make this unit commercially viable and then this to be handed over to the parents and they are supposed to manage it independently. In case parents are not in the position of taking over, then we have to run such unit on own.

Currently we have such 4 units under our management but they are financially independent. And institute does not use any of their earnings.

16. Do you help your students with their future education efforts after they have completed school?
   If so please describe your efforts.
   In few cases where open employment is possible we form a bridge between the prospective employer and our student. This effort includes counseling of the employer, parent and the student himself. The effort further goes in giving training in the premises of the employer. Since mentally challenged can not become independent in decision making they are to be provided support through out their life.

17. Do the students who have studies or graduated get involved in the school afterwards and help the next batch?
   We gave employment to one of our students He worked with us for about 2 years and due to family problems he left.

18. Are there any other schools (Kindergarten/Balwadi, Elementary school, High school) in the area? If so, please list the schools and the range of classes each of them offers.
   There is no special school in the radius of 20 km.

19. Is your program different from that provided at these schools? Please explain.
   It is certainly different then others. The difference is not only in the pattern but it is essentially in the approach and commitment of the management in respect of the noble cause.

20. Why are the children in your school/s not attending government/other schools in the local area?
   There are no government schools for mentally challenged.

21. Do you try to involve the parents of the children in the running of the school (e.g. in setting the syllabus etc.)? Please specify.
   Yes, parents are involved in planning the curriculum. In fact, the team of special educator, Cl. psychologist and mother of the child plan the syllabus for the respective child. There is no direct involvement of parents, but we have formed a mother’s group which
coordinates with the school and members help each others also. We have monthly parent meetings. These meetings are meant to get feedback on the progress of the student viz-a-viz his needs.

22. What are your expansion plans for the future (e.g. adding more classes or schools)? How do you see your school impacting the village five years from now?
At present we do not have expansion plan. We would like to consolidate our position in terms of financial stability, manpower retaining and infrastructure. Thus we are not adding additional students. Further, there is a paucity of special educators and thus it is not possible to add students immediately. Further, our current salary structure is far below than the prevailing standards in the field. We thus would like to improve this so that we will be able to retain the staff for reasonable number of service years.

23. Any additional details you would like to provide to us.
Our Institute is supposed to be the most prestigious institution for mentally challenged in central India. This distinction is drawn from the fact that we not only work honestly and sincerely in the interest of the noble cause of mental disability but we are also transparent.

24. If possible, please provide us with the contact information of two individuals from your community (not related to the school) who can describe the impact of your program.
1. Name -- Mr. J. Rana, MD, Dinshaw’s Frozen Foods
2. Name :Gitti Khadan, Nagpur
Address Address
Phone Phone

25. Asha for Education requires reports from its projects every six months to continue funding. Please provide the contact information for the person from your group who will be responsible for these reports.
Name Navin Deshpande
Address 48, Income Tax Colony
        Ranapratap Nagar,NAGPUR – 440022
Phone -- 0712 – 2236533 --- R
        --- 0712 – 2220713 --- O

Part III: Financial Details
Please feel free to attach any information such as annual reports, budgets etc.
1. What sources fund your group’s activities at present? List the sources and the current and future funding from each of them. If these funds are meant for a specific part of your group’s activities, please describe those restrictions.

We are totally supported by philanthropy. We have large donor base donating Rs.20/- to Rs.5000/- per month. And the current no of such small donors is about 370. The approximate amount collected through is Rs.75000/- . And rest of the amount comes through adhoc and occasional donors. The whole amount received is not marked and thus
is used for monthly recurring expenses. The yearly expense is about Rs.24.00 lacks. We do not take any government aid as such and thus totally depend on donations. Since we mainly depend on small donors and adhoc donations it will not be possible to predict who will donate how much. Secondly no donor agency commits itself for future. Apart from small donors we have following institutional donors.
1] Jindal Trust, Bangalore
2] Heart And Hand For Handicap, N.J. USA
3] Women’s rehabilitation Centre, NJ, USA

2. Please provide us with details of your projected budget for the next 3 years:
Year(s) Recurring costs Rs.24.00 lacks. Fixed costs

3. Salary expenditure details:
Number on staff: 39
Salary Range: 1000(peon) -6000(special educator)
Teachers: 20 (includes teachers and various special ed. teachers, clinical psychologist etc.)
Paid Staff: 39
Volunteer Staff: None. The management of course, including the Chairman and the Secretary volunteer their time.

4. Please provide details of the fixed costs of your school/s for the next three years
It is not practical to plan for us to plan 3 year in advance.

5. What amount are you requesting from Asha, and for what specific purpose?
Line Item Amount One time / Annual
We are requesting for Rs. 6.00 lacks. This is to meet the recurring expenses pertaining to the salary of our staff members. A separate x1 sheet, explaining the salary structure, and the shortfall we currently face is attached along with the proposal.

6. How have you diverted the donations-fees that you previously use to receive for operating the buses?
We have received buses in last four months of the financial year. This will be the first full year with our own buses. Thus at the end of this year we will be able to access.

IMPORTANT: For Asha-SV Use Only
To be filled by project steward:
1. What parts of the above budget was approved?
Line Item  
Amount  
One time / Annual

2. **What is the total amount approved in US dollars ($), and for what time period?**  
Year  
Amount

3. **Please list out the first year’s goals of this funding (i.e. what are the metrics by which we will measure the progress of this project? Please try as much as possible to list out objective things that can be measured.)**