

Grant Overview:

Organization Name: The Unforgotten Fund

Program Title: Aid for the Unforgotten Mothers and Daughters Living in the
Trash Dumps of Pune, India

Grant Amount: \$49,243

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Program objectives:

The Unforgotten Fund was given a grant by DFW in February 2014 to provide aid to 50 mothers and 100 daughters living in the trash-dumps of Pune, India. Grant funds are being directed towards providing skills training and microloans to the mothers to start small businesses. Funds are also being used to enroll the daughters in primary school and providing them with extra tutoring. The goal is to free these families of the burden of selling and eating scraps found in the trash.

Funding:

The Unforgotten Fund was originally awarded a grant of \$41,100 by DFW, to cover program expenses over a two year period, for this project for wastepickers in Pune, India. The Unforgotten received an initial disbursement of \$20,550 from DFW in February 2014. In July 2014 we received a supplemental check of \$8,143; thanks to the generosity of DFW members the grant amount of this project was increased to \$49,243. In February 2015, we expect to receive the remaining \$20,550 to complete the requirements of this grant. We have not received unexpected funding from another source, and our own funding has not changed for this program.

Organizational and program status:

There have been no significant organizational or programmatic changes at the charity. Our programmatic goals remain the same. The Executive Director is still Amit Kapadia. Our project manager is still Mrunalini Pendse. Our Board members overseeing the project are still Ashwini Jog, Vandana Naik, Dhriti Nayyar, Eshaan Asaikar and Rani Varma. The field staff (Priya Alhat and Shilpa Zombade) have remained the same throughout the project. Charity funding has remained stable.

Challenges:

We have executed this program as per the project proposal. We have not been faced with any unforeseen challenges. We have succeeded in enrolling the wastepicker girls in school. We have succeeded in providing skills training and microloans to the wastepicker mothers.

Objectives:

Our objectives remain the same as when the project began. We have not had to make any revisions.

Progress towards program objectives:

In the grant proposal, we suggested several metrics to measure program success. They are summarized in the following two tables:

Table 1: Measuring Program Success – Targets for Mothers

Program Objective	Description of objective	Measuring success
1. Income generation	Increase each mother’s income to \$2 per day.	We have a target of 50% of women meeting this goal in two years. And our goal is to have 90% of our sponsored women meeting that income target in 5 years.
2. Loan repayment	Initially, each women will be given a small loan of Rs. 5000/- (\$100 US), and given six months to repay that loan. Those that are successful in repaying the smaller loan, will be given larger loans (up to Rs. 25000/- or \$500 US).	Our goal is to have 75% of the mothers paying back the small loan within the first six months. Our goal is to have 75% of the larger loans repaid in two years (by the end of the DFW grant period).

Table 2: Measuring Program Success – Targets for Girls

Program Objective	Description of objective	Measuring success
3. Grade advancement	Sponsored girls should be receiving good report cards, passing their school exams and progressing to higher grade levels.	We have a target of 90% of all our sponsored girls advancing to the next grade, every year they are in the program.
4. End to wastepicking	Field teams will visit the sponsored families at their homes and visit the waste dump sites to ensure that girls are attending school and not working at the trash dumps.	We have a target of 90% of all our sponsored girls ceasing to be wastepickers, and fully concentrating on being students.
5. Regular attendance	We will check with the girls’ teachers to monitor their attendance.	We have a target of each child missing no more than 15 days per school year.

Below we discuss progress towards these and other metrics:

Site selection: The Unforgotten field staff selected two wastepicker slums in Pune in which to work: Panmala Vasahat and Rajiv Gandhi Nagar. Both slums are inhabited by wastepicker mothers and their daughters. These slum areas were selected with the assistance of Kagad Kach Patra Kashtakari Panchayat (KKPKP). KKPKP is the wastepicker union in Pune – our charities work closely together.

Field assistant selection: To help us execute the requirements of this grant, The Unforgotten hired two young women from these slums to be our field assistants: Priya Alhat and Shilpa Zombade. Their mothers are wastepickers. In addition to working for our charity, we are supporting their education. Our project manager is Mrunalini Pendse, a social worker with over 15 years of field experience.

Beneficiaries selection: Charity field staff interviewed and collected data on the inhabitants of the wastepicker slums. We collected socio-demographic information on potential aid recipients, including

age, income, education, literacy level, time spent wastepicking, where they migrated from, info on their family members, etc. We identified the 100 most needy girls to enroll in school, and created a waitlist of other girls to enroll should resources become available.



Unforgotten Project Manager Mrunalini Pendse working with sponsored girls

Girls’ schooling: We are pleased to report that as of February 2015, The Unforgotten has already succeeded in enrolling 90 of these girls in school. **We are pleased to report that all have completed a year of schooling under this DFW grant, and all are advancing to the next grade.** The girls are also receiving extra tutoring outside of school, enabling them to succeed. The girls have been enrolled in nearby schools: Sane Guruji Primary School and Nandadip English Medium School. The Executive Director and country staff visited with the school principals in January 2015 to ensure that

the objectives of this grant are being met. All girls have stopped wastepicking and all are attending school regularly. Unforgotten field staff regularly check on the girls and visit with school officials. We just (in January 2015) added 10 more girls into the program for the second year of the grant.



