

Asha for Education™

Project Proposal Submission Form

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Project Name: SWIRD - Pre-Primary Educational Centers-2019

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	Project Contact	Asha Contact
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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.

Society for Women in Rural Development(SWIRD)

2. When was the group established?

The organisation was established on the 24th December in 1991.

3. Briefly describe the motivation for starting this group.

One unfortunate incidence had motivated the women to establish SWIRD. It was in the year 1990. Many poor families could not arrange even one meal for every member of the family and the helpless mother had to starve along with her kids. One day a mother committed suicide as she could not arrange food for her children for some consecutive days. A local leading NGO facilitated some community leaders to sit together and discussed about their duties to uplift the condition of the families especially by the women themselves. This meeting gave a formation of a group which decided to form an NGO which would run exclusively by the rural women. Thus in the year 1991-1992 a not for profit NGO was formed viz. "Society for Women in Rural Development" or 'SWIRD' in short. Now Society for Women in Rural Development' (SWIRD) is a women run organization by a group of women especially the house-wives who know about the distressful situation of the women of the poor rural families living below the poverty line.

4. Briefly describe the aims of your group.

SWIRD aims to have a society free from hunger, injustice, exploitation and deprivation by ensuring every one of the society with basic human rights ,based on love , peace, universally accepted human values of justice, solidarity , equality, mutual cooperation among mankind for peaceful coexistence. The prime objective of the organisation is to initiate sustainable development of the people with their active participation in comprehensive manner to become self-reliant in every aspect of life.

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

No, we don't have any kind of religious or political affiliation.

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

Since our inception we are involved in following non-education related community development activities

Raising social awareness on various issues to ensure holistic social development.
 Formation of Women Self Help Groups (SHGs).
 Providing livelihood trainings to the members women SHGs.
 Organizing programs on environment protection and pollution control.
 Organizing leadership development programs for women.
 Savings and micro credits for individuals and groups activities.
 Organizing community awareness programs on preventive healthcare .
 Providing relief assistance in emergency situation in case of natural disasters.
 Organizing cultural programs, sports and games on various occasions.
 Organizing programs to observe important days.Mother & Child health check-up camps
 Various other types of activities

However apart from continuation of Asha supported Preprimary Education program, we have undertaken few non educational activities during last financial year (2017-18) like :-

Continuation of Balwadi Program
 Organizing Children Festival
 Conducting Mother and child health checkups,
 Organizing International Women's Day
 Providing financial support to the destitute persons
 Observance of memorable days
 Organizing Swachh Bharat Awareness Program ... etc

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.

We have been running 10 Balwadi Schools with financial help of Asha for Education San-Francisco chapter, U.S.A. We are requesting funds for the year-2019 for all these under mentioned 10 schools.

- 1)Bardabar Sitala Balwadi Center
- 2)Bhogpur Saradamoyee Balwadi Center
- 3)Deulbar Kaberi Balwadi Center
- 4)Kishorchawk Kalpana Chowla Balwadi Center
- 5)Kodialia Gandhiburi Balwadi Center
- 6)Kodialia Mother Teresa Balwadi Center
- 7)Nahala Indira Balwadi Center
- 8)Nandaigajan Ayesha Balwadi Center
- 9)Saradabasan Gargi Balwadi Center
- 10)Tahala Matangini Balwadi Center

8. Location of school/s Urban Rural Other _____

9. Specify the type of education provided (e.g. basic literacy, vocational training etc.).

We are working for basic literacy with this project. We provide elementary education to the underprivileged children within the age group 3 to 5 years. Our project can be considered as the stepping-stone for entering into formal education. We motivate the parents in our communities to send their children especially the girl children to our schools to give them a start for education.

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

In this project we nurture our target group pre-school level children through an enjoyable method of learning by singing, dancing and playing rather than traditional punishment based teaching procedure. This method of joyful learning has become popular in our community. Our teachers provide them basic education with motherly loving and caring technique in a pleasant atmosphere to make them habituated to the school atmosphere. The children are taught language in mother tongue and in English & basic arithmetical lessons.

