



## Project Report

IND-BCM-QTC-P02 Bangalore, India  
Reporting Period: July 2018 – June 2019

### Quarry to Classroom - Bangalore, India

**Budget:** \$50,000 – fully funded.

**Update:**

This school is on the outskirts of Bangalore, South India, near quarry villages. The quarries are a harsh environment with inhumane and dangerous living conditions. Most families are bonded to their employers with no hope of paying their debts and breaking the cycle of poverty. They have no access to drinking water, proper roads or sanitation. Healthy food, education and healthcare are luxuries for these people. Our partner school is providing education to hundreds of children in these families. Demand for enrolment at this school is so high that many children have been turned away in the past. This project allows a completely new group of primary school students to enroll and study alongside the existing primary school students for their first five years of education – one group in the morning and another group in the afternoon.

In the last 12 months, a new group of 150 children has been enrolled in the school. The selection process is thorough and intensive that begins with a campaign in targeted villages about the benefits of educating the next generation and conducting a general survey of families to assess their needs. Many live in desperate poverty, earning as little as \$2 a day and 40% are single-parent households (mostly single mothers). From there, children are shortlisted according to their suitability and the evaluation team meets with village leaders to verify the commitment of the family to educating their children. An orientation program is then provided for both the children and their parents to ensure a smooth transition to school.

This was how three-year-old Dhanvi (pictured above, right) came to be admitted to the school, following a visit to her home and interview with her parents. At first, Dhanvi was scared to come to school but she soon warmed to it and has come to embrace the program and the fun activities organized by her teachers. She is a quick learner, always sitting in the front row so that she can learn as much as possible. She can now read and write in English and is starting to understand some spoken words. This opportunity has exceeded her parents' expectations as they never imagined their child would get to learn English as well. Dhanvi's world has expanded considerably and she now has the hope of participating in a life beyond the narrow confines of back-breaking and hazardous work in a quarry.

Thank you for your part in transforming this whole community, not just investing in the future of the children.

