

Nalamdana

Nalamdana Charitable Trust, Chennai India

Mission

Nalamdana seeks to play a significant role in creating a visibly more aware and informed society in India that will take a more active role in its own progress and well being.

We believe that change must come from within and we work to achieve our mission through empowering people with the information and behavioral impetus for change.

Activities

- Diffuse spread of information relating to issues requiring simple and urgent attention such as preventative health.
- Local leadership development for future change, focusing on youth and women.

Current Programs

- **Health Education:** the spread of preventative health messages primarily relating to general health and hygiene and HIV/AIDS.
- **Youth Education:** developing future leaders for change through in-school and out of school educational support.
- **Women's Empowerment:** empowering women with the knowledge and impetus to participate in their local panchayat councils.

The Education Program

OBJECTIVE:

To create a cohesive group of the brightest and most socially committed students from low income communities and empower them through education, both inside and outside the classroom, so that they might eventually become local leaders for long term change.

Selection Criteria

- Studying in 8th to 10th standard.
- Family income below \$10/person/ month
- High First Class Marks (70%+)
- Leadership potential as demonstrated through public speaking exercises, debates and interpersonal interactions
- Commitment to social change as demonstrated through debate, discussion and one-on-one interviews.

Current Program Elements

- Scholarships to fund tuition, books and uniforms
- Workshops to provide broad exposure and stimulate thought about social issues.
- Get together to promote friendships among the Nalamdana scholars.
- Career Counseling

Future Program Elements

- Mentoring to provide students with the opportunity to explore various career fields.
- Summer English Classes to enable students to attend English medium colleges
- Library to provide students with access to reading they otherwise would not have.

Student Profile



J.Dhanalakshmi

II year Diploma in Computer Science

Topped class in Ist year.

Nalamdana Scholar since Class XI (1996).

Family: Father is a lorry shed loadman educated upto 5th grade with an annual income of Rs. 10,200 (\$255). J.Dhanalakshmi is one of five children that he supports.

Issues of Interest: Dhanalakshmi is particularly concerned with the issues facing women in her community. She has seen many of her friends and family drop out of school and be married with exorbitant dowries at great expense to their families. She is determined to make a difference in this area and is an advocate for female education in her neighborhood talking to parents and providing informal tutoring to girls in the neighborhood.

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Short Term Successes

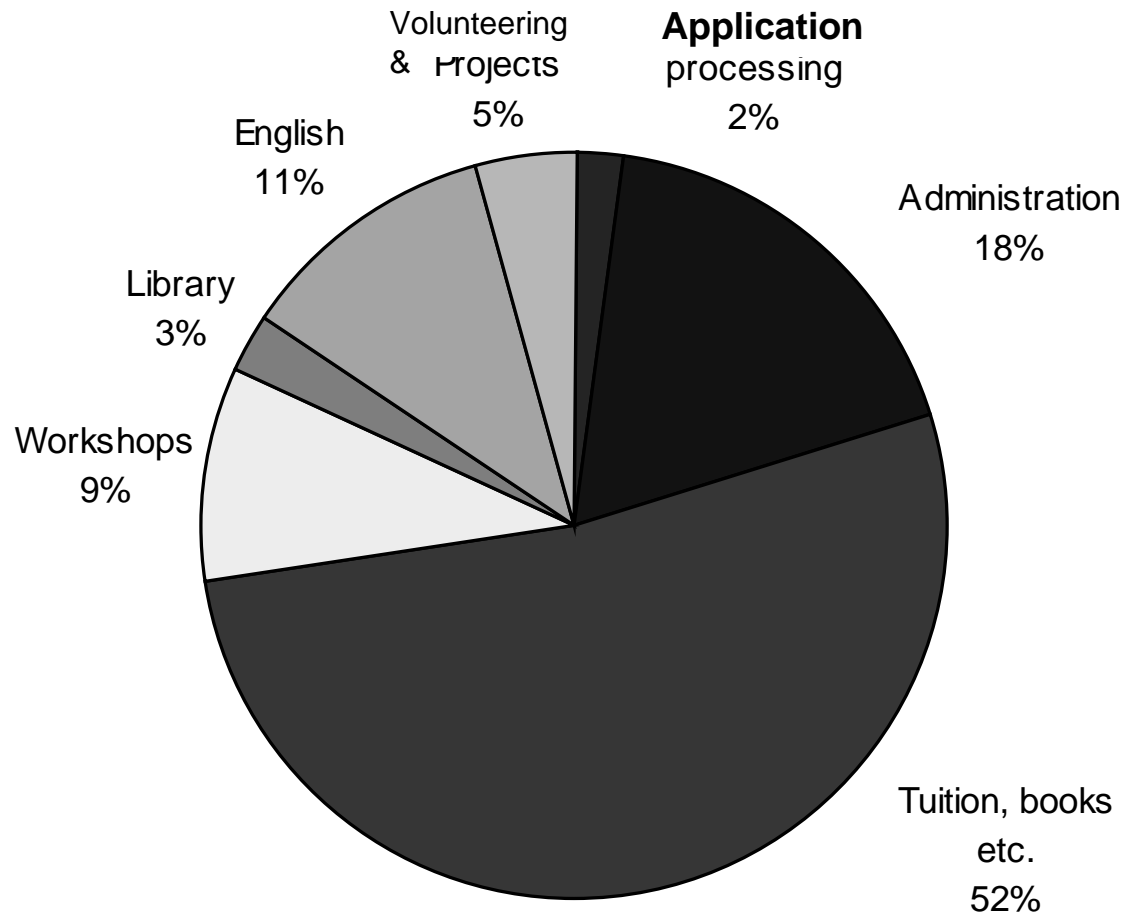
- **Three Nalamdana scholars have entered college.**
- **J. Dhanalakshmi has topped her class in I year Diploma computer science**
- **.S. Dhanalakshmi obtained the highest marks in the 10th Std. S.S.L.C. exams in North Chennai district.**
- **L.S. Ameer has become an integral part of Nalamdana, volunteering as a field health worker with Nalamdana 72 days during the 1997-98 academic year and still maintaining a class average of 77% in his B.Sc. Computer Science Program.**