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

So far as the concept of literacy is concerned, in India who can write their name is called literate. In that sense as per Govt. statistic, the rate of literacy in our community (Block level) is 95 % and about 5% people are absolutely illiterate. But the number of truly educated people in our community is very low. Out of 95% literate people only around 23-24 % people can read and write but the rest can somehow write their name only .

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.

Socio-economic background of our beneficiaries is very poor. A considerable part of the total population of the area lives Below the Poverty Line, who are categorised by government by BPL population. They generally belong to the lower caste people. The majority marginal farmers and landless labourers fight for existence as daily wage labourers. Floriculture is one of the leading agricultural activities in this area and a large number of populations are directly and indirectly dependent on floriculture. Overall community health is very poor, while children and women are the worst sufferers. The health care service is miserable here. Literacy rate is very low especially among the women. Problem of school dropout and child labor is prevalent. Malnutrition among the children is the common feature. Most of the families are trapped in vicious cycle of poverty for generations and fail to break it. In most of the cases, parents cannot fulfil the basic needs of their children and as a consequence child-labor system is predominant in our community. Gender inequality is awfully prominent. The parents have a very low level of awareness regarding the need of girl children's education. However situation is changing gradually. Agriculture based joint family system is breaking down and small size unitary families are coming up. Due to family planning quality of living is of local people is improving. Education of girl children is now appreciated in the community, although incidences of school dropouts for girl children are quite high.

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.)?

We started our school long back. Previously due to financial constrains we could not provide any other service to the children apart from education. But since 2009 ,after Asha- San Francisco has started providing financial support we have been able to provide those school children some other kind of services like clothing (school dress), medical care etc. in our schools . Occasionally on special days we provide our children with light refreshments by local arrangements and sponsorship.

14. Does your school have:

Its own building(s): Yes No Number _____

Number and type of classrooms (e.g. Pukka): Presently we are running 10 Balwadi schools in different places. Out of these 10 rented class rooms 8 rooms are Pukka and rest 2 rooms are fanced-mud house.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
Toilets			Playground			Toys		
Chairs & Tables			Blackboard			Library		
Drinking water			Electricity			Computers		
Laboratory			Teaching aids (e.g. books/slates)					

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

Male 190 Female 212 Age Range 3-5 years

16. How many staff are employed at your schools?

Teachers 10 Minimum Qualifications School Final passed

Other staff 4

17. Average distance the children travel to attend your school- Less than 1/2 km**18. How many children have gone through your program in the past five years and what are they doing currently? Please tell us about their future education and employment possibilities.**

During last five years more than 2000 children have studied in our schools (taking around 400 children every year). Although we started our project long back, but we got Asha funding support for last 9 years since 2009 . Therefore we have got about 3600 children during this Asha funded project period of 9 years. Out of this in last 5 years about 2000 children have been covered. If we calculate the rate of outgoing children, @ about 45% every year it can be calculated that about 900 children has passed-out during last five years.

All the children, who have passed during last five years, are studying in the local Govt. primary schools. Many of the students passed previously are studying in high schools. We hope that the children will continue their education in future. It is too early to comment about their future employment possibilities. However we expect that these children we be able to get a scope for the diversification of their livelihood resources. Thus the child of an illiterate daily wage labourer will get a scope of employment in some Govt. or private offices, after being properly educated.

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

Yes, after our children pass-out from our school, we assist them to get admission in the local primary schools. We follow up and help the children so that they can continue their studies. We have experienced that the students especially the girl children in our community have the tendency to dropout from school in the primary and high school level and become potential child labourers. SWIRD closely follow up this process and motivate their parents to continue their children to send to schools. It is mentionable that after we have got support from Asha San Francisco, we have been able to organise some workshops cum seminar by involving almost all the parents of our students to prevent dropout and motivated them to continue their children's education in the Primary - High School and onward levels. We particularly motivated parents of our pass-out girl students to provide scope to the daughters' to continue their future education. We got remarkable result and have observed that 100% of the outgoing children from our Balwadi schools have been admitted in local primary schools during last 5 years.

