

## **Dec 23 2006. Kuvempu Project meeting**

### **Pre-Meeting discussion**

Akila Balaji, Sai and Shankar

It was decided that the following details will be discussed in the actual meeting.

1. Format of accounting and suggest some ideas if needed
2. On going activities and priorities
3. Request for a report every month
4. Keep track of the budget and accounting
5. Request, audited statement for 2004 to 2005
6. Request expense details for 2006 Mar to 2006 Dec
7. Make sure Prakash is in sync with Budget proposal
8. Discuss what happen to WAH money
9. Discourage taking advance from Barathi Trust
10. To do this conference call every two moths

### **Main Meeting Minutes**

Participants: Akila Balaji, Prakash, Sai, Shankar and Shanmuga

#### **Ongoing activities:**

Prakash gave a summary of on going activities

- (i) **Vidya kendra tuition center:**
  - a) Tuition centers help students from 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 7<sup>th</sup> grade
  - b) One teacher for grades 1 to 5
  - c) Separate teachers for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades
  - d) 25% of the students pass in 1st class, remaining just clear all subjects
  - e) Government school teachers just teach and go, they ignore weak students. Kuvempu encourages them.
  - f) Kids are more responsible now; almost all the underprivileged kids are coming (almost 99%). Drop out rate is decreasing, almost none. Kids are more interested, these tuition centers are motivating them to go to school and it is also giving them the hope that they will have a good future.
  - g) **Action Item:** Set up guidelines to track performance of each kid in a given grade. (Entire Team)
- (ii) Tailoring
- (iii) Type writing, bag making

- (iv) PC, (They are having issues with electricity)
- (v) Field work: Educate about government grants and help villagers get them
- (vi) **Helping kids after 7<sup>th</sup> grade:**
  - a) There are drop outs after the 7<sup>th</sup> grade because of the fees. Kuvempu is helping with paying fees, buying books and uniform for these kids.
  - b) 32 students benefited between April and Dec 2006.
  - c) 11 students for fees, remaining for shoes and uniforms
  - d) Kuvempu would like to help more students
- (vii) Kalajatha program. These are stage shows discouraging drinking, illiteracy, being superstitious etc. Food is a problem while doing these plays.
- (viii) Cleaning and planting trees. Plants are provided by the state government. This activity is slow because of lack of plants

#### **Future Plans:**

- (i) Improve and track the Quality of tuition centers.
- (ii) Support students who are 8<sup>th</sup> grade and above. Organized help for 11 and 12 grade students
- (iii) Stove and cooker for kalajatha, hire a jeep/van
- (iv) Start a nursery
- (v) Bus for kids who are about 7 to 8 kms away from the tuition center. Some kids drop out because of the transportation
- (vi) Organic farming
- (vii) Rainwater harvesting

#### **Budget**

- (i) Asha Detroit supports Vidya Kendras and Government related activities. 2006 Budget approved by Asha Detroit
- (ii) Silicon Valley supports Kalajatha, Vocational training and misc. 2006 Budget for these, to be requested.
- (iii) Kuvempu needs at least Rs.150, 000 till the end of the financial year. ( 4 months of salary, Rs. 35000 per month)
- (iv) Travel expenses details:  
 Rs. 200-Rs. 300 (8 teachers): Monthly meeting expenses, Training, Kalajatha.  
 Parents meeting at a different village, to get a feedback about other teachers.  
 Rs. 600-Rs. 700: Field work  
 Rs. 1000: Only limited to 1 or 2, who supervise all the activities

**Comments:** Traveling needs to be discussed in detail in future. Can field workers be local?

- (v) How much loan is taken?  
 Barathi trust siddama                      Rs. 150000

Shanmuga	Rs. 76000
Corpus fund	Rs. 150000
Himophilia	Rs. 50000
Prakash	Rs. 40000
Interest earned from the bank	Rs. 16500

**Action Items:**

Money taken from WAH should be put back into the bank (Prakash)  
Feb 15<sup>th</sup>: To submit budget for 2007-2008 (Prakash/Shanmuga)

**Suggested Improvements:**

Micro loans is something that can be discussed in future  
Kuvempu should be registered and money should be sent to them directly

**Reporting and accounting**

- Budget needs to be submitted on time. Reason for the delay this time: Busy with work.
- Barathi trust gave advance.
- Accounts are maintained in a book
- No organized way of auditing

**Action Items**

1. When ever money is sent to Kuvempu add a cover letter indicating these funds should go to kuvempu (Akila/Sai/Shankar)
2. Asha Detroit to send \$10,000 with in a week, remaining \$1,500 in January 2007(Akila/Sai/Shankar)
3. 2005-2006 audited report is ready, to be given by Barathi (Prakash)
4. 2006-April to Dec: Expenses in a book, Prakash to give it to Sunila
5. Provide 3 and 4 by January 10<sup>th</sup> (Prakash)
6. Two project status reports every year. Semi annual and annual (Prakash/Shanmuga)
7. Semi annual report is already published, annual report is expected.
8. Monthly expense and progress report. Collect information from monthly meetings and publish a monthly report. Sasi to help Prakash with this. (Prakash)

**Additional Notes:**

- Sai to introduce Mr. Nagraj (rain water harvesting expert) to Prakash.
- Next meeting last week of Feb 2007.