

Urban Education Portfolio Overview



Every Child Deserves a Quality Education

More than one half of our grant portfolio is committed to urban education programs. We focus on achieving lasting change in large, urban school districts to improve student performance and increase access to learning opportunities from primary grades to college level. Our initiatives in the United States are centered on driving performance management, developing strong school leadership, enabling innovation through charter schools, and college scholarships. Globally, our current concentration is on improving primary education, literacy and life skills development in India.

Our Funding at Work in:

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Goals: Improve student achievement and a school district's ability to put action plans in place to influence student achievement and graduation rates before the child fails the grade level or the district fails to serve the needs of the child.

Strategy: Foster a leadership culture enabled by the use of technology to gather, share, and act upon relevant and timely information; share best practices between districts.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Goals: Improve student performance through the development of strong urban school leadership.

Strategy: Promote comprehensive, rigorous leadership and professional development programs to enhance instructional and managerial skills; support recruitment of top leadership talent into the field of education.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Goals: Encourage innovation in high-quality education with the autonomy to try new approaches and introduce new paradigms of teaching youth.

Strategy: Support charter schools that spur healthy competitive pressures and offer a choice in education while presenting opportunities for urban public school systems to learn from the charter's successes and approaches to education; drive charter school quality.

PRIMARY EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Goals: Increase literacy; enable formal education; lower dropout rates to provide the opportunity for life-long success.

Strategy: Improve access to quality primary education for children between ages six and 14, focused in the poorest areas of the largest cities (Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai, Chennai, Calcutta, Hyderabad).

GLOBAL ISSUES

- One hundred million primary school-age children cannot go to school.
- In the developing world, 17 percent of children do not complete primary education.
- Of the 13 million children growing up in poverty in the US, only half will graduate high school.
- In the US, only one-third of fourth and eighth graders perform at grade level in reading and math.
- India, with more than 400 million children, has 20 percent of the world's out of school children.
- Up to 40 percent of India slum children drop out of school before they reach the fifth grade.
- Recent studies show that 50 percent of India's children in school at the third standard level cannot write or comprehend what they read.

DELL SCHOLARS

Goals: Allow underserved students with determination and financial need to attend and graduate college.

Strategy: Award 250 scholarships per year, providing Dell Scholars with \$20,000 in financial assistance, technology, resources and mentoring to keep students on their path to a four-year degree.

Impact: 1,000 scholarships and \$14 million in scholarship funds awarded. (January, 2009)

www.dellscholars.org



LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Goals: Expand income-generation opportunities to help break the cycle of poverty.

Strategy: Support programs that provide employment-oriented education, assistance and life skills to children and young adults between the ages of 14 and 22.

GRANT PORTFOLIO

More than \$250 million committed in global urban education programs to date.

Selected Urban Education Grants

| Topic | Grantee | Purpose | Location |
|------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|
| Performance Management | Denver Public Schools | To provide funding for DPS' Performance Management (PM) Implementation Work which includes 1) School Based Tool Development 2) Central Office Employee Based PM System 3) Development of a Student/Teacher Portal 4) Development of Management Dashboards 5) Communications and Change Management <i>(\$2,900,000 over 3 years)</i> | Denver, CO USA |
| Performance Management | Dallas Education Fund <i>Dallas Independent School District</i> | To fund a performance management system to monitor results of the Dallas Achieves transformation effort in the Dallas Independent School District <i>(\$5,000,000 over 2 years)</i> | Dallas, TX USA |
| Performance Management | Houston Independent School District | To develop and implement a performance management system for Houston ISD schools and central office. <i>(\$3,600,000 in multiple grants over 1.5 years)</i> | Houston, TX USA |
| Performance Management | Austin Independent School District | To fund the creation of a holistic performance management system in Austin Independent School District. <i>(\$3,300,000 over 3 years)</i> | Austin, TX USA |
| Performance Management | Children First Fund: The Chicago Public Schools Foundation | To further performance management initiatives in Chicago Public Schools. <i>(\$6,300,000 over 2.5 years)</i> | Chicago, IL USA |
| Performance Management | NYC Department of Education | To support the New York City Department of Education student performance and accountability initiatives. <i>(\$3,500,000 over 3 years)</i> | New York, NY USA |
| Performance Management | Prince George's County Public Schools | Implement a system of Performance Management throughout the school district to accelerate student achievement. <i>(\$4,000,000 over 2.5 years)</i> | Upper Marlboro, MD USA |

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| Leadership Development | New Leaders for New Schools | To fund the development and implementation of differentiated, value-added support strategies for all New Leaders schools. <i>(\$1,200,000 over 1 year)</i> | USA |
| Leadership Development | Teach For America <i>Teach for India</i> | To build Teach For India through supporting Teach For All, a new global support organization being launched by Teach For America. <i>(\$2,603,369 over 2 years)</i> | India |
| Charter Schools | Charter School Growth Fund | To support Charter School Growth Fund in making early-stage, value-added grants for the development and expansion of charter management organizations <i>(\$5,000,000 over 1 year)</i> | USA |
| Charter Schools/ Performance Management | KIPP Austin College Preparatory School Inc. | To enable the growth of KIPP Austin and to assess the network's needs for a performance management system. <i>(\$1,900,000 over 2.5 years)</i> | Austin, TX USA |
| Charter Schools | YES Public Schools | To support the expansion of YES in the Houston area and to support implementation of YES at Lee, a unique co-location model of YES College Prep and Houston ISD. <i>(\$5,350,000 in multiple grants over 3 years)</i> | Houston, TX USA |
| Charter Schools | Achievement First | To fund implementation of an interim assessment platform to be rolled out to all of Achievement First schools. <i>(\$870,000 over 11 months)</i> | New York, NY USA |
| Primary Education & Literacy | Pratham | To support learning improvement interventions in the slum communities of Delhi and Mumbai, India. <i>(\$1.7 million in multiple grants over 4 years)</i> | India |
| Primary Education & Literacy | Akshara Foundation | To provide funds for establishing a network of 400 libraries to serve 215,000 children in 1400 government schools in Bangalore over two years and transfer ownership to the state government in the third year. <i>(\$1,250,170 over 3 years)</i> | India |
| Primary Education & Literacy | Naandi Foundation | To fund Naandi Foundation's quality initiative in primary education across 450 state-run schools to improve grade specific learning levels in language and math, impacting 63000 poor children in Hyderabad. <i>(\$1,111,425 over 1 years)</i> | India |

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| Primary Education & Literacy | Sesame Workshop | To fund an Outreach Program aimed at supplementing Sesame Street India's television show "Galli Galli Sim Sim", and improving educational outcomes for 2-6 year old children. <i>(\$2,000,000 over 5 years)</i> | India |
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For a complete list of Michael & Susan Dell Foundation grants and investments, please visit www.msdf.org.