

# Project proposal to Asha for Education for 2014

## **1. School at the Campus**

### From Non formal learning centre to a Primary School

Payir has been, in the past years, running successfully the Non formal Learning Centre. With the Right to Education bill and the parents' constant apprehension, continuing the center as a non formal one posed certain difficulty. Due to the above reason and Jayakumar's (IT developer in Payir a nearby village) interest in bringing a good school in this area, he, Pachaimuthu and Karthika took initiatives and did a major task of submitting all documents needed to register our school as a Govt recognized Primary school. Waiting with fingers crossed for further procedures to go smooth. So, our Chutties School has now become PAYIR NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL. Pachaimuthu, Karthika, Ummal and Devika are the first batch of staff in our primary school. Pachaimuthu is doing his B.Ed. so that he would be qualified to be the headmaster of the school.

For the current academic year 2013 - 2014, we have a total of 26 children. The very news that we are trying for recognition of the school spread instantaneously in the village and the student strength immediately went up from 13 to 26. 17 children are in the Nursery school and 9 children in the primary school. Three of them are special children. There is a rousing welcome to the school in Thenur and villages around.

With regard to curriculum, we follow the state- introduced common syllabus called the "Samacheer Kalvi". Because of our interventions and trainings, our teachers have come up with their own modifications in the teaching methods, providing space for innovations and creativity....

### **Fee structure of the new school**

As we have upgraded the school which also means that there will be expansion which will obviously increase the expenditure. Payir has decided to take a minimum fee of Rs. 1000 per term so that learning consumables, uniforms and books needs will not depend on Payir's fund.

### **Nutrition provided during school time**

We also provide every child additional nutrition during morning and evening breaks.

### **Plan for the coming year:**

- Raise infrastructure with regards to space and facilities as well as teaching materials.
- Increase teachers' strength, so as to achieve a student teacher ratio of 10:1.
- Provide more exposure and training to staff so that they can manage their new anxieties.
- Fix the play materials got as a gift to the trust, and bring it to use.
- Correct and prepare the play ground area.
- Start music and dance classes.
- Raise teachers' pay up to minimum remuneration as per Government standards from the next academic year.

## **2. PAYIR Panchayat School Intervention program**

- Our support in the Panchayat Schools still continues though many teachers dropped this year due to lack of desired pay. Schools in Nathakadu and T.Kalathur requested Payir to retain its staff in their respective schools as they recognize and appreciate our contribution in bringing their results high up. They also accepted to partly share the pay.
  - **Note: In a survey done in Govt Schools for identifying slow learners, conducted by District Administration, no child was identified as a slow learner in T.Kalathur school**
  - **Nathakadu Std. 10<sup>th</sup> result increased from 56% to 100%.**
- The support staff of Thenur, Thotiyapatti, Nathakadu and Thenur ADW schools have been included in their respective school's Village Education Committee.
- Nathakadu School has seen a healthy 100 % use of toilets.

### **Plan for the coming year**

- Revive the e-learning program for the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> class children.
- Review support work in Panchayat schools and bring new plans and staff.

## **3. Supplementary Nutrition Program**

Payir played a key role in surveying, project writing and implementation of Supplementary Nutrition Program for Perambalur District. This is a Government program functioning under the Department of Social Welfare and Noon Meal Program. We identified 41% of severe malnutrition among school going children from 1<sup>st</sup> standard to 10<sup>th</sup> standard. Through the new program these children will be provided additional 500 calories during their school time.

Payir has always been interested and working to reduce malnutrition in this area. We have been keeping track of under-5 children every month and record their weight in growth chart and provide supplementary nutrition for those kids who fall under malnourished category.

Presently we are working with 73 children covering 3 whole villages and a part of 4<sup>th</sup> village. We provide ground nut / sesame / ragi/ bajra / Bengal gram laddus with jaggery base. 2 laddus of 30 gms each per child per day is our target. This costs Rs. 7 /child/day. We would like to reach atleast 150 children in the coming year though our estimate is close to 200 children in all the villages we work as of now.

