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PARDADA PARDADI THANKS YOU AND REQUESTS FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Date: January 16, 2015

Dear The Funding Network Team,

Greetings from Pardada Pardadi!

It is with immense gratefulness that we mention you here at Pardada Pardadi. It has been truly amazing to have friends and supporters like you, who have time and again, considered supporting the education of our girls.

Pardada Pardadi is committed to reach out to more and more girls and women to facilitate holistic rural development through their empowerment. Today we have been able to provide all-encompassing education to nearly 1350 girls from some of the most marginalised families from rural villages of Anupshahr, a block in Bulandshahr district in Uttar Pradesh. This has been like a revolution in a place where girls are considered to be a burden and from her very first breath, she is set up for a lifetime of disappointment. First her parents resent her for not being a boy. Provided they don't abort her, she will join a family that will give her less of everything – breast milk, food, vaccinations and education.

Your support has been incredible and the backbone for PPES. Words would fall short for expressing what that has meant for the girls supported by you. It has provided each of the girls, the courage and ability to live a happy life in which she embraces every opportunity that comes her way offering her joy and learning. Many of our girls have been going for higher education in big cities like Delhi, Jaipur, Bangalore studying computers, hospitality, Yoga and many more interesting courses, which has been unprecedented. To top it all, four girls in last two years have been selected for Community College Initiative Programme by the USA Govt., to pursue a one year course in the USA. All of these girls have become the role models in the communities, encouraging other families to give their daughters wings to fly and strengthen their families socially and economically!

Our project with rural women aiming at providing them skills training and decent livelihood opportunities which first makes them financially empowered and then strengthens their social position in their families and society at large. They have been coming forward to support and uplift each other, thereby creating a society of empowered girls and women who would also lead the future generation of powerful women and girls.

This has been possible because of you. We are committed to continue the work with our girls and women and reach out to more, with your support in the future.

It will be our pleasure to host your team at the school in Anupshahr sometime. Our students would be delighted to meet you and interact with you. We would be excited to hear from you about your prospective trip to PPES.

Thank you so much for being a part of the PPES family!

Best wishes,

Renuka

CEO, Pardada Pardadi Educational Society

On behalf of entire PPES Team!

Report back to The Funding Network

1. Name of your organisation and date funded by TFN:

*Pardada Pardadi Educational Society
Date of receiving funds: April 2015*

2. What was the project you sought funding for from TFN?

What are its aims and objectives? Have these changed since receiving TFN funding?

The funds received from TFN were to be utilised towards the sponsorship of 24 girls for one year at Pardada Pardadi School, an all-girls school run by the organisation for girls from marginalised and underprivileged rural villages of Anupshahr, Uttar Pradesh, India.

Our objective of creating a learning environment for girls to engage in the kind of education that enables them to think freely and grow as an empowered individual remains the same.

Most of them are the first generation learners from their families and the school provides free of cost educational package to them all which includes academic education plus meals, school supplies, stationary, stipend of Rs. 10 for everyday attendance, along with healthcare facilities and personality development classes.

3. Were you able to do this work as you described it in your application and presentation?

Yes

What evidence do you have for the success or failure of the funded project?

The regular attendance of the girls sponsored through TFN funds along with their results in examinations have been the records for the success of the funded projects. Alongside, we have been placing great emphasis on the personality development and career counselling of the girls so that they are equipped with the required skills and abilities to be productive citizens.

More and more of our girls have been completing the schooling every year, despite many factors which can lead to their dropping-out and what's even more encouraging is the fact that most of them are choosing to go for further studies. Last year over thirty of our girls went on to pursue higher studies after schooling. They are studying in prestigious institutions like NTTF, Bangalore, Dr. Reddy's lab in Himachal Pradesh, S-Vyasa in Bangalore, Kailash hospital in Noida, pursuing computer engineering courses, nursing courses, doctorate in Ayurveda, bachelors in Yoga therapy and much more.

Pardada Pardadi School also puts special emphasis on the participation and engagement of our girls in sports and related activities.

Exchange Learning Programmes

As part of the school exchange programme, 14 students and 5 teachers from Chatham Hall, an all-girl college-preparatory boarding school in USA, visited PPES for a week in March 2015 on an exchange visit and both sides had fun learning about each other. Some beautiful blogs written by Chatham Hall students can be read at: <https://chathamhall.wordpress.com/page/2/>

A group of students from Mount Madonna School, USA visited PPES in March 2015 as a part of Muditaa Project on 'Values in World through Program'. A beautiful blog by a student from Mt. Madonna on her experience at PPES can be read at <http://india.mountmadonnaschool.org/>

The school exchange programme, aims at cultivating a better understanding of the two nations in the minds of students from both sides. It also provides them a new perspective of valuable insights by sharing their intercultural skills and knowledge.

Sports for Development

Regular sports events are organised in the schools encouraging students to participated and cultivate in themselves the values of discipline and team work.

Our girls participated in a number of zonal and state level competitions and also bagged several prizes and recognitions in badminton, kho-kho, athletics and especially scouts during this period. The scouts and guides team of PPES is emerging as one of the best in the area, participating and winning in many competitions through the display of their immense trainings and discipline.

From Anupshahr to America

*One of our graduates, **Shivani**, got selected as one of the 30 candidates from India to participate in the 2014-2015 Community College Initiative Program (CCIP), a programme by the Bureau of Educational & Cultural affairs (USA) to reinforce U.S. community colleges' efforts to deepen international education partnerships and programming.*

*Shivani became the first from her village and from the School for get selected for an international fellowship programme to study Hospitality Management at **Whatcom Community College** in the US for a year. Following her footsteps, many girls were inspired and **Reeta**, another graduate form the school got selected for the CCIP programme 2014-15 and left or the same in August 2015. These girls have been setting brilliant examples for the others in their villages, giving them the hope to make it big!*

4. If you were not able, please explain what happened and why?

Can you quantify any changes? Eg ...expanding number of employees, number of projects, geographical scope.