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.

Yes, in our operational area (in two village panchayats) there are many others schools. Given bellow the type of the schools, their number and range of classes: -

Type of the school	No. of schools	Range of the class
Anganwadi (Govt. aided pre- primary school)	5 nos.	Nursery
Govt. aided primary school	10 nos.	Std. – I to Std. – IV
Higher Secondary School	2 nos.	Std. – V to Std. – XII

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

Yes, the teaching programs in other local schools differ from the programs in our schools. In other schools the students are imparted education by conventional teaching techniques. In those schools due to boring conventional punishment based method of teaching system children don't get pleasure in learning and consequently the children have a general tendency, not to attend schools. But our pre-primary school programme is different from other schools of the locality. Our teaching technique involves learning by playing, story-telling, singing songs and rhymes, etc. which gives enormous joy in the learning system. The teachers play role of mothers as well as teachers in a friendly atmosphere. In comparison to the students of other schools our schools students are really interested to come to classes as our teaching technique gives them ample pleasure for their learning by playing , singing and dancing.As a result of this system our children become intelligent, brighter and sharper in comparison to the children of other schools.

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

From long back, pre-primary schools of SWIRD have some special reputation in our rural belt. The parents always prefer to get admission of their children to our schools because, in comparison to the children studied in Government pre-primary school or other local schools, the little children who are trained in our schools do better result in the admission tests for Primary Schools. Parents in our community have a faith on our system of grooming up or in the process of nurturing the pre-school level children which we follow. So this is the reason why the children don't prefer to join Govt. primary school.

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.

Frankly speaking , we cannot involve the parents directly in running the schools, although from time to time we organise teacher-parents meeting to discuss any social problem relating to running the school or to solve any particular problem that hinders the progress of the children's education in our schools.

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

In fact in this remote rural belt we are struggling to make our Balwadi Schools sustainable. Unless we make these schools self-sustainable we can't plan for further expansion. However we have our future plan to increase the number of children in each school. For last few years we have been running this project with average student strength of around 40 students per center in 10 centers. Currently we have 402 numbers of students. All these children are covered under Asha for Education financial aid. We are happy to continue this project within this limit. Due to rising up price index our budget for 400 is gradually increasing. So we have decided not to increase number of children from last year and want to apply for financial support for 400 students in 10 Balwadi schools.

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

Underprivileged children in our country mostly do not have access to nutrition, education, health and proper recreational facilities. School attendance by a child in India is highly correlated with family income. Many poor families, who are not in a position to fulfil the basic needs of their children, feel their only choice to send children to work rather than sending them to school. We believe that education is essential to ensure a better quality of life for all children and a better world for all people. Asha can help these underprivileged children so that they can go to schools and get education to become a responsible citizen of our country in their future life. Education is the only weapon which Asha can provide to the poor community children to break the vicious cycle of poverty, prevailing in their family for generation after generation. Along with educational support the family support mechanism can be strengthened for supplementary family income. In this way Asha can uplift the quality of life with an empowerment of the down trodden through this process towards the community development in India.

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	Mr. Ajay Kumar Chakraborty
	Addresses	Vill- Kushar . P.O. – Pulsita P.S. – Kolaghat, Dist.—Purba Medinipur. W.B – 721154- India
	Phone	+919007596136 / 9134078005

2	Name	Mr. Asit Ranjan Chaudhury
	Addresses	Vill.& P.O. – Pulsita P.S. – Kolaghat, Dist.—Purba Medinipur. W.B - 721154
	Phone	+919002241969

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	Smt. Krishna Roy (Secretary)
Address	Vill & PO- Pulsita PS- Kolaghat Dt- Purba Medinipur West Bengal , India.
Phone	+918670247391(Mobile Ph.) +91 3228256 491(Land Ph)

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.

