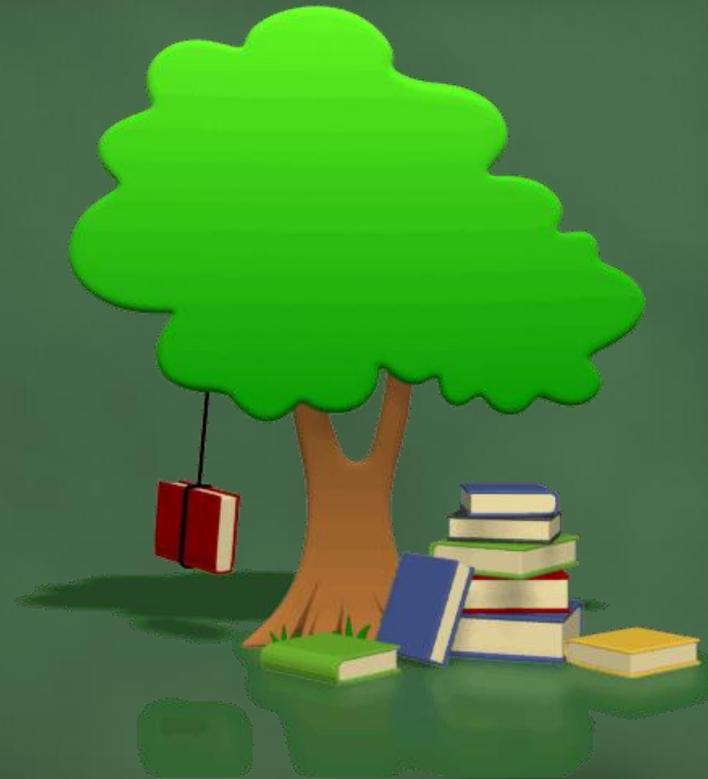


Smiley Faction

Making hearts smile...



Mid-Year Report

June 2016

Introduction

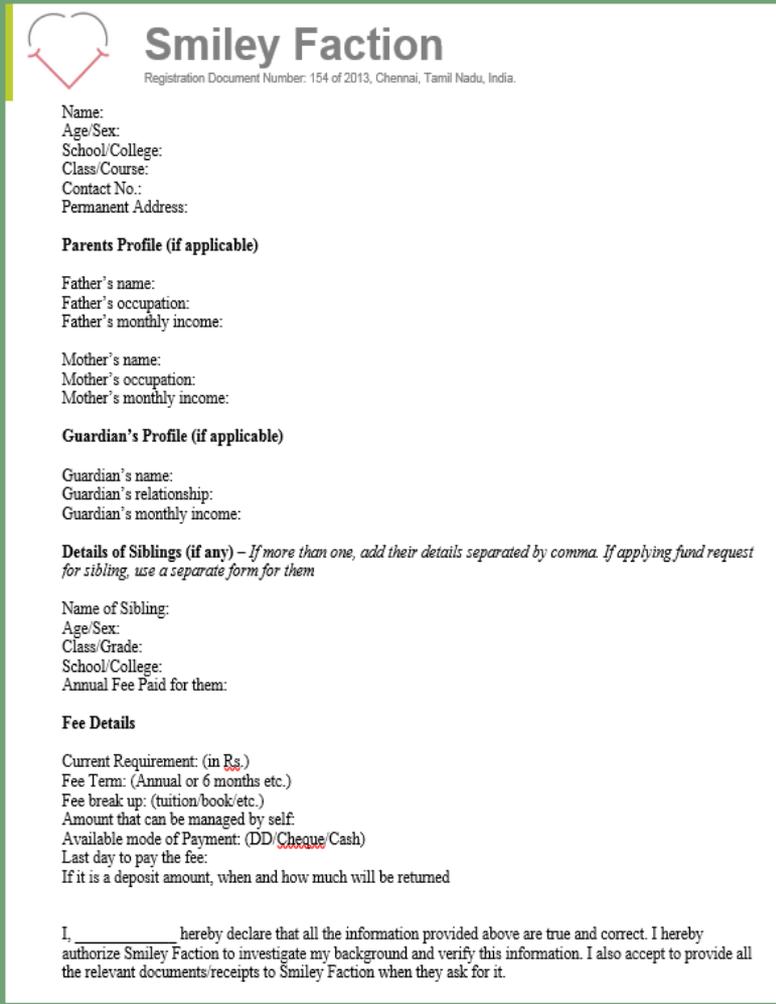
- ❑ **Smiley Faction** is a non profitable trust formed by a group of like-minded people united by the cause of basic education for all students. The group was formed in Oct 2010 when a bunch of BITS Pilani graduates decided to save a share of their income for assisting school students who are struggling financially to pursue their education.
- ❑ Our intention is to come together as a group, save up some money periodically, so that we will be ready to directly contribute to a child from our life who need's help to continue his/her education.
- ❑ Currently, we have 20+ members in the group spread across different locations with varied professional backgrounds. Our procedures are transparent. Our impact is immediately visible as our beneficiaries are people directly involved in our lives.

