



NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

PO Box 87, St. Charles, Missouri 63302 • www.hoina.org • December 2012

A Word for Our Sponsors

*Amy Mowbray
Secretary, HOINA Board*

In early August I made my fifth trip to India to visit the HOINA homes with Brian McCreary, another HOINA board member. Many friends asked me why I was going to India again. My reasons were many. I wanted to be able to report to the donors from personal experience when they ask me what is happening at HOINA. I wanted to see and catch up with the HOINA children I have gotten to know over the years. I wanted to be an encouragement to Darlene in her work, and I knew that God always teaches me important new things on trips like this.

When we first arrived at the HOINA campus, I was amazed at how much the campus had changed. All the trees and bushes had grown so big and the whole campus was green and lush. The cows and guinea hens strolled around the property. I remembered how bare the campus was when I made my first trip to the boys' home in 2004. Other things had not changed. The children were playing on the playground. Heidi and Honey, HOINA's pet dogs, were sleeping at the entrance to the girls' home while the cooks busily prepared the evening meal.

On the second day I was there, Darlene, Brian, and I went to an English-speaking church in Vizak. As we took communion, I was struck by how we are all connected,



Amy and some of the younger HOINA girls spend some time in the gazebo.

part of a worldwide Body of Believers. On my third day at the HOINA Campus, Darlene asked me to review the accounts with Jani, the business manager. We discussed how much we have been able to save by moving the girls' home to the same property with the boys, and how many basics like rice and other foodstuffs have increased in price over the last two years. Our fuel expenditures have increased also as we are forced to use the generator when the power goes out 3-4 times each day.

That evening we traveled to Vizak to the accounts meeting, where all the monthly expenditures are reviewed by the Indian Board of trustees. The checks must be signed by two members of the Board. The

A Word for Our Sponsors

continued from page 1

Board also had their annual meeting while I was there. We discussed long-term plans for a vocational school, the purchase of additional land, and other dreams for HOINA. I was reacquainted with Krishna, who I had first met in 2004 when I made my first trip to India. It was neat to think that I had friends in India.

Soon I learned that I had other friends in India. One day Jani and I were delivering checks to vendors in Kothavalasa in the auto rickshaw when it broke down. After several attempts to fix it, we decided to walk to Jani's house where I could wait until someone on campus could come get us. As we walked, the sky got darker and darker, and we knew it would be pouring in a matter of minutes. I looked over at the side of the road, and who was there but a former HOINA driver. He recognized me and offered to take us to Jani's house in his taxi. I spent the next hour talking with Jani's wife Imtiaz, renewing our friendship from several years before.

One morning before school I had a chance to talk with several of the older girls before they caught a public bus to their school. They had come to HOINA after the girls' home was relocated to the Vizak campus. They were very serious about their studies and liked learning English and Hindi. We talked about their favorite classes, food, and music. They all had dreams that included helping others.



Alak

Alak has been at HOINA for four years. In 2010, she was chosen HOINA Angel of the Year. She is studying 10+2, taking commerce courses. She would like to be an IAS officer, so she can help people. Her favorite subject is English, which she feels will help her communicate with foreign people. In her free time she likes to read

and listen to music. She likes noodles, playing football, and the younger children.

Richard is studying 10+1 (a junior in high school). His classes include math, science, Telugu, English, and

Hindi. His favorite subject is biology because he likes to learn about plants and life. He thinks Hindi is easy to write but difficult to speak. In his free time he likes to play soccer and handball. He is also interested in electrical stuff and has fixed many of the electrical problems on the HOINA campus. His dream is to become an IT technician and fix computers.



Richard

One evening Darlene and I were sitting outside her apartment when we were told we had visitors from California. We did not know anyone from California who was currently in India, but met with the five gentlemen, two from the U.S. and three from India. Seeing our campus as they drove by, they were curious and stopped to investigate. We talked about how HOINA started and what we were doing in India. The man from California wrote us a check and thanked us for helping children in India before they went on their way.