Not applicable

5. Can you measure, assess or describe the change that happened as a result of this work?

What actual change did the funded project generate? What proportion of the project/work did TFN fund (eg all/x%)?

The change that took place due to this effort has been multi-fold. While on one hand it has directly given 24 girls the gift of education which means an opportunity to engage in education which makes them learn, grow and spread awareness, on the other hand, it also benefitted the families who now have an educated daughter who in future would be able to become self-reliant and independent and bring them out of the trap of poverty. There have been endless examples from Pardada Pardadi's work in past 15 years where our students have been placed in dignified employment and their families were able to come out of the moneylenders' traps and move towards financial and social stability.

Many of the mothers of these girls have also been offered regular work in Pardada Pardadi's vocational training cum employment unit, where they make a variety of products and are economically and socially independent. This way, we have been reaching out to both the daughter as well as the mother through our programmes.

Our vision is to create a model for rural development with prime focus on empowering girls and women, which has come a step closer due to the support from The Funding Network, Pardada Pardadi presently 1350 girls enrolled in its schools and out of those 24 have been sponsored by The Funding Network last year. It has been a great help as we have been able to reach out to this huge number of girls only due to the regular support of believers like The Funding Network. We hope to have this support continued in future too so that these girls and many more, out there in the rural villages who are yet to know how empowering it is to be educated, can be reached out by us in the years to come.

6. As a result of presenting at TFN, did you experience any of the following;

- new subscribers to your mailing list

Yes we have had a few who attended the TFN event that day.

- new volunteers to your organisation

We did in fact have 1 new volunteer as a result of the event last year who helped plan our annual event as well as a successful documentary screening of A Girl Rising.

- further funding from individual donors

We have also had 3 excellent supporters and donors come out of the event at TFN, all of whom attended the annual event. 2 of them will be visiting the school in India with me in March!

7. Could you give us an estimate of how many people have been reached by the TFN funded project/work and by how much?

The number of beneficiaries directly affected by the funding is 24. We were able to get 24 girls, off the waiting list and into the school. When considering the families who have and will be affected by the girls' education the number goes right up to 168 indirect beneficiaries.

8. Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of funding from TFN?



Reeta – A Story of Hope!

Reeta, a 21 year old girl from Anupshahr left on a 10 August flight to the United States. She will be spending an entire year at Edmonds Community College Lynnwood City Washington, as a part of the Community College Initiative Programme by the US Govt. where she will be studying Information Technology.

Reeta has not had an easy life; none of her success was handed to her. Ever since she was a very small girl she has been hurdling the challenges in her life. Growing up in a large family (four sisters and two brothers) where a mentally challenged father was largely unable to work and passed away when the children were young, and a loving mother, but a mother who was more concerned with household chores than any type of education. For much of Reeta's childhood, her family lived in a

kaccha (a small hut with a thatched roof) house in one of the poorest villages of Anupshahr district in Uttar Pradesh state of India. The district is itself infamous for widespread poverty, crime and lack of good education facilities.

Reeta's life was changed when she enrolled at PPES. She finally had a place where she could receive an education and begin to rise above her challenges. This is not to say that the challenges stopped presenting themselves. At one point, her family had to take out a loan from the local milkman to pay their basic expenses. After the family was unable to pay the loan with interest, the milkman demanded that the eldest daughter be married off to him. Luckily, with help from family and friends, they were able to pay the debt and save Reeta's eldest sister.

Reeta graduated from PPES in 2013 and moved on to work at the call center that is one of the PPES initiatives to provide quality skill development and gainful employment opportunities to girls from the village of Anupshahr. This, in itself, is very impressive and indicative of Reeta's success, because she had now had her own independent income and was becoming more confident and learning to survive in the world with dignity. One of her sisters soon joined her at the call center, but one day their brothers refused to allow them go to work. Reeta and her sister went on a hunger

strike, which was eventually successful, in order to continue their work at the call center. Also at this time, Reeta's youngest sister, Richa, has had to convince her elderly mother to allow her to come to school instead of staying at home to do household chores. Richa is now in Grade 8 and is Master of Ceremonies.

Reeta will be continuing her studies in the United States for a year now. It is a heartening story of hope and faith in one's own capabilities. It also shows the determination that this girl had throughout to fight with her fate and grab every opportunity that came her way to create a brighter future. She is the first girl from her village, and the second PPES graduate, to go to the USA to study. She will be at Edmonds Community college studying one of the most promising fields available to students, Information Technology. She hopes to learn more about the world and then return to India and find a job that allows her to support herself independently of the challenges that she has overcome throughout her life.

We wish Reeta the very best and are hopeful of having many more Reetas in future from these villages.

Kajal, class 9th



Kajal a beautiful and bubbly girl, comes to Pardada Pardadi School every day from Village Torai, travelling 12 km daily by her bicycle. She studies in 9th standard and is one of the brightest students of her class.

Kajal is an extremely talented cricketer and food provided at school is what she likes the best. After coming back from school, she cooks dinner and do household chores. Her day is tiring yet she does not have any complaints. She wants to become a social worker." I will open school just like Pardada

Pardadi and i will also give education, food, uniforms for free to all the kids who are not privileged enough to get these things in life." We are glad that our girls are learning and getting inspired by our work and becoming a kind and aware citizen.

9. Do you have any other comments regarding TFN funding?

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to present our charity at your event. We are very grateful for the generous contributions that came from the donors at TFN. The girls at the school have celebrated this and perhaps one day will be able to visit themselves in person.