

Asha for Education

Project Proposal Submission Form

Project Name : Vivekananda Child Development Fund

Date :

	Project Contact	Asha Contact
Name	Swami Sarvalokananda	Abhyuday Mandal
Address	Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama P.O. Narendrapur Kolkata-700 103 West Bengal India	Department of Statistics University of Georgia Athens, GA 30606
Phone(s)	91-33-2477 2201 (3 lines)	
Fax	91-33-2477 2070	
E-mail	rkmndp@gmail.com	abhyuday_mandal@yahoo.com

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.

Ramakrishna Mission Lokasiksha Parishad
Narendrapur, Kolkata-700103

2. When was the group established?

1956

3. Briefly describe the motivation for starting this group.

Immediately after the Bengal famine in 1943, the Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama at the instance of Swami Lokeswarananda first served as a Student's Home in North Kolkata (Pathuriaghata). The Ashrama is a branch centre of Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math. Started with a Home for the poor and needy students and with the development of the local 'Dom' Community. The Ashrama Campus was then shifted to Narendrapur and in the year 1956. Lokasiksha Parishad was constituted as a development wing of the Ashrama. The Lokasiksha Parishad initially started with Adult Education coupled with Child Development Programme.

4. Briefly describe the aims of your group.

Initially the Parishad was engaged in providing education to the children and adult alike in a non-formal way. Lokasiksha Parishad then expanded its activities from education to other activities pertaining to rural development through its affiliated village level organisations for the implementation of its activities entrusted to them. The various

other activities undertaken by the Lokasiksha Parishad are Rural Development, Running of Pre-primary education for the children in the form of Vivekananda Child Development Programme, Vocational and Life Skill Education and Entrepreneurial Development Programme. Human Resource Development in the form of Adult Night High School and Rabindra Mukta Vidyalaya. Besides education, the Parishad also undertook various development activities like Water and Sanitation, Joint forest Management, ICDS, Chalaman Bahini (a peripatetic troupe), Health and Family Welfare and Animal Husbandry.

5. ***Does your group have any religious or political affiliation? If yes, please describe the type of affiliation and the reason for its.***

Ramakrishna Mission Lokasiksha Parishad is the development wing of Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur which in turn is the branch centre of Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math.

6. ***What non education-related community development activities is your group involved in?***

Vocational and life skill education and entrepreneurial Development of the rural youths (both men and women), Water and Sanitation, Joint Forest Management, ICDS Chalaman Bahini for the over all development of the rural children in the age group of 6 to 14 yrs., Animal Husbandry.

Part-II : Details about your educational project/s

7. ***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.***

Presently we are running 123 Pre-primary Schools for the rural area children, living in remote villages, of 2½ to below 6 years of age under Vivekananda Child Development Programme (VCDP). The Centres are distributed in the following districts : East Midnapore-44, West Midnapore-32, South 24-Parganas-25, Murshidabad-9, Burdwan-2, Howrah-2, Hooghly-1, Purulia-8.

8. ***Location of School/s.***

☐ Urban ☒ Rural ☐ Other

9. ***Specify the type of education provided (e.g. basic literacy, vocational training etc.).***
Pre-Primary level.

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

Though few books have been prescribed, education is not restricted to books only and are provided in a joyful manner involving the nature surrounding them. Teaching and learning materials are used to create a playful ambience in the class room situation to involve the children in the process of learning.

11. What is the literacy rate in the local community?

The centres are spread over 8 districts of West Bengal in 123 Villages. As such the literacy rate in the locality of 123 is not readily available.

12. 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 children under the VCDP Programme mostly come from the families whose main occupation is based on agriculture. The parents are mostly agricultural labourers and few are rickshaw pullers, masons, small trader, weaver etc.

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

Occasionally Puja dresses are provided to the children to quite a few VCDP centres depending upon availability of fund. Food is provided only to the children of 8 centres in Purulia district where the children are mostly from the tribal community. Health Care is provided in the form of awareness among the mothers on Nutrition education, immunization, Pre-natal and post natal care by mothers, care of adolescent children. Mothers meetings are held every month at each of the VCDP Centres.

14. Does your school have :

Its own building(s) : ☐ Yes ☐ No Number _____
Number and type of classrooms (e.g. Pukka) : _____

The VCDP Centres are run through the affiliated village level organization in their club premises which are mostly pukka buildings barring a few. Toilets are wanting in some VCDP Centres.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Playground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toys	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chairs & Tables	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Blackboard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drinking water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electricity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teaching aids (e.g. books/slates)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. How many children are currently enrolled in your school(s)?

Male - 2502 Female - 2128 Age Range - 2½ yrs. to below 6 yrs.

16. How many staff are employed at your schools?

Teachers - 210 Minimum Qualifications - Higher Secondary
Other staff - x

17. Average distance the children travel at attend your school.

500 metres at the most.

