

Asha Chennai

SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDENTS - SUPPORT A CHILD (SAC) PROJECT

History

Asha Chennai scholarship project started in 2000. A lot of the funding came from the Princeton chapter of Asha US for the initial 2 years. In 2002, with Asha code AA, the project came to be known as Support A Child, where individual donors came forward to sponsor students' education. Since then, there has been steady increase in # of students under this project and equally steady increase in # of donors/donations. Year after year, the project is streamlined more and more. The running Asha Code for students this academic year, ie 2014-15, is AM and we humbly report that 140 students are under this project this year.

How we work

A Focus Group comprising of Asha volunteers meet periodically and plan events for the year. Students are selected for scholarship by the Focus Group and a Home Visit is made by a person appointed for the same to ascertain the correctness of facts given in the scholarship application. Once we are fully satisfied with the facts, we disburse the amounts to the students. We ensure that we meet them atleast 3 times in an academic year to review their performance and give a bit of counselling. We also try to understand their needs and help them. As a result, last year, we had organized English Coaching at In-a-Word, center for Languages for ten scholarship students who had expressed interest in English Language. This year as well, we are on the look out for a teacher to teach spoken English to our students.

Report for 2013-14

The Focus Group had approved 120 students for scholarship. Out of these 4 were specially abled children. A limit of Rs 10000 for the academic year for class 1-10 students, Rs 15000 for class 11 & 12 students and Rs 18000 for college students were set and disbursed accordingly.

Scholars overview – Statistics:

| | | |
|-------------|-------|----|
| Class 1-10 | Girls | 21 |
| | Boys | 27 |
| Class 11&12 | Girls | 17 |
| | Boys | 14 |
| College | Girls | 27 |
| | Boys | 14 |

Three students, 2 girls and a boy, were paid additional amounts as incentive for their outstanding performance in Board Exams.

Scholarship project financial status as on 01.04.2014

| Starting Balance 01.04.2013 | Inflow | Outflow | Ending Balance 31.03.2012 | Remarks |
|--------------------------------|----------|-----------|------------------------------|---------|
| XXXXXXXX.XX | XXXXX.XX | (1549027) | XXXXXXXX.XX | |

Proposal for 2014-15

This academic year, 2014-15, we have started the AM Series Code for the new scholars who have been selected for scholarship. The date, time and venue for issuance of application forms were announced on our web page, resulting in larger number of students applying for scholarship. Selection of students for scholarship were approved by the Focus Group members.

There is no change in scholarship limits and remain the same as last year which is Rs 10000 for the academic year for class 1-10 students, Rs 15000 for class 11 & 12 students and Rs 18000 for college students.

Guidelines for the present academic year:

1. All students from Class1 to Class10 will be paid a maximum limit of Rs 10000
2. All HSC students will be paid a maximum of Rs 15000
3. All college students will be paid a maximum of Rs 18000
4. An additional Rs 5,000 for college students may be sanctioned for English language improvement and computer skills required/ suitable for the line of study.
5. Every effort will be made to help and support rural scholars as per earlier guidelines. However, should there be less eligible scholars from the rural sections the students from the urban section can be chosen within the numbers approved.
6. A total # of 130 students from the general category and 10 from the special category (differently abled children) has been approved by the Focus Group.

BUDGET FOR 2014-15

| | Budget 2013-14 | Actual 2013-14 | Budget 2014-15 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Scholarship to students | 1,734,000 | 1,549,027 | 1,950,000 |
| # of students | 120 | 120 | 140 |
| Travel Expenses reimbursed to students for disbursal | 25,000 | 10,368 | 15,000 |
| Data entry, filing, photocopying, maintaining file, house visits | 42,000 | 8,474 | 50,000 |
| Administration – Bank charges, postage, refreshments during disbursement, stationery, conveyance | 20,000 | 8,640 | 30,000 |
| Contingencies | 10,000 | 0 | 10,000 |
| Spoken English | 0 | 0 | 30,000 |
| TOTAL | 1,831,000 | 1,576,509 | 2,085,000 |