

Night School for the Neglected

IND-TFC-NSN-P04



Hyderabad, India



Education

Total Budget

\$93,000

Project Timeline

APR 18

JUN 22



Overview

The rural villages where our partners work are extremely remote with poor infrastructure, sanitation and economic status. This project provided education for neglected children, laborers and 'dropouts' in 10 villages surrounding the Gadwal District. The local people need to work or beg during the day to survive. This project enabled access to schooling in the evenings to improve their education, literacy and social standing in the community. Our partners have been working in this area for 8 years, building trust and relationships with the very poor and neglected members. They work in co-operation with local leaders and elders and find teaching staff within the communities where possible.

Objectives



Education for school aged kids

Impact

200 children attended evening classes to learn to read and write and to understand basic maths. Local staff have improved their communication and teaching skills and have a better understanding of child behavioural patterns.



Evening classes for men

20 men have consistently attended classes over the four years. They learnt to write their name and some are now able to read small portions of their lessons. Learning basic maths has helped the men to maintain their daily expenditures.



COVID-19 pandemic response

During the pandemic, especially during lockdowns when there were no classes, our partners continued to reach out to the 10 centres with food packages, essential medical and sanitary items and support.



Families benefitting indirectly

Despite COVID, this program has benefitted the whole community in terms of education, employment and sanitation as people work together and get involved to improve their situation and create a brighter future for their children.



Life change

- These neglected villages, where people lived without identity, recognition or dignity before education, are transforming into communities of belonging and self-confidence through fun evenings of learning.
- More and more girls have started attending classes and are confidently standing up in front of their peers to recite poems and write the alphabet on the chalkboard.



Aruna's story

Aruna's family are very poor and her parents are uneducated. They were very excited when Aruna was invited to join the night school in their village. Aruna struggled to read and write at first, but after a few months of concentrated effort by the teacher, Aruna picked up the alphabet in English and Telugu and began reading simple sentences. Aruna was very proud to be able to display her new learnings when Entrust project manager, Kate Munns, visited her village in April 2022. Aruna is the first person in her family to learn to read. Her parents are hopeful about her future and are so thankful for the opportunity of education.



The children enjoy singing and dancing in their lessons

Shekar's story

Shekar's parents are day labourers. They earn very little money and certainly not enough to send their children to school. They expressed a desire for their children to learn and enrolled them in the night school in their village. They are so proud to see their children write their names, recite the names of Indian capital cities and states and even to learn some English and mathematics. Shekar, in particular, is showing so much interest in learning and reading books, his teacher can barely keep up with him. Shekar has also enjoyed learning about cleanliness and hygiene and calculating money - knowledge he is sharing at home.

