



End of year report

2016 Project

The HOPE Foundation

School bus project

The funds provided to your organisation for the current year by TFWA Care were donated following the approval of the TFWA Management Committee and board. Among the prerequisites for funding by TFWA Care are transparency and accountability. We would be grateful if you could send us a brief summary of the project, the objectives achieved, problems encountered, impact on the local community and indicators of the project's success. We will share the report with the Management Committee at the end of year meeting.

Please do not hesitate to report on the project's successes as well as any aspects that did not go according to plan. This serves to provide a greater understanding of the challenges and issues encountered by the communities on whose behalf your organisation is working. Any quantifiable indicators will also be helpful in your report.

Thank you.



Project details

1. Please summarise in a few words the project supported by TFWA Care, including the principle objectives and duration.

TFWA Care supported The Hope Foundation to purchase two new school buses, one each for our Kasba Girls Protection Home and Ashirbad Boys Protection Home. The buses replaced the old buses that were no longer viable and safe option for transporting the children to school.

2. What activities were carried out within the scope of the project over the course of the year?

Thanks to the support of TFWA Care HOPE purchased two TATA Winger (14 seater) school buses in 2016 for Kasbah Girls Home and Ashirbad Boys Home. These buses are primarily used for picking up and dropping children from the homes to their schools. The children who are placed in HOPE's Protection Homes are vulnerable children living on the streets and slums, rescued by our Night Watch ambulances, referred by the Child Welfare Committee or Childline as well as cases put forward by HOPE social workers and staff working in slum projects. They have often been subjects of exploitation owing to the dangers of living on Kolkata's streets or in its slums. The Homes offer a safe environment and an integrative approach to all aspects of child care, covering shelter, health, nutrition, and education for their emotional, social, economic, cultural and cognitive development. Education and awareness would prevent these children from being oppressed and exploited in the future. With this in mind, HOPE ensures that they are admitted to schools and given extra personal coaching whenever it is required. The purchase of the new school buses has ensured that all the children living in these two homes have safe transport to and from their schools, allowing them to get an education that will lead to a sustainable future for themselves, their families and the wider community.

When there has been need for extra support the buses have also been used for children residing in other HOPE Protection Homes, including Bekind Boys Home, Punorjibon Rehabilitation Home and our Crisis Intervention Centres.

In total, 210 were able to benefit from the purchase of the new buses, more than we had anticipated at the preparatory stage of our application.

As well as bringing the children to and from school, the buses have also been used to transport children to and from their Taekwondo classes, football coaching, swimming classes that are part of their activities in their homes for their overall holistic development. The buses cover minimum distance of 3 kilometres and maximum of 12 kilometres for children's schools and other coaching classes regularly. Other than these regular classes the vehicles were also used for taking the children on an educational city ride, to an amusement park or any other places including picnics for their recreation.

Evaluation

3. Has the project been successful? Please outline the success factors for each objective as well as the challenges encountered and solutions adopted to overcome them.

Yes, the project has been very successful as it has seen an increase in the amount of children with access to safe transport to and from their schools to ensure that they stay within the education system. Some of the educational achievements of the homes supported by the buses are outlined below:

Kasba Girls Home – All 73 girls in Kasba were enrolled in formal school over the course of the year 2015/2016. 69 girls were successfully promoted to their next class in school. 4 girls did not receive a final year grade owing to being too young or a late enrollment in the class.

Ashirbad Boys Home - 63 children received formal education through Ashirbad and successfully advanced to their next class, out of these, 2 boys have finished their final Madhyamik Examinations (Class 10). All the boys are provided with private tuition and coaching classes in the home to ensure their enrolment in formal school. 8 boys receive non-formal education. 4 boys receive vocational training from HOPE's Life Skill Training Institute.

Success factors were based on the number of children enrolled in formal education and being provided with safe transport to school with the new buses. One challenge with providing education is seen when new children who have been placed in the homes from the streets do not see the value of a formal education. Through counselling sessions, play therapy sessions and informational sessions with the child, and parent if available, we outline the importance and benefits of receiving a formal education. Children are given extra tuition support in the homes to ensure their retention in schools.

4. Did the work accomplished this year help you learn lessons that will benefit future work?

Yes, the purchase of the new buses ensured that we will continue our commitment to ensure that every child residing in our homes will continue to have reduced barriers to their education. Safe transport is one aspect that has now been overcome and we will ensure that any other factors that may hinder the children's educational development will be removed.

Sustainability

5. How has the project had a positive impact on the community/ies at the core of the project and what will be the long term benefits? Please explain if the project has helped empower the beneficiaries by providing greater autonomy.

The project has had a major impact by ensuring that 210 children had access to a formal education that will help them to work towards a sustainable future for themselves. Many of the children in our homes are first generation learners, having come from living on streets and in slums in communities that never before had access to education. By receiving an education, they will have a greater chance of receiving a good job that will take them out of a cycle of poverty and help to provide for their families and their wider communities.

6. Will the project continue in the future or is it now complete?

HOPE will continue to provide an education to the children in our Protection Homes. The annual maintenance of the two new school buses has been incorporated into the annual budgets for these protection homes.



Finance

7. Please provide a summarised breakdown of how TFWA Care funds were utilised for the project.

Expenditure

Cost of two vehicles - €26,368.55

Insurance - € 872.00

Registration - € 1,389.00

Total Expenditure - €28,629.55

TFWA Care Donation - €24,000.00

Charitable Discount from Dealer - € 1,805.55

Funded by HOPE - € 2,824.00

Please attach your latest annual report as well as any pictures you would like to use to illustrate this report.

Please find some pictures and a video of the buses at the following Dropbox link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wdx1230dw8cwdzk/AADC6t84slkCzJnCCR5z0Qnya?dl=0>