Our Working Model

- ❑ Our **primary working model** is identifying individual students who are in need of financial assistance for pursuing their studies. We rely on our strong network to make this work. Our members identify eligible candidates directly or through trustable sources and verify their genuineness. We also engage with few reliable friends from other groups like “Rest of My family” and wider networks such as BITSAA (BITS Alumni Association) to identify the students who are in need.
- ❑ Our **secondary working model** is to associate with schools/other small non profit organizations and introduce scholarship programs to the selected students who are struggling to manage their academic expenses.
- ❑ Along with scholarship programs, We are also working on funding the **basic infrastructural needs of schools** especially in non-urban/rural regions. We aim for the betterment of the studying environment for the students in those regions by providing simple daily needs such as uniforms or stationary items.

Process Involved

- ❑ Once someone approaches us for a help to a student, we issue them our **beneficiary application form** to fill up the details. Refer to the image
- ❑ After collecting the filled form, we meet/speak to the student & the parent to **verify their background**. We also check the mark sheets, income certificates if any
- ❑ Post background check, we request them to obtain a **approval letter** from their school management for further verification
- ❑ Once we receive all the details, we internally discuss and **finalize the fund amount** we can provide to the student. We generally do not provide the entirety of the fees unless it is a very critical situation.
- ❑ Post finalizing the fund amount, we **issue a cheque** favoured in name of the school. Once the fees are paid, we obtain the **fee receipts** from the school/student.
- ❑ We follow up with the student few months later to **understand their progress** and further requirements to continue their studies.



 **Smiley Faction**
Registration Document Number: 154 of 2013, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

Name:
Age/Sex:
School/College:
Class/Course:
Contact No.:
Permanent Address:

Parents Profile (if applicable)

Father's name:
Father's occupation:
Father's monthly income:

Mother's name:
Mother's occupation:
Mother's monthly income:

Guardian's Profile (if applicable)

Guardian's name:
Guardian's relationship:
Guardian's monthly income:

Details of Siblings (if any) – *If more than one, add their details separated by comma. If applying fund request for sibling, use a separate form for them*

Name of Sibling:
Age/Sex:
Class/Grade:
School/College:
Annual Fee Paid for them:

Fee Details

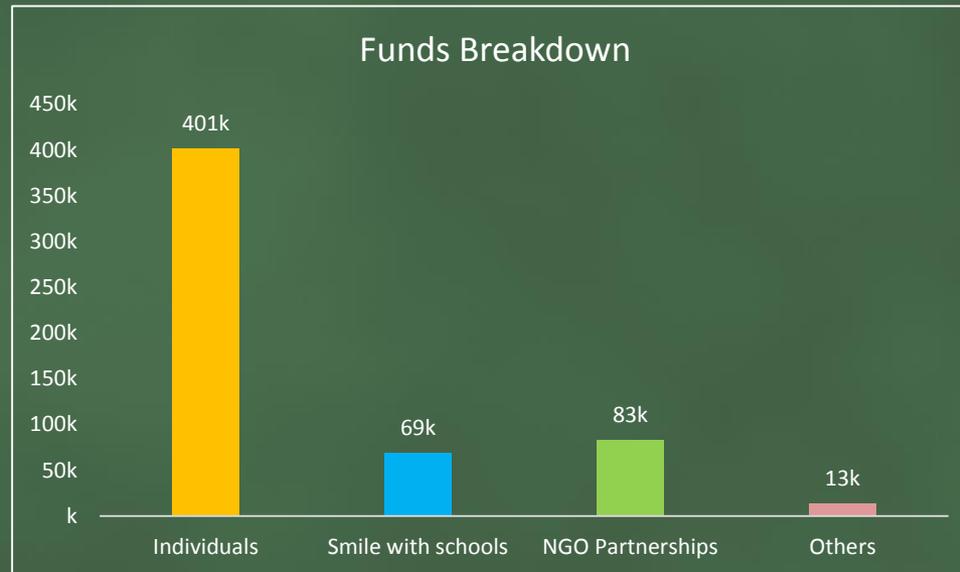
Current Requirement: (in Rs.)
Fee Term: (Annual or 6 months etc.)
Fee break up: (tuition/book/etc.)
Amount that can be managed by self:
Available mode of Payment: (DD/Cheque/Cash)
Last day to pay the fee:
If it is a deposit amount, when and how much will be returned

I, _____ hereby declare that all the information provided above are true and correct. I hereby authorize Smiley Faction to investigate my background and verify this information. I also accept to provide all the relevant documents/receipts to Smiley Faction when they ask for it.

