EDUCATION PROJECT PROPOSAL 2017 – 18

of PAYIR TRUST submitted to Asha for Education U Florida Chapter

Organizational Details

Name of the Submitting Organization : Payir Trust
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District, Tamil Nadu 621 114
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Introduction

Payir was founded in 2004 January by Senthilkumar Gopalan, an engineer who had worked in India and US in various industries ranging from Thermal Power Plants to Information Technology.

Vision: Payir envisages the transformation of Indian villages into a socially stimulating, self reliant, growth oriented community rooted in the principles of Truth - a society where people practice and interact with the highest moral values

Payir believes that the eventual ownership and implementation of ideas of holistic community development should come from and be owned by the community having its own set of leaders/experts. The existing learning environment does not provide scope for the development of such leaders/experts- leaders in local village governance; in areas of rural arts, crafts and culture; in local ecology; in traditional practices of farming, health and engineering; in local water bodies management and such areas of expertise which focuses on holistic rural empowerment and development. A customized learning center is an effort in line to nurture such leaders by working with a small set of children from their formative years.

The intervention program in existing government schools aims to introduce a number of systemic changes needed to increase the percentage of attendance at school around Thennur.

- By making school more engaging and activity oriented for students
- Creating the right environment in terms of infrastructure, social education to parents and community at large on shift on attitude towards inclusive and holistic education.
Current Updates
Some of the experiences through the past year for the Residential Children:

- Practice sessions on outdoor and indoor sports during the Summer holidays in the District Stadium, Perambalur
- 5 day workshop on learning the basics of playing Parai and on bonding as a group conducted by Mr. Manimaran at Sholai School, Kodaikanal
- Radio program done by the children at AIR, Trichy
- Participated in a Christmas-day celebration in St. Joseph’s Anglo-Indian Higher secondary school, Trichy
- Performed a cultural program in Children Book Fair, Perambalur
- Participated in a 5 day craft workshop at Marutham school, Thiruvannamalai
- Went on several excursion trips in and around Trichy
- Participated in several Karate and Yoga tournaments bagging medals in every event
- 7 children went for a month long Fine Arts workshop at Kalai Kaveri, Trichy
- Occasional Skype based sessions based on volunteer and Internet availability on basic Maths and Science concepts

Teachers went for training to:

- 5 days at Vidyavanam school, Anaikatti for understanding of creating child friendly learning spaces for Under 5 kids
- A week long craft workshop in Marutham school, Thiruvannamalai
- On concept level teaching of Mathematics for Upper Primary at CREA school, Trichy

Education Intervention in Government Schools & for Government School Going Kids included:

- Full time Support staff in Kalathur ADW Primary school & Thenur Primary School
- Evening classes in Thottiyapatti & Kalathur for 1 to 8 standard students
- Evening classes for slow learners in Government High School, Kalathur & Government Higher Secondary School, Thenur

Other Updates

- Patchaimuthu, Preethi & Senthil attended the TN Alternate Network meeting of educators
- Weekly sessions of Drama for all children and Carpentry for 10 residential children
- Regular Skype based classes through EVidyaLoka for Standard 6th & 7th of Thenur Government school children
- Students-led vegetable gardening initiative
- Health education for 3000+ adolescent girls was conducted on nutrition, basic anatomy, physiology, and menstrual health both on a regular basis and through workshops & street theatre programs
**Budget for 2017-18**

- In general, while there is a general deterioration of activity based and concept level teaching in Government schools in our area, our support teachers have been continuously able to make a difference at the primary school level and to at least 20-25 children (pooled as slow learners by the school) within the Standard 6th to 8th. And there is felt need from the HM & community in the expanded set of villages we now work with. So, we wish to have a full time presence during the entire school hours to have more sustained outcomes.

- Internally, we think we need to utilize better our donor’s money. We are not able to engage some of our education staff, especially who work at the community level or experts during the one month Summer holidays. So, we want to work with them to go on unpaid leave so as to utilize that money in providing exposure trips to children.

- With our engagements with other schools working on alternate models of children learning spaces, we see that children and teachers gain tremendous knowledge on longer exposure trips.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Group</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Unit cost / Month</th>
<th>Annual Cost (Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government School children</td>
<td>Teacher Salary – Improving capacities in Primary school (for 11 months only) – proposed for Thenur, Nathakadu, T.Kalathur &amp; Echampatti</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>154,000</td>
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<td>Improving capacities of Slow learners among Standard 6th, 7th &amp; 8th students in High school (for 11 months only) proposed for Thenur, T.Kalathur, Nathakadu &amp; Pudhu Ammapalayam</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>154,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payir’s Learning Initiatives</td>
<td>Karate &amp; PT Master (for 11 months only)</td>
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<td>3,500</td>
<td>77,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dance/Drama Master (for 11 months only)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>44,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Teacher for Under 5 Kids</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>120,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Teacher for Residential Dropout Kids</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>240,000</td>
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<td>Exposure trips for children (2 trips of 3 days each for 25 Primary kids &amp; 2 trips of 5 days each for 20 Upper Primary; accompanied by 3 teachers)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>((28<em>3</em>2) + (23<em>5</em>2)) * 250</td>
<td>99,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Rs.888,500</strong></td>
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