**Project Meeting: 04-21-13**

**Meeting Topic: Little Stars, Mera Sahara, Jamghat**

**Agenda**

I. Mera Sahara

II. Little Stars

III. Jamghat

IV. WAH Funds - AVB

Present: Neha, Harika, Sneha, Abhinaya, Devi, Kriti, Shaon, Diiv, Dev, Sapan, Nina, Meghana, Surbhi, Ripika, Chandni

**Notes**

I. Mera Sahara

goals: increase access to schools

-safe space for kids when parents at work

-$7500 for funding for these six months requested

-one of our primary projects

-lost main funding source: Tech Mahindra

-over 5-6 years

-mostly kids of day laborers and migrant workers

Chapter thoughts:

-give opportunities to travel to Delhi

-arts and crafts and essay writing in addition to a traditional education

-opportunities to get a well-rounded education

-good way for the kids to get a community feeling

-want to expand

     -include 4th and 5th graders

     WHY EXPAND?

-kids eager to go to school so far

Questions/Concerns

48 children have left mera sahara joined other schools after completing the term with mera sahara

QUESTION: reason to to expand to fourth and fifth is to have a bigger influence on these kids? and transfer more kids to other schools?

-not a set enrollment

-vague numbers of school enrollment and future of kids who leave the school

question: are a prep school, but they want to become a full-fledged school?

-reluctant to fund grade 4 and 5 if they aren't even a full school

QUESTIONS DR. Josthna and Padmini

specific numbers for the kids in each grade level and where they go afterwards

-clear cut numbers

-just the true numbers, even if low, Asha will still strongly consider funding

\*\*VOTE OVER EMAIL FOR FUNDING

II. Little Stars

-total previous Asha funding: $27, 943

-academics in Hindi & English

-after graduation, students encouraged and helped to go on for higher education or vocational training

-40 paid teachers

-6 paid staff members

-Princeton students go over summer and volunteer

-continually, many volunteers

-started with 7 students in 1996, now 750+ students

-in 2008, expanded to 9th and 10th grades

**-Site Visit:**

     -confirmed what we already had information on

     -free access education

     -800 students

     -2 buildings

     -exam fees present just there for commitment so students more likely to take exams

     -positive environment for students

     -greet Asha with "Hari Om"

          -no mention about religious teachings though, just a greeting

     -concern:

          -comply with law and had to engage with corrupt acts with income tax

          -have many students, but don't necessarily have funding and space to continually grow

               -might have to soon turn down students

-not non-formal education, classroom settings, set syllabus

-Budget requested funding

     -10 teachers salaries-$9600

               -one-time or annual?

-problem in past

          -donations higher than spending

          -not under budgeting, just had remaining funds

-government funds part of hostel, but not school

-over 95% graduate

-24/25 that take exam pass

-70% of students go to college after

-most students who graduated have jobs

-teachers have B.A. minimum education

Chapter thoughts:

-seems to be a lot of data

-well-established product and very well

     -if we choose to fund this year and not next year, won't kill project

     -but at same time, they don't need as us as much; can our money be spent better?

-main goal for money use--> higher teacher attention

-when girls get married, do they work? important because girls' shelter

-other requested more about infrastructure and more expensive, which is why we are thinking of funding teacher salaries

-teacher's teachings have incredible value on students' performance, which is what we are looking for

-\*\*\*all in favor of funding to send all money requested

III. Jamghat

* Funding request:
* 3 centers: boys and girls center and day center
* Jama masjid area (day center), Lado Sarai (boy center)
* children of migrant workers
* kids in 24 hour shelters
* attend public english medium school
* tutoring and vocational training after school
* Boys shelter: Aman
  + meals, tutoring, vocational training (computer skills)
  + currently 15 boys
  + Funding: stationary and school tuition
  + Max India Foundation: provides main funding
  + new tutor added, education budget increased to 90,000
  + Total funding sent from Asha: $6500
  + want half year rather than full year funds
* Site Visit
  + Rohini conducted
  + have not applied for RTE grants because the subsidies they get are too low, tend to apply to private schools
  + Full time boy center (reports to CWC)
  + Rajiv, oldest boy wants to give class 10 exams
  + Daily routine
* we are funding a support system
* All in favor of funding Jamghat @ $3500

IV. WAH - AVB

* All in favor of sending the 10,869 USD (~5,93,000 INR) raised through Work-An-Hour 2012 to Awantika Vidya Bhawan?
  + Vote: 13 members out the 13 members present voted yes