

**From:** Fehmida Kapadia <fehmidakapadia@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** [asha\_cleveland] Meeting Minutes - Jan 30th 2009  
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**To:** Asha Cleveland <asha\_cleveland@yahoogroups.com>  
**Reply-To:** fehmidakapadia@yahoo.com

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Attendees: Divya, Nigamanth, Bharadwaj, Archana, Ramya, Ravi, Prakash, Karthik, fehmid

Asha – Cleveland welcomes Ravi!! ☺

### Republic day Event after party

Everyone felt that the quiz was a huge success. There was consensus that we need to continue having events on campus to get the students interested. Several ideas of other events that we can have during the year came up.

### Srikanth's shower Epiphany: Quiz contest

Since the quiz was so popular, we thought of having an exclusive quiz contest with gifts and certificates and pre-registration and entry fee and the works. This idea quickly gained momentum and we will start working on it. Our quiz master of course will be SRIKANTH.

### Action Items:

**Srikanth:** send fehmid the details and we can start the process.

### Ramya's brilliance: New Volunteer Day

What is the inertia that keeps new volunteers from joining? Since we had so much interest why didn't we have any new faces? Maybe people are apprehensive coming to a meeting where they don't know anyone.

So we can announce a New Volunteer day – where we designate a meeting for new volunteers. If this is announced and people feel like they might not be the only new person in the group, they are more likely to attend. We should plan to announce this within the next month.

### Movie night – Parminder's idea that has been on the backburner for a year

We can start with one good movie to screen and gauge the response. If received well, we can do more events. Perhaps pick a movie where we can draw a parallel between the movie and a project that Asha is supporting.

#### RECENT ACTIVITY

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Host a free online conference on IM.

#### Group Charity

[City Year](#)

Young people who change the world

#### John McEnroe

[on Yahoo! Groups](#)

Join him for the 10 Day Challenge.

## Action Items

**Ashish:** look into copyrights and try and get a title

## Srikanth/Nigamanth/Divya's Gameday

Game Night/ Poker night: We can either have a poker night or a game night. With game night we could reserve 3-4 classrooms and have different games in different rooms that people can join in

## Projects

**Uma's Fellowship:** Srikanth, Archana and Divya visited the project and gave us details about the school and their experience visiting the school. Everyone thinks that the school is a phenomenal concept and the children there are brilliant. The children have a strong sense of self and independence and seem to be receiving an excellent education.

The school size has grown from 150 to 300 students in the past year. Age group: 5-13 years, LKG-8<sup>th</sup> grade. There are 32 teachers. Students were beggars and have been taken off the streets. Parents are beggars or migrant workers. The school is 40-45Kms from Madras. 100 children live in the hostel there. The hostel provides vegan meals and employs 2 FT cooks. There is a Gobar gas plant used for cooking and electricity. The idea is to teach children the nutritional value of food and the fact that they can eat animal-free products in a wholesome meal. Focus towards environmental sustainability as well.

Uma's honorarium of **1.2lakhs** was approved by the group. Discussion about supporting other aspects of the school as well. Also, thoughts about having a dedicated donor adopt the project

## Action Items

**Bharadwaj:** Send money

Get a budget for school expenses

## Ojus Medical

Bought a van for mobile health initiatives through Rotary

Vijay Patel – Rotary in Cleveland has already donated \$2000 for project

Transmission of HIV from mother to child can be as little as 5-10% if monitored properly.

Currently patients have transmission rate of 35% Control rate of transmission

A collaboration between anganwadi workers and project workers to identify pregnant women in slums and reach out to them.

Site visit – Archana's parents met with coordinators and went to JJ hospital.

Focus of project is to educate newly weds and pregnant women about HIV testing and awareness so that transmission from mother to child can be decreases. HIV positive mothers are give anti-viral therapy for this purpose.

Project is based in Mumbai.

Project was approved by the group.

#### Action Items

**Bharadwaj/Nigamanth:** Money transfer

#### Abhilasha

Mail out a project CD highlighting a new project with each Abhilasha to selected donors

That's all folks!

Have a nice week!!

Fehmida

*Asha for Education: 11 years of Working an Hour... Did we count yours?*

<http://www.workanhour.org>

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**MARKETPLACE**

From kitchen basics to easy recipes - join the Group from Kraft Foods

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