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A request to WAH team for the Nishtha project

Abhyuday Mandal <abhyuasha@gmail.com>

23 November 2010 06:14

To: Work an Hour - by Asha <wah@ashanet.org>

Bcc: Padmanava Sen <padmanava.sen@gmail.com>, abhyuasha@gmail.com

Dear WAH Team,

Thanks to WAH 2010, more than \$11K could be raised for Nishtha proposal for a new house as a shelter for children of sex workers. We are trying to understand the next steps. Initially we asked them to provide us a budget for constructing a permanent night shelter for the children of this red light area project. However, they told us that now they can purchase a building in that area with ~12 lakhs rupees. That will be much convenient for them as they don't have to build it on their own, and it will be much cheaper. If they want to build the new house they need to give some bribes (more than usual as they work with sex workers). Moreover the cost of building construction is going up quickly.

Their total budget was around 28K. We expected that WAH would be able to provide them with ~20K. If you could have met 20K, Nishtha and supporting chapters would try to raise the rest. In the current situation, the active chapters may not be able to pitch in for the remaining amount given the funding constraints. We are trying to understand if there is a possibility to nominate Nishtha for WAH 2011 to raise the deficit that we will not able to generate in next 3-4 months. (in the order of 8-10K).

Moreover, is it possible that we keep the money with us or send it to them and they keep it in the bank and gain more interest until we have enough funds to buy the house (as the house is in red light area, it is unlikely that it will be sold) but we were clearly told the project partner will not be able to get loans. As this organization works with people in red light area, it is almost impossible for them to get loans for that night shelter. So we have three questions

1. Will WAH allow them to buy a house instead of constructing a new one?
2. As they can not buy "half a house", is it possible to hold on to the money (11K) from WAH 2010 until we manage to raise another ~10K from Asha for Education?
3. Is it possible to put this project for WAH 2011 as well? (Note that we are not asking for an automatic selection for this project, merely allow us to submit.)

Any such projects with sex workers would face much more problems than usual educational projects, so please take that into account while considering my requests. Not only the pimps and the antisocial elements create problems, the sex workers themselves are not very cooperative at times. However, I fully understand that it is not what we usually do for other WAH projects and we are requesting for an exception which may or may not be approved. Please let us know what you think.

Thanks -
Abhyuday

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A request to WAH team for the Nishtha project

Sanketh Bhat <sanketh@gmail.com>

2 December 2010 15:33

To: Abhyuday Mandal <abhyuasha@gmail.com>

Cc: Padmanava Sen <padmanava.sen@gmail.com>, Pradeep Jayaraman <pradeepjraman@gmail.com>, jagadish gattu <gattujag@gmail.com>, Sowmya Karthikeyan <sowmya.karthikeyan@gmail.com>, Work an Hour - by Asha <wah@ashanet.org>

Hey folks,

Summary of the discussion yesterday. Please add/edit if necessary

1. Not a good option for the project partner to put the funds in the savings account due to FCRA and annual audit reasons.
2. Money to remain with WAH. Since its an infrastructure project, funds can be kept in WAH for a year or two. But the concerned chapters needs to keep the WAH 2010 team posted on the progress
3. Possibility of getting more funds from WAH from matching and unused WAH 09 funds if any.
4. Project Proposing chapter to work with other chapters to get some more funds.
5. Chapter to request the project partner to come up with some funds say Asha supports 80% of the project and the project supports remaining 20%

Thanks,

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