## **4. Budget for 2013 - 2014**

The budgetary estimate for 2013 - 2014 requested from Asha for Education is **INR 7,65,000/-**

**BUDGET COST FOR 2014**

<b>Budget code</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Cost per unit</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Amount requested (INR) from Asha</b>	<b>Amount Payir will fund raise</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Payir Nursery &amp; Primary School</b>					
1.1	Staff Salary					
1.1.1	School Principal (1)	12	7,500.00	90,000.00	90,000.00	
1.1.2	Senior Teacher (1)	12	5,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	
1.1.3	Nursery Teachers (3)	36	4,000.00	144,000.00	144,000.00	
1.1.4	Children Caretaker	12	3,000.00	36,000.00	36,000.00	
1.2	Resource Person Costs - Karate & Music	12	4,000.00	48,000.00	48,000.00	
1.3	Resource Person Costs - Teacher Training	12	2,000.00	24,000.00	24,000.00	
1.4	School excursion (Oneday trip every term)	Lumpsum	30,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
<b>Sub Total</b>					<b>417,000.00</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>School Intervention Program</b>			-		
2.1	Support Staff - 5 Tutors	60	4,000.00	240,000.00	240,000.00	
<b>Sub Total</b>					<b>240,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Nutrition Program</b>					
3.1	Salary to 4 Health Organizer	48	2,000.00	96,000.00	48,000.00	48,000.00
3.2	Salary to the cook for preparing food	12	4,000.00	48,000.00	48,000.00	
<b>Sub Total</b>					<b>96,000.00</b>	<b>48,000.00</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Administration / Office</b>					
4.1	EB Charges	12	1,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	
<b>Sub Total</b>					<b>12,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total</b>					<b>765,000.00</b>	<b>63,000.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>					<b>828,000.00</b>	

Why did Payir have to shift from non-formal education center to primary school? Was there no other option to stay within the guidelines of NFE?

For the past few years, there had been a constant uneasiness among parents about the Non-formal status (of their children's TC specifically) and with the advent of RTE, not only their apprehension increased, but also the NFE itself became untenable as the local Education department put pressure for formal certification. All the friends of us who ran similar NFE, who had more experience than us, went for formal recognition. Our Trustees also decided that we need to go for recognition. Most importantly, our teachers and Jay, one of our IT developers, had a dream to study in a school where he would be proud of that school, where English can be learnt. When the bait of complying with RTE came at Trustee's meeting, he spearheaded the move to becoming formal..I sensed he can become the natural leader..so, we went for the primary school

What are the other possibilities they can stay funded from?

We are collecting a nominal fee that will take most of the student learning aids. No other funding is available from the Govt. except for subsidized text books when we are recognized. We will collect the shortfall (primarily salaries) from individual/external donors

When did the school start

Academic Year 2013-14

What is it that this school is proving that the others are not? i.e was another primary school necessary since there are already government schools in that area which Payir supports through the intervention program.

We have been working with Government schools, both primary and secondary for more than 5 years now. Our experience is, while it is important to keep strengthening the Government schools, there is a need for our teachers and support staff to have a school that boosts its success being child friendly. The inherent nature of Government schools, the government systems is highly resistant to become child

friendly in any near future. Patchaimuthu and all of our teachers, who themselves are apprehensive about alternate/child oriented learning need this working space to experiment and explore so as to learn for themselves.

There is also a thought process, which will take a few more years, to network with other like-minded organizations to bring system wide changes.

What happened to the children from the Gurukul?

They are now studying in our Primary school

What happened with the funds UFlorida provided to NFE in the previous year? The funds were for NFE till Sept.

Except for going for recognition of NFE through State board, everything else remains the same with the NFE. We used the UFlorida funds for paying salaries. I will send in a separate report on the fund utilization.

What did they do with the "Quality of Education" grant of \$1200? They were to be used for building playground.

With QoE grant and donation from one of well-wishers, the playground equipment arrived end of last year. Due to our work with Nutrition program, we have not been able to concentrate in setting the equipment up. Will complete in the next few weeks time.

What is the government funding going to be once it converts to primary school?

There will be no Government funding for this school except for subsidized text books

How do you plan to provide the nutrition?

This is provided in the same way as before