Unforgotten field staff (Shilpa and Priya) visiting with Sane Guruji Primary School principal Mangalu Kamle

Measuring Program Success – Targets for Girls

Program Objective	Description of objective	Measuring success	Objective met?
Grade advancement	Sponsored girls should be receiving good report cards, passing their school exams and progressing to higher grade levels.	We have a target of 90% of all our sponsored girls advancing to the next grade, every year they are in the program.	Yes, in fact 100% of our sponsored girls have advanced to the next year
End to wastepicking	Field teams will visit the sponsored families at their homes and visit the waste dump sites to ensure that girls are attending school and not working at the trash dumps.	We have a target of 90% of all our sponsored girls ceasing to be wastepickers, and fully concentrating on being students.	Yes, in fact 100% of our sponsored girls have ceased wastepicking
Regular attendance	We will check with the girls’ teachers to monitor their attendance.	We have a target of each child missing no more than 15 days per school year.	Yes, our sponsored girls have been regularly attending school

Self Help Group Formation: As of February 2015, The Unforgotten has facilitated the creation of 3 Self Help Groups (SHG) in the wastepicker slums. Each SHG has 10 wastepicker mothers. Each SHG has nominated a president and a treasurer. The Unforgotten helped the groups open bank accounts at the Bank of Maharashtra, which is a bank that caters to the needs of aid recipients receiving microloans. For a withdrawal from the account, the president, treasurer and the Unforgotten project manager must sign. DFW grant funds have been wired directly into these SHG accounts, giving aid recipients a sense of ownership and responsibility in the success of the program. In the second year of the grant, two more SHGs will be created.

Skills training: Each group was allowed to choose what types of skills training they would prefer to learn. Many of the women expressed a desire to learn tailoring. So, The Unforgotten arranged for a tailoring course from August to October. It was provided by the Indian government’s Human Resource Development Ministry’s agency Jan Shikshan Sansthan. The three-month “basic tailoring course” was conducted at the Panmala community center. DFW grant funds were used to pay for the course expenses (such as supplies and instructors). Each of the women completed the course successfully. They learned basic tailoring techniques, including how to take measurements, stitch clothes for infants, dresses for girls and simple types of blouses for ladies. At the end of the course, an evaluation was done by the agency and each woman received a certificate of completion.

Microlending/income generation: Each of the women in the Self Help Groups (SHG) was given an initial loan of \$100 over a 10 month period (which ended in December 2014). The groups decided each would have to pay \$110 back into the account. Before anyone could take a loan, each had to submit a business plan. Many of the women went into tailoring; many chose other business ideas (such as selling plants, selling jewelry, selling garlands, and cutting iron).

Twelve of the women decided to continue learning more tailoring skills and took an advanced tailoring

course for two months. Some of them used their loans to buy sewing machines and have now started to make an earning from the vocation.



Variety of colorful dresses stitched by trainees

Of the 3 SHGs, one has been very successful. Each woman in that group has already repaid their loan, and will be taking a larger loan in the coming year. Women have increased their income to about 200 to 250 Rs per day (\$4 US). Success has been mixed in the other two SHGs, with some still in the process of repaying their loan.

Most of the women in the SHGs still wastepick periodically to supplement their income. This is actually as we expected. It is easier to positively impact the lives of the children; turning the lives of the mothers around usually takes several years.

Measuring Program Success – Targets for Mothers

Program Objective	Description of objective	Measuring success	Objective met?
Income generation	Increase each mother's income to \$2 per day.	We have a target of 50% of women meeting this goal in two years. And our goal is to have 90% of our sponsored women meeting that income target in 5 years.	Yes, one of the SHG has increased their income to \$4 US per day. Half of the women in the other SHGs have been able to do the same.
Loan repayment	Initially, each women will be given a small loan of Rs. 5000/- (\$100 US), and given six months to repay that loan. Those that are successful in repaying the smaller loan, will be given larger loans (up to Rs. 25000/- or \$500 US).	Our goal is to have 75% of the mothers paying back the small loan within the first six months. Our goal is to have 75% of the larger loans repaid in two years (by the end of the DFW grant period).	Yes, about 75% of the mothers have paid back their first loan. In one SHG the rate has been 100%.

Expenses incurred: The expenses incurred in the first year of the project have been in line with the grant proposal. The following table is the budget from the grant proposal, updated with DFW funds used. The DFW grant funds have been used to pay for school fees, school supplies, tutoring, skills training, microloans and for staff. Two Self Help Groups have not yet been funded, so \$4,000 has not yet been spent. Also, the facilities have just been rented in January 2015, so those expenses (\$1,200) are now just beginning. Also, the school fees for the last children to be admitted into the program (\$750) will be expensed at the start of the next program year. DFW grant funds were used to fund part of the costs for each line item – costs above and beyond those have been paid for with Unforgotten funds (as outlined in the project proposal).

Program Expenses – Year 1

Expense	DFW budget	DFW funds expensed
Pay school fees for children	\$7,500	\$6,750
School supplies	\$1,750	\$1,750
Tutoring	\$2,000	\$2,000
Provide microloans to mothers	\$10,000	\$6,000
Provide training/workshops to mothers	\$2,500	\$2,500
Pay for project coordinator salary	\$1,250	\$1,250
Pay for field worker salary	\$850	\$850
Facilities. Includes classrooms for tutoring and microlending workshops.	\$1,200	\$0
Year 1 total	\$27,050	\$21,100

Short Film: We have created a short video as a follow up to the initial video we prepared for DFW. Organized and funded by Planete Urgence, a French film making team volunteered their time to help us make a documentary of our work. They also trained our young staff how to make short films. Please find the new short film on the homepage of our website (www.unforgotten.org)

Anticipated difficulties:

We do not anticipate any difficulties in completing this project in the timeframe outlined in the project proposal.