Funding Information

The total funds we provided from our inception till date* together amount to **INR 5,65,603** that can be broken down into 3 major categories

- Individual Beneficiaries
- Smile with Schools
- Partnership with other NGOs
- Others (includes Flood relief, orphanage help)



* 14-Jun-2016

Individual Beneficiaries

Our core focus area is reaching out to the individual students who are in need of financial assistance to continue their education. These are the beneficiaries whom we came to know through our friends/relatives/colleagues. We provide assistance on a monthly/half-yearly/annual period depending on the requirement. We funded **INR 4,01,018** for these beneficiaries till date*

1. Sharmila & Nirmal, Coimbatore – INR 92,500
2. Asif & Miran, Chennai – INR 54,775
3. Santhiya & Suresh, Chennai – INR 22,085
4. Selvi, Chennai – INR 43,163
5. Shrilekha & Shailaja, Chennai – INR 25,200
6. Deepak, Chennai – INR 19,000
7. Falomie, Trichy – INR 6,000
8. Nagababu, Chennai – INR 9,545
9. Thamizhmani, Erode – INR 8,500
10. Sharmila, Erode – INR 12,500
11. Abdul Kaboor, Coimbatore – INR 10,000
12. Vanitha, Erode – INR 6,000
13. Rabiya, Chennai – INR 13,500
14. Rehan & Adil, Hyderabad – INR 10,000
15. Mervin, Erode – INR 7,400
16. Sanjusri, Coimbatore – INR 12,000
17. Priyadarshini, Erode – INR 7,150
18. Pugazhendi, LKG Chennai – INR 10,000
19. Ilakkiya 12th std, Erode – INR 12,000

* 14-Jun-2016

Smile with Schools

We associate with some low income private schools in providing scholarship programs to their students. We also helped in improving certain infrastructural facilities of few government schools in very remote areas We funded **INR 68,785** for these causes till date*

1. **Infrastructural assistance:** Smiley faction funded the infrastructural needs of multiple rural side low income schools. This includes setting up a library in Yoga way public school – Delhi, Printer/scanner machine in a Govt. school near Sathyamangalam, Water dispenser in a elementary school, Lab facility for a Govt high School in Erode, constructing the compound wall gate for a Panchayat Union school near Erode. Total funds provided – **INR 44,670**
2. **School Uniforms/Stationary for Students:** Smiley faction also associated with some schools to provide Uniform dress, notebooks and other stationary materials to the students who could not afford to buy them on their own. We also provided school bags to the flood affected children in Kotturpuram, Chennai. Total funds provided – **INR 27,415**

* 14-Jun-2016

NGO Partnerships

We collaborate with other budding NGOs and individuals who are working on the ground for a similar cause of education for poor children. Through these partnerships, we aim to provide them a helping hand in continuing their work without any financial constraints. We funded **INR 82,500** for these causes till date*

1. **Scholarship Program in Yoga Way Public School – Delhi:** Smiley faction on collaboration with school management has initiated a scholarship program during the academic year 2012-13 through one of the BITS Pilani Alumni. Through this program, we selected 10 students (3rd-6th grade) who are from financially struggling background and looking for some assistance to continue their education. We funded ~70% of their education on a monthly basis throughout the academic year. Total funds provided – **INR 37,500**
2. **Partnership with Aarohan:** Smileyfaction is partnering with Aarohan Community Learning Centre, an initiative by BITS Pilani alumnus, Raghav Gajula. Aarohan currently operates in a low income community of Delhi providing after school education to government school kids and livelihood skills training to their mothers. We are providing funds of INR 3,000 every month for the stationary needs of the children in Aarohan since Aug 2014. Total funds provided – **INR 45,000**
3. **Partnership with Rest of My Family:** Smiley Faction is looking at Rest of My Family as a long term partner on taking a major step to reach out to the needy children in remote corners of this country. We have identified few students through them and in the process of helping them to continue their education

* 14-Jun-2016

Uniqueness

From the daughter of our housemaid to the son of our driver or the kids from our neighbourhood school, there are lots of children who need help. Most often they are right in front of us and it is beyond our reach to fully support a child's education by our individual selves. We end up contributing to NGO's hoping that the money would somehow reach some deserving child.

