

SDDB District Grant proposal 2015-16

Funding Proposal

SDDB International Service Budget	\$ 3,545
Rotary District 5340 DDF	\$ 3,500
Varadaraj Trust	\$ 5,000
Total	\$12,045

Piyali Learning Center & Panchayat Elementary School (focus on Literacy)

1) Piyali Learning Center – After School Enrichment Program

The Piyali Learning Center (PLC) operates within a collection of rural villages located about 30 miles east of the city of Kolkata, India. The village of Piyali Junction has an estimated population of 50,000, living on less than \$5/day. PLC, now in its eleventh year, was developed in response to child trafficking, poverty, and adverse health conditions in the area. The school enrollment is currently 216 girls and is expected to increase to about 250 girls when the new nursery/pre-K class is enrolled.

After School Enrichment Program (ASE) is designed to provide PLC students with the opportunity to participate in co-curricular activities in arts, athletics and life skills. The significance of this program lies both in keeping the students physically safe during the most vulnerable evening hours, as well as in developing communication, teamwork, and leadership skills. Student participation in ASE fosters a sense of confidence and self-worth. This program contributes directly to their success as students, but more importantly, to their development as healthy and happy young girls. ASE currently serves 50 students from Class VI-XI.

This portion of the grant request is for \$4,000 to fund ASE for six-months. The allocation is:

\$400 for two Life skills Instructor (2,000 rupees/mo., or \$33/mo. each)
\$200 for one Yoga Instructor (2,000 rupees/mo., or \$33/mo.)
\$300 for one Dance Instructor (3,000 rupees/mo., or \$50/mo.)
\$200 for one Music Instructor (2,000 rupees/mo., or \$33/mo.)
\$200 for one Athletic Instructor (2,000 rupees/mo., or \$33/mo.)
\$500 for Snacks (5,000 rupees/mo., or \$83/mo.)
\$600 for Transportation for students and staff (6,000/mo., or \$100/mo.)
\$170 for two Field trips (5,000 rupees each, or \$85/each)
\$930 for Athletic equipment (basketball hoop, jumping ropes, etc. 55,800 rupees)
\$500 for Athletic kits for 50 girls (one sports bra & shoes at 600 rupees each)
\$4,000 for project total

2) Piyali Learning Center – Mukta Tailoring Programme

Mukta, meaning free, as in independent or self-reliant, is the name of PLC's women's empowerment program. Mukta has 2 primary components: (1) literacy and (2) vocational training. Within the vocational training section PLC provides skills development in tailoring and jewelry making. The tailoring program offers 3 different courses: (1) beginner (2) advance and (3) practical. The training provides women with the skills to not only manage their household needs, but also engage in income generating activities. Mukta – Tailoring Training serves approximately 30 trainees per year.

The request from the instructor is for five additional "double" sewing machines as they are more durable and more widely used today than "single" machines. She also ask for two large, wooden work tables for measuring, cutting, ironing and theory-based learning. The tables and work trays, would double up for Mukta-jewelry making.

This portion of the grant request is for \$1,045 to fund ASE for six-months. The allocation is:

\$675 for five Rotary Stitch Master training machines (8,000 rupees, or \$135 each)

\$260 for two Work tables (7,800 rupees, or \$130 each)

\$110 for ten Work trays (650 rupees, or \$11 each)

\$1,045 for project total

3) Panchayat Elementary School, Valayankuttai – compound wall

Panchayat Elementary is an elementary school, located in Valayankuttai, on the outskirts of Coimbatore. The school has 31 students in classes from 1st to 5th (14 boys and 17 girls). These children come from the neighboring villages and their parents work as laborers (earn daily wage of \$2.00/day). Located in the foothills of the Western Ghats (Mountain Range), this school is frequently threatened by wild elephants passing through the premises. The school has the basic infrastructure such as two classrooms, a kitchen and toilet facilities equipped with furniture, a computer and TV.

The is an urgent need for a compound wall to keep the elephants away from the school property, right now the school is protected by an old damaged barbed- wire fence. Wild Elephants are not only a threat to the safety of the children but also damage the property, during the rainy season elephant intrusions are very frequent. Hence, they are in urgent need of a compound wall to safeguard the children and the school.

The cost of building a compound is estimated to be \$7000. The District Grant contribution is proposed to be \$2000 with the remaining funds to come from the Varadaraj trust.

\$7,000 for project total