

Bharathi Trust is a long term project partner of AfE. Siddamma, an Asha Fellow had visited quite a few Asha chapters recently. One of the aspects of their work is the Tsunami relief and rehabilitation efforts. Bharathi Nagar in cuddalore district is a community of tsunami affected irula families. Bharathi Trust had been working to provide permanent housing and rehabilitation for these families. While the permanent houses were close to completion, the families were put up in temporary accommodation. You can read updates about this effort at -

<http://www.ashanet.org/projects/project-view.php?p=663>
<http://www.ashanet.org/austin/projects/siddamma.html>

A fire accident gutted all the huts and the educational motivation center that was being used by the community. No casualties or serious injuries were reported. But, a lot of property was lost. Families have lost the means of livelihood. They are currently staying in 40 houses (as part of permanent housing project) that had the roofing completed. Currently the Collector of that area is providing for some food. The immediate requirements include

Food

Sl	Item	Qty	Rate / Per	Amount per house	Total Amount(58 Houses)
1	Rice	25	10	250	14500
2	Dhal	2	45	90	5220
3	Chilly Powder	1	90	90	5220
4	Tamarind	1	30	30	1740
5	Garlic	½	40	40	2320
6	SVS Oil	2	60	120	6960
7	Mustard	100g	20	100	5800
8	Perunchiragam	100g			
9	Pepper	100g			
10	Chiragam	100g			
11	Venthayam	100g			
12	Sugar	1	20	20	1160
13	Salt	1	5	5	290
14	Detergent Cake	6	10	60	3480
15	Bathing Soap	6	10	60	3480
16	Coconut Oil	½ lit	30	30	1740
17	Talcum Powder	1	24	24	1392
18	Tooth Paste	1	20	20	1160
19	Comb	1	10	10	580
20	Mirror	1	50	50	2900
	Total			999	57942

Vessels

Sl	Item	Qty	Rate / Per Item	Amount per house	Total Amount(for 58 Houses)
1	Silver Kudam	1	300	300	17400
2	Plastic Kudam	2	40	80	4640
3	Plate	4	35	140	8120
4	Basin	1	70	70	4060
5	Samayal Panai	1	60	60	3480
6	Tumblur	4	10	40	2320
7	Silver Kulambu Satti	3	45	135	7830
8	Karandi (Big)	1	35	35	2030
9	Karandi(Small)	1	35	35	2030
10	Annakudai	1	120	120	6960
11	Vaditattu	1	20	20	1160
12	Aruvalmanai	1	50	50	2900
13	Broom stick	1	20	20	1160
14	Sombu(Big)	1	40	40	2320
15	Sombu(small)	1	35	35	2030
16	Annavetti	1	29	29	1682
17	Vanal	1	80	80	4640
18	Padi	1	80	80	4640
19	Plastic Bucket	1	40	40	2320
20	Plastic Mug	1	10	10	580
21	Silver Kinnam	4	15	60	3480
22	Brass Lamp	1	45	45	2610
23	Anjarapetti	1	30	30	1740
	Total			1554	90132

CLOTHES

Ladies Clothe – 53 members

Sl	Item	Qty	Rate /Item	Amount per house	Total Amount(53 Ladies)
1	Saree	2	300	600	31800
2	Inskirt	2	50	100	5300
3	Blouse	2	25	50	2650
4	Under wear	2	100	200	10600
	Total			950	50350

Gents Clothe- 56 members

Sl	Item	Qty	Rate / Item	Amount per house	Total Amount(56 Gents)
1	Lungi	2	120	240	13440
2	Shirt	2	200	400	22400
3	Towel	2	50	100	5600
4	Banyan	2	20	40	2240
5	Under wear	2	50	100	5600
	Total			880	49280

Children Clothe (Girls)-43

Sl	Item	Qty	Rate / Item	Amount per house	Total Amount(43 Girls)
1	Midi & Tops	2	250	500	21500
2	Underwear	2	50	100	4300
	Total			600	25800

Children Clothe (Boys)-46

Sl	Item	Qty	Rate / Item	Amount per house	Total Amount(46 Boys)
1	Shirt	2	150	300	13800
2	Underwear	2	150	300	13800
	Total			600	27600

Other

Sl	Item	Qty	Rate / family	Amount per house	Total Amount(58 Houses)
1	Box (suite case)	1	150	150	8700
	Total			150	8700

Split-up of no. of children by age group is :