Our last day in India was Independence Day, and the children presented a program of songs and dances. During the last dance the girls called me up onto the stage to dance with them. The children in the audience laughed at my attempts to imitate the traditional Indian dances and the modern dances the girls were doing. Of course, Brian had to dance, too.

After the program, the 200 children and 40 staff made a big circle and said a prayer for our safe travel. Brian and I went around the circle and shook hands with everyone, thanking them for our time with them. Before we could leave, we had to say a few words to the group of children, staff, and visiting local representatives. I thought about how HOINA started, the many friends that have been involved with HOINA, and the challenges that Darlene, the staff, and children face each day. HOINA is a testament to perseverance, to never giving up. If we can each give hope to another, enabling them to persevere, we can accomplish amazing things. I am thankful for the many models of perseverance in my life, and the model of love and perseverance that is HOINA. ♿

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Account Number (on your mailing label): _____

Please use this \$ _____ toward the Christmas Fund.

I would like to order _____ sets of notecards @ \$10 each.

Please use this \$ _____ toward the Education Fund.

I want to Sponsor a HOINA boy / girl (*circle one*).
Here is my first monthly gift of \$30 per child.

This gift of \$ _____ is in honor or memory of
(*circle one*)

(please give name and address of person): _____

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



Dec 2012



All donations are tax deductible.

Last Minute Christmas Ideas

Having trouble thinking of the perfect gift for that family member who has everything? How about one of these:

- HOINA note cards.
- A Christmas donation that will be used to purchase a gift for a HOINA child.
- A one-time donation in honor or memory of someone. If you provide a name and address with your gift, we will send your recipient a thank-you letter acknowledging their gift. In our February newsletter, we will publish our semi-annual recognition list as well.
- A child sponsorship.
- A donation to our education fund, which provides scholarships for secondary and technical schooling for our child. 



Dear Readers,

We hope that any of you affected by Hurricane Sandy are putting your lives back in order by the time you read this. After news of the storm reached India, we heard from our Manager there, Mr. Anand. He called, emailed, and FaceBooked those he could to check on all of our safety. He said the children were terribly upset by the news, concerned that anyone who had helped them had had trouble befall them. He wanted us to know that the children were praying diligently for our safety, telling us that they said, "America has helped us so much. We must pray for them." They (and all of us who volunteer or work for HOINA in some way) want you to know that you were not alone during that storm. A chain of prayers encircled the globe for your welfare. It is humbling to me to have small children half a world away on their faces on my behalf. Let us remember them this holiday season as well.

~ Letti Becker, Editor

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, Mount Joy, PA.

Printing by Freedom-Graphics, E-town, PA.

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: hoina@frontiernet.net Website: 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
PO Box 636
Brownstown, PA 17508-0636

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

HOINA Angel and Hero of the Year Named



Hema Vathi—Angel of the Year

Hema Vathi has been at HOINA for three years. She is studying 10+2. She would like to be a doctor so she can care for the poor. She is at the top of her class in school, where she is taking a science program which includes classes in botany, physics, zoology, chemistry, and English. After high school she will take a test to determine if she can study medicine. She likes the food, shelter, and schooling that HOINA provides and enjoys helping with the small children. She likes playing chess and learning Hindi.

Each year HOINA selects two students, a girl and a boy, to win our highest honor. As we close out 2012, we proudly announce the HOINA Angel of the Year and Hero of the Year. These two students were selected by the staff and other children on the HOINA campus for their willing service and caring attitudes toward others. They are much-beloved by their fellow HOINA brothers and sisters, who gladly bestowed this honor on them. Hema and Ravi represent the best that HOINA has to offer.



Ravi (center)—Hero of the Year—with younger boys

Ravi is studying 10+2 (senior in high school). He is taking business/commerce courses, which include economics, computers, management, and business. He would like to get an MBA and work in sales. He plays on the HOINA cricket team and enjoys chess. 