

## Pre-schools for Bihari Children



Dakha, Bangladesh



Education

Year 1 Budget \$30,600

Project Timeline

\$9,500 TO GO

JAN 21

DEC 22

### Overview

The Bihari ethnic minority community live mostly near or in extremely crowded refugee camps. They are a forgotten and despised group of people. Our partners have established two pre-primary school classes within the largest of the camps - home to some 40,000 people with only one school - and are providing life skills training for adults. The long term aim is to develop individual and community future prospects, aiding their integration into the wider Bengali community.

### Impact for January - June 2021



#### 4 senior teachers were selected and trained

New teachers and supervisors were interviewed and an experienced supervisor and 4 teachers were selected and trained to teach pre-schoolers.

#### 2 classrooms were located inside the camp

each one accommodating the 30 children and their teachers. Monthly meetings with parents are conducted in these rooms as are planned seminars.

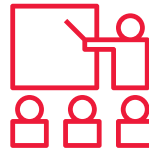


#### 60 families were interviewed and one child

from each family - 33 girls and 27 boys - was enrolled in one of 2 classes. Every student received new books, bringing much pleasure to the children and their parents.

#### Staff have been trained up to run programs

such as social awareness seminars, information about under-age marriage, sports days and a drawing competition with small prizes for the children.



- The pandemic has had a direct impact on the preschoolers so they are receiving a nutritious meal during the day.
- Protective masks and cleaning products were distributed to each family in March. As the pandemic worsened, government rules around social distancing required a 50% reduction in student numbers meaning that half the children can only attend half the week each.
- Camp leaders are invited to visit the program frequently in order to understand the importance of early education.



### Sohel's Story

Sohel is 5 years old and lives in the Bihari camp. His 2 older siblings have never been to school. His older sister works in an embroidery shop and his brother helps his mother with 'housekeeping' in the community. Sohel's father works in a barber shop and also operates a rickshaw in the city to provide for his family. Sohel's parents are very happy for the opportunity to send him to preschool inside the camp. Sohel is learning so many new things and loves to sing and draw flowers and animals. He is learning the Bangla and English alphabets and enjoys playing games with the other children.



Thank you for making a difference