Age	Total
1-5yr	37
6-10yr	34
11-15 yr	12
16-17 yr	6
	89

Livelihood

Sl	Name list	Item	Amount
1	Family 1	Sound System	60,000
2	Family 2	Petty Shop	25000
3	Family 3	Petty Shop	25000
4	Family 4	Goat	2000
5	Family 5	Tiffin Centre	20000
6	Family 6	Masonry Kits	45,000
7	Family 7	Cycle	2000
8	Family 8	Cycle	2000
9	Family 9	Cycle	2000
10	Family 10	Tailoring Machine	6000
11	Family 11	Kallai Lamp (Tools)	15000
12	50 Members	Ice Box	30,000(600/Ice Box)
13	50 members	5 Kg Net/member	1,50000(Rs 600x250kg)
	Total		3,84000

Educational Motivation Center in Bharathi nagar,Cuddalore.
Budget for 2 months (NOV &DEC)

No. of children : 89

Particulars	No of Unit	Amount per unit Per annum	Total amount
<i>food and related expense</i>	89	20	60 106800
<i>Teachers salary</i>	3	2000	2 12000
<i>Maid salary</i>	3	1200	2 7200
<i>Travel</i>		2500	2 5000
<i>Study material + Play material</i>	Lumpsum		25,000
<i>miscellaneous</i>	Lumpsum		15000
Total			171000

QnA :

When did the accident happen? What were the immediate steps?

27th September at around 2 P.M. The fire spread very fast and was engulfing everything in its path. Fortunately, all people including children and elderly were safely evacuated. The collector, Thasildhar and BDO were there immediately and thanks to response of fire engines the fire did not spread to the warehouse with construction material. Krishnan (State convenor of the Sarpams) left immediately to the site of the accident. Siddamma stayed back to collect relief material and left with relief material the next day.

What were you doing the next couple of weeks?

Siddamma was busy in providing immediate relief. She was also busy surveying the loss and consoling the affected. In the last 3 weeks she got sick once and had to drop into a hospital when her fever reached 103F. She took a short break in Chennai then and headed back to Cuddalore. She is currently in Chennai.

For how long is the food requirement and why can't the government support?

The food requirement is for about 15 days. The government has supported with food grains and oil so far. We will need the food requirements as mentioned while we work on getting the livelihood in place. We estimate this to take about 15 more days.

Didn't we have support for clothes?

So far we have collected only old clothes and we have not received any new clothes. It's the festival season here. We believe that providing them with at least a few new clothes will bring back normalcy soon.

How is shelter provided currently?

The families are living in the 40 houses with completed roofing. Geeta (a friend and mentor of Siddamma) had provided with Bedsheets, bedspread, mats etc. The food needs were taken care of by the collector and collections made by the Sarpams.

Who supports the current housing project in Bharathi Nagar? Were those orgs approached?

Muriel and students from Belgium belonging to the organization called CHINOVA bought the land for permanent housing. Multi star international (a Germany based NGO) came forward to build the houses. Multi star international is considering support of a temporary shelter. Muriel's friend severin was visiting and got a lot of images. She will be typing up a report soon. CHINOVA will find it tough to support this new project and funds need to be raised.

Do you have any photos/footage?

Yes. It's still in the camera. Will download it and email across to all interested.

Will an EMC be built? Why is it not in the proposal?

Only a thatched structure will be built. Got a donation of material from other village. So they don't help with this. Some math was remaining from Tsunami construction and this will be used. Multi star Intl (an NGO or INGO) is building houses for this community. They will build a child center in the community. So they are building a temporary thatched structure. The community itself will build the structure. Since they have the material and the labor will come from the community, this is not included in the proposal.

The food expense for the first 2 months is Rs.20 per head. Is this because now they get 3 meals?

Yes.

Are all 89 children not going to school since this is not the priority for their parents currently?

Now nobody is going to school. Everybody is in bad shape and this is not a priority. Children need a space and hence EMC will cater to all 89 kids.

What are travel expenses for?

It is for the teachers, since not all the teachers are from the community. These are all newly settled families. The teachers are coming from other villages.

Teaching and playing material is Rs.25000 for 2 months.

We need some materials to play. Children are traumatized by the fire accident. So this will help them get out. Buy paper, colors and such for various activities. If there is money left, they will be taken out.

Why is the maid's salary high when compared to other motivation centers?

They are the ones cooking. The first two months they will be cooking 3 meals, so they will be working more.