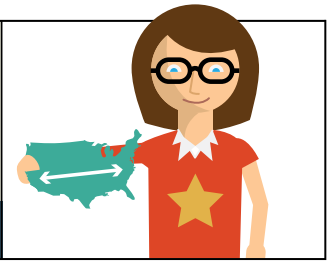


A NEW CIVIL RIGHT

REACHING ALL STUDENTS WITH EXCELLENT TEACHING

SCENARIO 4: REMOTE AREA OF A DEVELOPING COUNTRY



After your teacher team successfully designed and implemented reach-extension models that provide every student with access to an excellent teacher, your school made headlines for its student learning gains. You have been asked to join an international team that supports the poorest communities in the world.

Nothing in the U.S. compares to the poverty in these communities.

Communities that have moved to reach students with excellent instruction—even imperfectly by developed-nation standards—have seen significant positive economic impact as villagers are able to communicate with outsiders and establish small enterprises to sell their crafts and services. Income pays for food, medicine, mosquito nets, clean water, reliable rooftops for houses, and other life essentials.

You have been assigned to Poor Remote village. Most families live in stone-and-mud houses with dirt floors, without running water or electricity. This village has no trained teachers and no citizen-adults with college degrees or an equivalent. But village adults are very adept at guiding children’s behavior and ensuring that they contribute to their family economy, household upkeep, and community by doing tasks suitable for children.

A philanthropist recently provided a community Internet kiosk, with mobile phones, cell service, and phone recharging available to adult villagers living within a mile. Tablets are available to children who attend a volunteer-run school 35 hours per week. The kiosk is adjacent to the small school building, making school Internet service reliable.

Two college-educated, foreign volunteers are visiting for two years. They have no teaching training and were chosen with no criteria other than prior experience working with children and lack of a criminal record. These volunteers have tried teaching students using free online educational services, but only about 30 percent of the children seem to be learning reliably. The volunteers want to achieve high progress with 100 percent of the village children. They are relentless and will work hard to implement anything helpful you suggest.

Your Task: *What advice do you have for the volunteers? What should they do to convert free online instruction into consistent learning outcomes useful for village children?*

Notes

Acknowledgments This publication was made possible in part by support from Carnegie Corporation of New York and The Joyce Foundation. The statements made and views expressed are solely the responsibility of Public Impact. Public Impact encourages the sharing and copying of these materials. Users must include “©2013 Public Impact” and “OpportunityCulture.org” on all pages where material from this document appears.