

Dickwella – Minhath Preschool Progress Report

Date: 15 th of February 2015	Prepared by: B.M.B. Zeena
I. Demographic Information	
1. City & Province: Dickwella, Matara District, Southern Province, Sri Lanka	
2. Organization: Real Medicine Foundation Sri Lanka – www.realmedicinefoundation.org	
3. Project Title: Minhath Preschool – One Heart Educational Center ((Tamil medium)	
4. Reporting Period: July 1 st to December 31 th , 2014	
5. Project Location (region & city/town/village): Yonakapura, Dickwella.	
6. Target Population: 650 families & their children in Matara District, Southern Province, Sri Lanka	
II. Project Information	
7. Project Goal:	
<p>The small town of Dickwella in the South of Sri Lanka is a predominately Sinhalese community. Only 5% of the community is comprised of Tamil-speaking Muslims. Of the 78 preschools in the area, only two cater specifically to the Tamil community. Classes at the Minhath Preschool are taught in the native language and children receive instruction in Arabic so they can read the Koran.</p> <p>The preschool classes, which are based on the Montessori Education Model, include academics, art classes, performance events, and sports activities. The focus is sound education to the younger Tamil generation in Dickwella that maintains their cultural integrity while emphasizing social responsibility and fostering religious tolerance.</p> <p>The Minhath Preschool building was built by RMF as a gift to the minority Muslim community in the area.</p>	
8. Project Objectives:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the preschool with all the facilities that the children need for their education • Implement special incentive programs for Tamil medium preschool teachers to develop their knowledge • Expand the preschool building into a multi-purpose community center • Financial support to maintain the school building and premises • Financial support for the annual school programs/ events 	
9. Summary of RMF-sponsored activities carried out during the reporting period under each project objective (note any changes from original plans):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid teachers' salaries • Monthly payment for mosque • Paid light and water bills • Payment for caretaker for cleaning and organizing 	

10. Results and/or accomplishments achieved during this reporting period:

- Aug 10th- School re-opened for 3rd term after one month Ramadan vacation.
- Aug 12th- Held a parents meeting regarding the annual preschool trip; the date was set for the 23rd.
- Aug 26th- Because of bad weather the trip was postponed and we went instead on the 26th. From Matara to Galle we travelled by train, which the children really enjoyed. Once in Galle we went to the harbor to watch the ships and we visited Koggala camp where the children enjoyed inside The Flight (restaurant). Then we went to one of the best children's parks in Habaradhuwa, complete with a swimming pool and indoor games. Afterward we went to Colombo Zoo and the children enjoyed some free time. In the late evening we toured the city by double decker bus. It was very special for our children to see the nighttime Colombo city lights. In short, the children couldn't stop talking about the bus trip for a long time.
- Sep 28th- After the trip we worked on handicrafts because we held an exhibition on Sep 28th. Due to parents' request the exhibition was held on the 29th as well.
- Oct 01st- Because of Children and Adults' Day we went to an adult nursing home with our children where we arranged to have the children give small gifts to adults who are in the home. After our visit to the home we went to the beach and the children learned how to fish with nets. The main reason we visited the adult home was to teach the children to emotionally respect the adults.
- Dec 04th- We held a dress-rehearsal for the children's year-end concert.
- Dec 06th- We had our year-end concert in the Montessori building.

11. Impact this project has on the community (who is benefiting and how):

The school has become a model preschool for the area and now the children of Tamil medium have the confidence in receiving a good education.

12. Number served/number of direct project beneficiaries (for example, average number treated per day or month and if possible, per health condition).

- 36 children and their parents and families
- 3 teachers and their families
- 1 caretaker and family
- There is a no children park in our village so the children generally have the opportunity to enjoy their evening hours on our preschool grounds.
- The higher grade students in Tamil medium who attend extra classes for specialized subjects; the classes are taught in the evenings and include subjects that are not offered in the public schools: Information technology and business studies.

13. Number of indirect project beneficiaries (geographic coverage):

650 families & their children in Matara District, Southern Province, Sri Lanka

14. If applicable, please list the medical services provided:

N/A

All health programs and medical care are organized through the health care center that belongs to the government.

As needed and requested, Real Medicine Foundation provides additional Mobile Clinics.

15. Please list the five most common health problems observed within your region.

- Respiratory Tract Infections
- Viral Infections with fever
- Asthmatic conditions
- Gastroenteritis
- Skin diseases

16. Notable project challenges and obstacles:

There is still work needed to complete the renovation of the preschool building which we started last year.

17. If applicable, plans for next reporting period:

- New admissions for 2015

- We will start our new preschool session for 2015 after the presidential election which is expected to happen around January 12th.

18. If applicable, summary of RMF-sponsored medical supply distribution and use:
N/A

19. Success story(s) highlighting project impact:

The mayor's office and divisional secretary's office requested all Montessori schools to perform one event. We arranged to introduce our children's concert as a model that we have organized and where our children have performed for several years. We are happy and proud to say that our children's event was selected as the best event out of all Montessori school events, and we got the opportunity to stage our event once again.

20. Photos of project activities (file attachment is fine):
Attached on other E- Mail

III. Financial Information

21. Detailed summary of expenditures within each budget category as presented in your funded proposal (file attachment is fine). Please note any changes from plans.

MONTHLY EXPENDITURE OF MINHATH PRESCHOOL :

July

At present monthly payments are;

Salary for teachers (4500*3 + 2750)	Rs. 16250/-
Monthly payment for mosque	Rs. 1000/-
Light and water bill	Rs 600/-
Payment for caretaker (for cleaning and organizing)	Rs 1000/-
Total	<u>Rs 18850/-</u>

August

At present monthly payments are;

Salary for teachers (4500*3 + 2750)	Rs. 16250/-
Monthly payment for mosque	Rs 1000/-
Light and water bill	Rs 1350
Extra expenses for annual trip (double decker bus)	Rs 8000/-
Payment for caretaker	Rs 3250/-
Total	<u>Rs 29850/-</u>

September

At present monthly payments are[

Salary for teachers	Rs. 16250/-
Monthly payment for mosque	Rs 1000/-
Light and water bill	Rs 2100/-
Annual program expenses (exhibition)	Rs 7800/-
Maintenance expenses	Rs 2200/-
Total	<u>Rs 29350 /-</u>

October

At present monthly payments are;

Salary for teachers	Rs. 16250/-
Monthly payment for mosque	Rs 1000/-
Light and water bill	Rs. 1800/-
Total expenses on October 1st (Child+ Adults Day)	Rs 3500/-
Maintenance expenses	Rs 2300/-
Total	<u>Rs 24850 /-</u>

November

At present monthly payments are;

Salary for teachers	Rs. 16250/-
---------------------	-------------

Monthly payment for mosque	Rs 1000/-
Light and water bill	Rs 1900/-
Maintenance and renovation expenses	Rs 18000/-
Total	<u>Rs 37150 /-</u>

December

At present monthly payments are;

Salary for teachers	Rs. 16250/-
Monthly payment for mosque	Rs 1000/-
Light and water bill	Rs 2600/-
Annual program expenses (concert)	Rs 16500/-
Maintenance expenses	Rs 2400/-
Total	<u>Rs 38750 /-</u>