Estimated Budget for 1999-2000

<u>Planned activities for 1999-2000 and Budget</u>	<u>Estimated Amount</u>
I. Application processing and award ceremony	\$ 200
II. Payment of tuition fees, books, uniforms and bus passes (for 30 students, includes several in college with lab fees etc.)	\$ 5,800
III. 5 Workshops for exposure, debate and discussion	\$ 1,000
IV. Volunteering expense reimbursements	\$ 500
V. Textbooks/ Library Collection	\$ 300
VI. Summer English Classes for 10 th –12 th Std. Students.....	\$ 1,200
VII. Full time coordinator salary	\$ 2,000
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 11,000

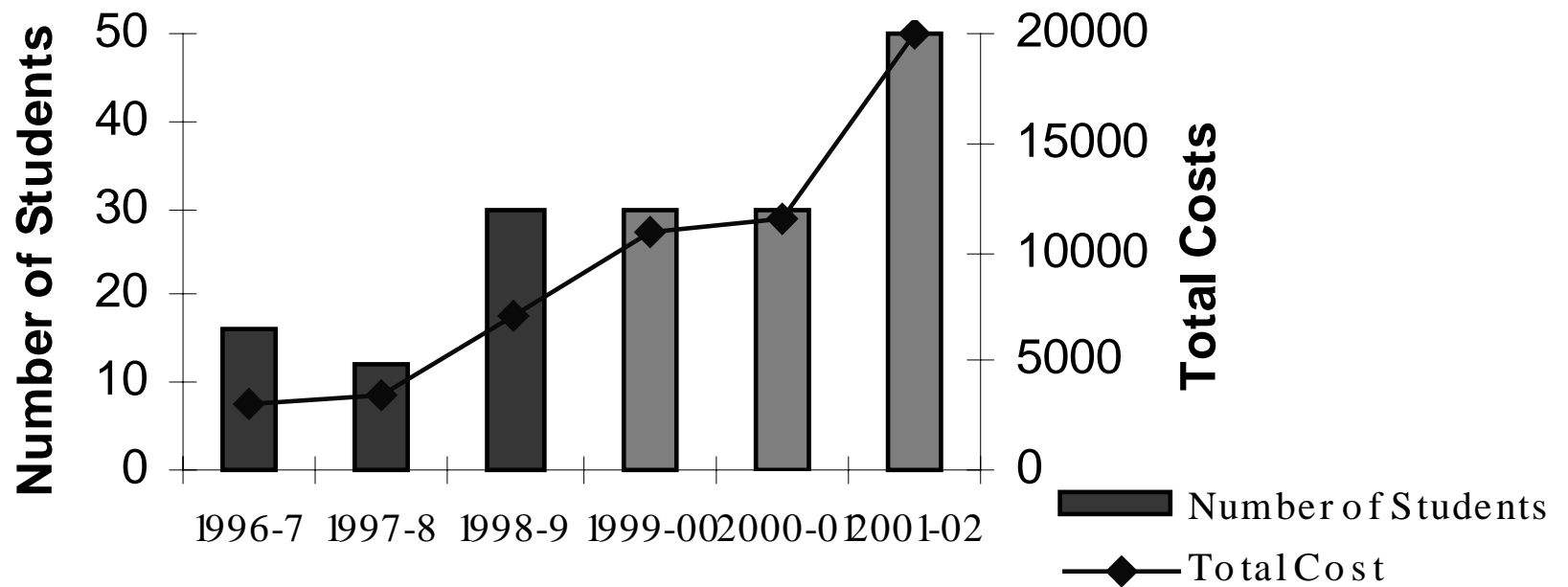
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Pattern of expenses



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Program Growth and Costs



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