- 18. *How many children have gone through your programme in the past five years and what are they doing currently? Please tell us about their future education and employment possibilities.***

Nearly 9000 children have been admitted in the primary schools during the last five years.

- 19. *Do you help your students with their future education efforts after they have passed out of your school?***

The pre-primary schools have two stages - Phase-I and Phase-II. After going through the Phase-II stage and after attaining the age of 6 years, the children are helped out through their parents to get admitted in Class-I in the Government run primary schools for main streaming.

- 20. *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.***

In the neighbourhood of our Pre-Primary Schools (VCDP Centres) there are no other schools to provide Pre-primary education except a few ICDS Centres though a bit far off.

- 21. *Is your program different from that provided at these schools? Please explain.***

The children are taught in our VCDP Centres in a joyful and playful environment in the lap of nature surrounding them. In our centres, the average number of children is 40 only and they are looked after by two trained lady teachers all the time during school hours which lasts for 3½ hrs. These children have made their marks after mainstreaming in formal Govt. Primary Schools.

- 22. *Why are the children in your school/s not attending government/other schools in the local area?***

In our VCDP Centres the children are in the age of 2½ yrs. to below 6 yrs. and are made ready for mainstreaming in formal Govt. Schools (Primary). Whereas in the Govt. Primary Schools, the minimum age for admission in Class-I is 6 yrs. and above.

- 23. *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.***

The parents suggestions, if any, are taken into consideration in setting syllabus.

- 24. *What are your expansion plans for the future (e.g. adding more classes or schools)?***

There is no provision for adding more classes at the Pre-primary stage i.e. children below 6 yrs. of age. Presently there is no plan to increase number of schools.

- 25. *Do you have any suggestions on how Asha can be a positive influence in changing the education scenario in India?***

Asha can have a positive influence in changing the education scenario of West Bengal by extending their support to the rural children in remote villages.

26. *If possible, please provide us with the contact information of two individuals from your community who can describe the impact of your program.*

1.	Name	UTPAL METYA	2	Name	SUDIP MONDAL
	Address	Tamralipta Guchha Samity Vill. Dakshin Dhalhara P.O. Dakshin Narikenda Purba Medinipur PIN-721648		Address	Nibodhata Guchha Samity Vill.+P.O. Dakshin Bayer Gadi P.S. Raidighi South 24-Parganas PIN-743349
	Phone	91-8373089410		Phone	91-9836608037

27. *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	HIRANMAY DATTA
Address	Ramakrishna Mission Lokasiksha Parishad Narendrapur Kolkata-700 103
Phone	91-9748057651

Part-III : Financial Details

Please feel free to attach any information such as annual reports, budgets etc.

28. *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.*

For running the VCDP Centres, donations are received from the parents restricted to tuition fees of their children which ranges from Rs.30 to Rs.40 to the maximum. The shortfall in running the centres are met out of own funds of the Lokasiksha Parishad.

29. *Please provide us with details of your projected budget for the next 3 years :*

Year(s)	Recurring costs	Fixed costs
1st year	Rs. 55,630=00	Rs.3,07,500=00
2nd year	Rs.55,75,000=00	Rs. 61,500=00
3rd year	Rs.57,00,500=00	Rs. 61,500=00

30. *Salary expenditure details :*

	Number	Salary Range
Teachers	210	
Paid Staff	12	
Volunteer Staff	123	

31. Please provide details of the fixed costs of your school/s for the next three years.

1st year - Teaching & Learning Materials - Rs.3,07,500=00
2nd year - Teaching & Learning Materials - Rs.61,500=00
3rd year - Teaching & Learning Materials - Rs.61,500=00

32. How many of your students pay school fees? Please provide details.

No. of Students - 4630. Donations are received from the parents to the extent of Rs.40/- per child to meet part of the expenses in running 123 VCDP Centres.

33. What amount are you requesting from Asha, and for what specific purpose?

Items	Amount	One time/ Annual
1. Text books, exercise books and education materials for 200 students	Rs.1.6 lakh	Annual
2. Admission fees for 200 students	Rs.1.0 lakh	Annual
3. Special Coaching Classes for the students (18 Centres)	Rs.6.4 lakh	Annual

Childhood Education Centre - Class



Joyful learning



Child Education Centre



Morning Prayers



Play time



Morning Prayers



Hand Washing – Hygiene awareness



Class in progress



Proper seating arrangement of children in class



Children leaving school in queue



Meditation sessions



Child Education Centre



Food for children



Food for children



Learning with action songs



VCDP Children performing at RKM, Narendrapur.



Monthly Mother's meeting - awareness generation



Child Education Centre



Celebrating New Year with greetings and sweets



Dress distribution for Pujas