SOURCES OF CURRENT & FUTURE FUNDING FOR ACTIVITIES :-

Funding by Asha For Education ,
Grant in aid from Department of Youth Services & Sports Govt. of West Bengal
Public donation,
SWIRD general reserve fund ,
Donation by local traders

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

Year(s)	Recurring costs	Fixed costs
2020	925000	Nil
2021	950000	Nil
2022	975000	Nil

30. Salary expenditure details:

	Number	SalaryRange
Teachers	10	Rs.2200/-
Paid Staff	4	Rs.2500/- Rs.3000/-
Volunteer Staff	Nil	Nil

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

Nil

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

Most of the children of our project belong to very poor families. Their parents can't afford to pay school fees. So we provide them this basic education in our school free of cost. Since we have collaborated with Asha for Education, we do not take any school fees from these children.

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

Items	Amount	One time / Annual
Yearly cost for rent of schools sheds per month for 10 schools. @ Rs. 500per school per month (Rs500/- x 10 sch.s x 12 months)	60000	Annual
One time expenditure for purchasing classroom –floor mats, water- jugs, waste paper bins, doormats for all 10 schools @ Rs 2200/- X 10	22000	One Time
Estimated yearly cost for chalk, duster, roll call register , toys for the children and various teaching materials etc. for 10 nos. of schools@ Rs 3300/- per school = (Rs3300 x 10)	33000	Annual
Expenses for two sets of school dresses -- (Rs220x2) + Shoes & socks (Rs.160) +one school bag (Rs 100), for 400 students. = Rs. (440+160+100) =Rs700/-per head for 400 students (700 x 400)	280000	One Time
Annual expenditure for monthly salary for 10 teachers of 10 nos. of schools @ Rs.2200 /-per head per month (Rs.2200 x 12 months x 10 teachers)	264000	Annual
Annual expenditure for monthly salary of the doctor to provide regular health checkup support to all the students @ Rs. 3000 per month (3000 x 12)	36000	Annual
Yearly expenses for provision of medicines for all the poor students to be given during illness under special cases only (Lump sum- Rs 1000 per month X12 month)	12000	One Time
Yearly expenditure for salary of two field monitors cum social animators @ Rs2700 per head per month for 12 months X 2 heads (Our 10 Balwadi centres are located in a scattered area. Hence two field monitors are necessary)	64800	Annual
Travelling cost for two field monitors @Rs500/ per month per head (500x2x12)	12000	Annual
Yearly expenditure for conducting class test (Half yearly and annual examinations) @ Rs.500/- per exam per school =(500x10schools x 2 exams)= Rs10000/-	10000	One time
Yearly cost of organizing Annual Sports, various types of competition, functions etc per center with prizes &refreshment@1500 per centerX10	15000	One Time

Estimated annual cost for Mass awareness generation for prevention of dropouts by organizing two meets in two different places of the all the students' parents as seminar cum cultural function to motivate them to continue their children's education in the Primary - High School and onward levels. Cost including pandal, stage arrangements , sound system , hiring power generator, Resource persons honorarium etc @ Rs10,000 per function x2	20000	One Time
Cost of lunch for invited parents and the student for 400 families in the above mentioned Mass awareness generation programme (2heads/ family) in the proposed two workshops (200 families in each seminar) for prevention of dropouts - @Rs40 per head (Rs40 x 2 heads x200 families x2)	32000	One Time
Yearly expenditure for salary of one part time accountant @Rs2500 per month for 12 months	30000	Annual
Admin cost for SWIRD including printing , office stationeries, telephone, meeting exp, internet, reporting, monitoring travel exp for management personnel etc @Rs2000 per month X12 = 24000 + Expenses for service charge to an external auditor to audit and provide evaluation certificate to Asha for the given funds for this project @ Rs3000 yearly(External audit for FCRA funds is compulsory in India) + Miscellaneous exp----Rs200 = 24000 + 3000 + 200 = 27200	27200	Annual
TOTAL	9,18,000 /- (Nine Lakhs Eighteen Thousand Rupees)	For the year - 2019