**ASHA STAMFORD JULY 19, 2015 MEETING MINUTES:**

**Date**: Sunday, July 19, 2015, at Anand Ranganathan's residence

**Attendees:** Anand Ranganathan, Sanjay Mellacheruvu, Vatsala Vadapalli, Rama Kumanduri, Bhuma Subramaniam, Bhargavi Ramamurthy, Rhea Johnson (UConn chapter)

**PROJECTS:**

**New project proposal by ACRD, Borkuchi School in Assam:**

The group discussed the project and agreed to take this on as a continuing project pending site visit report. The pros were the agency of ACRD, the convenience, and Asha Stamford's healthy relationship with them. The school, started in 2009, has 80 students (roughly equal boys and girls), 5 teachers including 3 Nartap High School alum (which is again a big plus), and are requesting $5,000.

**ACRD Continuing Budget:** It was felt that ACRD honorarium (Rs. 48,000 for 2 schools this year), amounting to one-third of our disbursement, is not a healthy sign from the impact point of view of the projects. Administrative expenses of this size should be avoided. Until last year, we were paying Rs. 60,000 but ever since the Government took over the schools, our need for monitoring has come down. It was decided that **Rama**would request ACRD to conduct site visits/monitoring of all 3 schools for Rs. 60,000 as before. This will reduce the administrative cost percentage in our total disbursements for the 3 schools.

Pending this, the group approved the Nartap and Bonpura School budgets for 2015-2016.

Post meeting: There was agreement that we would pay the Rs 60,000 honararium this year for oversight of the 3 schools since it was agreed that we will support the Borkuchi school pending the site visit.

The site visit for the schools is planned for Dec 3, 2015 and will be conducted by Ami Baruah