The **uniqueness** about Smiley faction from other NGOs is that once you join us, you can

- ❑ **Pick the child you know** – who is from a financially challenging background and struggling to continue the education he/she deserves
- ❑ **Participate in the process of funding the child** – right from verifying their genuineness to making sure the funds reach for the right purpose
- ❑ **Follow up with the progress of the kid** to understand if there will be any recurring help needed
- ❑ Have a first hand experience of the **impact of your actions on a child's education** and feel the immense level of satisfaction it gives

Testimonials

Mr. Ashok Mehta

Head Master, Yoga Way Public School – Shadara (Delhi).

“ Greetings from Yoga Way Public School. I have been told about your compassion and the deeds you are involved in through your NGO Smiley Faction. It gives me great pleasure in associating with your group. I see you are doing a great job in trying to pour in the help to the most important and essential sector of our country and thus adding value to the service you are rendering. I extend my gratitude towards your initiative of coming forth and supporting the kids of my school who are financially needy. Thanks a lot for doing so, you are really helping us to make our school a better place to read and experience. ”

Mrs.Meena. M, (faculty)

Panchayt Union Middle School, Molagoundan palayam, Erode.

“ The uniforms were distributed to our school children today(12/02/2013). The students were happy to receive it and they all thanked your contribution. Forty students were present today and dresses were given to them all. I also thank you for your service rendered and best wishes for your continual service. ”

Testimonials

Mr. Raghav Gajula

BITS Pilani Alumnus, Teach For India member & Faculty, Yoga Way Public School.

“Greetings from Teach for India and Yoga Way Public School. It has been 4 months since Smiley Faction has initiated a sense of support to the kids at Yoga Way Public School. Never I felt so much encouraged in my fellowship and the onus was on me to work for my kids and put my entire effort in the development of my kids. I felt proud rather than being glad in associating with Smiley Faction since this was being done by seniors from campus. And thus the bond started, a formal mail from Smiley Faction mentioning the monthly donation and seed fund for the initiation of library was sent. There were no limits to the happiness of the kids when they first witnessed the series of books that made their entry to the class. I wish your support would continue to inspire me, my kids and lead to a transformation. Thanks a lot for the help and this is from all of my kids and from my self.”

Mr. A. Kathirvel

Head Master, Govt. High School – Periyapuliyur (TN)..

“We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to you for your kind contribution towards our students Uniform and also for the Xerox machine which cater our important need. Your kind hearted, timely contribution will be remembered by us forever.”

Moments



Help during Chennai floods



Compound Wall Setup

If you know school students who lost their textbooks, notebooks, uniform, school bags & other education materials during the floods in Chennai, Please refer them to us. We will buy the materials and give them.

You can whatsapp the student details, address, requirements to the below mobile numbers

Smiley Faction featured in BITS Goa Newsletter

Q. What prompted you and your friends to go out of your way to set up this charity?

A. It's nothing but the basic act of helping the needy. I feel that everyone must give something back to the society. After we graduated from BITS and started working, we happened to come across some students who were not as fortunate as us to have a financially stable background to support their education. We decided to do something about it. All we needed was to collect money, verify the student's background and pay their school fees. When we send a dropout back to the school, the fulfillment we get is beyond description.

Q. What are the activities of your charity and who are the beneficiaries?

A. We primarily fund the needy school students whose parents/guardians are struggling to pay their fees. We also associate with a few budding NPOs and act as a financial partner for them. Along with these, we help some of the rural/low income schools to better their infrastructure, like setting up labs, drinking water facilities, stationery and uniform for students, etc. Our beneficiaries are predominantly school children from Grade 1 to 12. Sometimes we also helped a few college students to complete their education. Currently all our funds are self donated by our own members (20 people) – we contribute a part of our income every month.

Q. What are your takeaways from your time in BITS Goa? Did any experience from your engineering days encourage you to undertake the establishment of Smiley Faction?

A. When we started this trust, all our members were from BITS Goa. We were united by the common thought of helping the needy. We trust each other. The root of this trust strengthened during our days in BITS. We know each other really well and we stay united to run this charity. Of course our engineering days play a key role in un-

Contact Us



www.smileyfaction.org



<https://www.facebook.com/SmileyFaction>



[@SmileyFaction](https://twitter.com/SmileyFaction)



Contact members to know more about us or to get involved.

Gauri Shanker G R

Chennai

shangauri@gmail.com

+91 93821 12346

Anantharam V

Bangalore

ananthram6@gmail.com

+91 76767 72352

Sivakumar R

Bangalore

rsivakumar87@gmail.com

+91 99002 32338

Chandrasekhar R

Minneapolis (USA)

Chandru.bitsg@gmail.com

+1 612 598 3538