

School on the Mat



Telangana, India



Education

Year 1 Budget: \$27,400

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

JUL 22

JUN 25

Overview

This second 3-year project builds on an initial 3-year project of educating neglected children, labourers and 'dropouts' in 10 villages in the Gadwal district. All family members work or beg during the day for survival and are now able to access their schooling from 6-9pm to improve their education, literacy, numeracy, hygiene awareness and social standing in the community. The rural villages where our partners work are extremely remote with poor infrastructure, sanitation and economic status. The budget is \$27,400 per year.

Impact for July - December 2022

225

Access to education for 225 children



145 boys and 80 girls attend evening schools to learn to read and write in Telugu and English and understand basic mathematics. They are progressing well. Many small children stand up fearlessly in front of their peers to recite rhymes, say the alphabet and write a few English words on the board!

Evening classes for adults (20 men, 5 women)

They learn the Telugu alphabet and how to write their name instead of relying on thumb impressions. Basic numeracy helps with their daily expenditures. Evening is a convenient time as many work hard during the day. They are seeing the value of education for themselves and their children.

25



Strengthen community-based leadership



Gaining the support and cooperation of village elders is crucial for the smooth running of schools in the villages, where the caste system is still strong. Many would miss out on opportunities without this higher level buy-in and community support. Trusted relationships have been built over time and continue to be maintained through regular meetings and seeking their involvement and advice.

Reducing forced child-marriages for girls

Much effort goes into encouraging girls, who have been long neglected and deprived of education, to attend school. It is encouraging to see the numbers steadily increasing and that girls are gaining more interest in education and able to dream of a bright future, without the pressure of early marriage. Through education, they gain equality, identity and dignity.



Roja, Rani and Krupa

Roja, Rani and Krupa have become the best of friends, always seen together - reading, chatting and learning as a tight-knit group. It wasn't always this way. Initially their parents were reluctant for them to attend school. Since realising the importance of girls' education through our partner's awareness-raising efforts, their parents saw the potential benefits and gave permission despite the social taboos. The girls have made considerable progress in their learning and have developed a strong bond with their teacher. They are excited to be able to hope for a better future.

100% GETS THERE

Thank you for making a difference