



# NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

PO Box 87, St. Charles, Missouri 63302 • [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org) • December 2015

## Rotarian Friends Experience HOINA Joy

by Richard Curry,  
HOINA Board Member

We speak often during this Christmas season of joy. During the first week of my fall visit to HOINA, I found myself serving as host, along with the HOINA staff, to a group of visitors who experienced joy firsthand. Several dozen members of the Vishakhapatnam Rotary Club toured the campus with the idea of offering support to our programs. Rotary International involvement with HOINA is not something new. In the earlier years of the orphanage's existence, the Lancaster Northeast Rotary Club and the Guindy Rotary Club of Chennai were very supportive of our programs including writing a Rotary International grant to purchase two vans to transport our students, bunk beds for all of our dormitories, and generators to serve us during the many power outages and brownouts that occur in village India.

The local club in Chennai interacted with our children as their own uncles by visiting our home quite regularly, hosting many celebrations, and getting to know the children personally. So impressed were they with Darlene's efforts that they granted her the

Paul Harris Fellow award and made her an honorary member of Rotary International. So when the Vishakhapatnam Rotary Club arrived at our gates, we found much in common to talk about.

The Rotary members and their families brought gifts for the children. They seemed to glean as much delight from delivering the gifts as the children did by

receiving them. After a tour of the campus we sat down to a wonderful meal prepared by our kitchen staff under the supervision of Devi, our head cook at the girls' home, who created a meal that could easily have competed with the meals of the finest restaurants in India. To say that our guest ate heartily is an understatement.

continued on page 2



Joyful Rotarian handing out gifts to HOINA children.

## Rotarians Experience HOINA Joy

*continued from page 1*

The meal was wonderful, and it was, no doubt, enjoyed by our guests. However, that fact alone did not so delight me. The meal was served by the older girls at the orphanage, and as I observed them responding to the needs of our guests, I was amazed at

their grace and maturity. Though we often have guests, it is rare to have so many at one time. Four of our six foot dining tables were placed end to end, and every seat was taken. I don't think our girls have ever served such a crowd before. Nevertheless,

unhurriedly they brought dish after dish—filling and refilling bowls, plates, and glasses. They were calm, poised, and magnificent. I looked on as a proud parent might look at his child's successes. Their mature accomplishment that day will be one of the memories that I will recall when I am home and think yearningly of HOINA.

As with many visitors who come to HOINA the first time, the Rotarians were amazed at our facilities. There are many orphanages in India, but all but a few are bleak and dispiriting places. I'm sure that a number of our Rotarian friends came with that "bleak orphanage" concept in their minds. That would have been dispelled quickly as they drove down the tree- and flower-lined drive to the girls' home. Some were literally stunned with what they saw and experienced: beauty, order, cleanliness and most of all the joy of our children. "This is an orphanage?" they might have thought. Yes it is an orphanage but more than that it is a home filled with love and concern for all who must be here. It was obvious to them all that we are in the business of providing comfort and security to children and young adults whose lives were far from secure before finding HOINA. Some tried to express to me how they felt, but they had difficulty putting it into words. I have that same difficulty when I am back in the U.S. and try to tell friends about HOINA, so I understood what they falteringly tried to say. Some joyous experiences are simply inexpressible.



HOINA board member Richard Curry talking to Rotarians about our programs and needs.



One of the Rotarians is a physician who specializes in geriatrics. He met with a number of elderly people from our community and provided medicine as needed.



## HOINA's own Swathi Headed to States

HOINA proudly announces that Swathi, (pictured to the left) one of our high schoolers, continues to succeed in track and field. Here she is pictured holding her awards from this year and last year, awards that she won from competing on a district level in the 200 meter trials. This year she will go on to state trials, and hopefully national trials are next! We are all excited about her accomplishments and wish we could be there to cheer for her when she goes to states.

## Just Add a Bow to this Christmas Gift

If you would like to sponsor a HOINA boy or girl, either for yourself or in honor of someone this Christmas season, please complete the coupon on the back page.

Let us introduce you this month to 11-year-old, M. Yuvaraj. His father worked as a tailor. He was an alcoholic and spent all his earnings on his drinking habit. His mother worked as a field hand to feed her family. The father developed TB in 2012 and died in Feb 2015. Yuvaraj's mother also has TB and damaged kidneys so she now cannot work. Her pastor suggested she come to HOINA and seek admission for her son. When Yuvaraj isn't playing or cheering on cricket matches, he is studying hard so that he can be a doctor when he is older.

Your \$35 monthly donation will provide food, clothing, shelter, medical care, and education beyond high school for your sponsor child. Your gifts make a difference!



HOINA is a 501(c)3, tax-exempt organization with international headquarters located at:

HOINA  
PO Box 87  
Saint Charles, MO 63302-0087 U.S.A.

This newsletter is published to inform our readers of the work HOINA does among the handicapped and abandoned in India.

Edited by Letti L. Becker  
Layout by Eberly Designs  
Printing by Freedom-Graphics

### Send address changes to:

HOINA  
PO Box 636,  
Brownstown, PA 17508-0636 U.S.A.  
717.355.9494  
Toll-free: 877.99.HOINA (4.6462)  
Email address: [hoina@frontiernet.net](mailto:hoina@frontiernet.net)  
Website: [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org)

The official registration and financial information of Homes of the Indian Nation (HOINA) may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling, toll-free in PA, 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

## HOINA Sponsor and Contribution Coupon

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number (on your mailing label): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail coupon to: **HOINA**  
**PO Box 636**  
**Brownstown, PA 17508-0636**



December 2015

I want to Sponsor a HOINA boy / girl (circle one).  
Here is my first monthly gift of \$35.

Please use this gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the  
HOINA General Fund.

Please use this gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the  
Christmas Fund.

This gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is in honor / memory of  
(circle one)

(please give name and address of person): \_\_\_\_\_

(please print clearly)

All donations are tax deductible.



**HOINA**  
**PO Box 636**  
**Brownstown, PA 17508-0636**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit #910  
Lancaster, PA



## Please Pray

HOINA Board Member, Dr. David Fyfe, will be taking another group of his York College students to visit HOINA later this month into January. We ask for your prayers on their behalf, that they would have safe travels and good health, and would find this trip to be the life-changing experience that so many other York students have enjoyed. Expect to hear from them in our 2016 newsletter issues.

## Year-End Donations

We value your gifts to HOINA. To allow us to better serve you, please be sure to send your tax-deductible contributions to our office by Dec. 31 to ensure they will be counted on this year's giving statement, which will be sent to you in January.

