

The Dignity Project Monthly operations update

February 2024 update

Introduction

In February, we continued the process of compiling our ACNC application which has included a full review and update of TDP policies and procedures; the board conducted a special meeting focused on TDP's core values and objectives for educational projects, and in India Kanwaljit, with Pushpa and Manisha from Wonderkids, travelled to a tribal village to conduct a special pad distribution session.

Overseas operations update

Wonderkids, Khajuraho: A total of 3,563 breakfasts were served at the school during February. We know first-hand that both staff and students are eating and enjoying the breakfast each morning and that it is a key part of the daily morning routine at the school. Civil works to ready the new school buildings continue, ahead of the expected move to the new campus by mid-year. The new lease agreement is being finalised and should be complete by next month.





Items of significance (overseas)

Wonderkids schools in Khajuraho continues to maintain an important role as a hub for providing sanitary pads to women and girls in the community, with two female teaching staff (Pushpa and Manisha) now trained and facilitating the monthly pad distribution sessions at the school. TDP recently established a relationship with a local NGO Baavan, which works in tribal villages outside of Khajuraho, and in February Pushpa, Manisha, Wonderkids principal Ganesh and TDP's Kanwaljit Singh travelled to Banki Girauli village for a menstrual hygiene awareness program and pad distribution session. Banki Girauli is a tribal village, about 90kms from Khajuraho town, on the edge of the forest with very little access to basic facilities. The Baavan team has been working in this village for couple of years now in the fields of nature conservation, women's health and education of local children with the help of the government primary school. This was the first session on menstrual health held in the village, which is still a taboo topic and we were thrilled to have about 40 girls and women attend the session. As per local norms, only women sat in the session, and after the initial introductions and photographs the male members of our team waited outside. As a result of the session, 30 packs of the reusable sanitary pads were distributed to women in the village; our team will return to Banki in a few months to get feedback from the women.





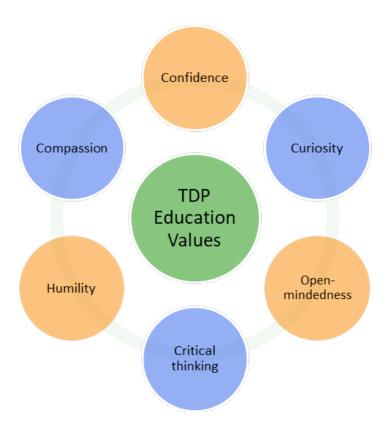




From the board

We have spent significant time this month, together as a board and as individuals, researching, reflecting and discussing what education means to us, what we value in learning and how that will shape the work of TDP and refining the priorities and outcomes we want to achieve for students through our education projects. The board held a special meeting in February to solidify and document a clearly articulated statement of values, mission and objective relating to education. The result is as follows:

Values



Strategic Priority: Communication

Through education we seek to empower young people to become confident individuals who are curious and open-minded, who have the capacity to think critically and engage with a broad range of ideas and perspectives and to grow to be people who act with humility and compassion to better understand themselves and the world around them.

Objective

With compassion and respect, we will actively guide and support our community partners and education providers through the sharing of our knowledge, resources and skills, to best prepare young people from disadvantaged communities for life in their world through an educational model that is broader than classroom curriculum.

Mission Statement

We will support young people to gain a range of skills so that they are better able to meet the communication demands of life with the hope that where possible, those young people will establish for themselves a future with more resources and opportunities than previous generations in their families or community.

All young people should receive education and support to enable them to communicate with confidence, skill and respect, now and in the future, including: the ability to read and write in Hindi; the ability to manage the daily language demands for their age level; a focus on developing language skills for future needs; digital literacy skills to function in a digital economy; the ability to formulate and express ideas, the capacity to consider and challenge perspectives and the communication skills needed to positively work and connect with those around them.