



NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

PO Box 87, St. Charles, Missouri 63302 • www.hoina.org • March 2015

American Sponsors Visit Our HOINA Campus

By Maya Ranji, age 11

I was looking forward to this trip for months and now we were finally here! My brother, mother, father, grandma and I were greeted at the airport by Anand, the manager of HOINA, with a sign with our names on it and a beautiful rose for each of us.

We squeezed into a Jeep and rode to the HOINA girls' home. We dropped off our luggage at the guest house and went to tour the girls' home. When we first walked in all the girls were doing homework. When they caught sight of us, in two seconds flat there was a group of girls surrounding me, and the rest of my family had their own group of little followers. The ages of the girls ranged from about five to about seventeen. They all called me 'Maya Sister'. My particular group wanted to know what my name was and "What class are you studying in?" which I believe translates to "What grade are you in?". The girls also wanted me to remember their own names. I seriously could not remember any except Meena and Parvati and of course, Monika! Monika is the girl we sponsor.



Maya Ranji (fourth from left in a hot pink top) with new HOINA friends.

The girls also showed me their books where they had been doing homework. Most of the girls in my 'group' were about my age, so eleven to thirteen. I looked at some of their books, mostly science ones. They told me they were almost done and could play soon. Then they had to go to pray and go to bed. I talked

and played with the girls for a little while, and then I got called to dinner. After we ate, Mom and Dad wanted us to go to bed. After the long journey and all the excitement, I happily complied.

The next day was so awesome! We played badminton, cricket, and the card game I brought from

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Sandy Kauffman Retires From Board

by Letti L. Becker, editor

It's been joked that you never say, "If you need any help, let me know," to a woman of the Large Clan unless you really mean it. We'll take you up on it!

When she and I crossed paths more than 25 years ago, Sandy Kauffman and I were both assigned to be Loaned Executives to the United Way campaign of Lancaster County, Penna. Our respective employers at the time paid us our salaries, but we went to work for the United Way each day. Sandy and I were both given a stack of files of companies we were to contact and visit to explain the campaign that year.

Through those weeks (months?), we became friendly. She heard about the work that my mother had founded in India and casually asked if we ever needed any help to give her a call. We quickly took her up on her offer of bookkeeping services as she was a bank employee at the time. From that year on, Sandy was a staple at the Large household on Tuesday nights, which were HOINA volunteer nights. She came straight from work to record (by hand) each donation, making a receipt for you donors and a carbon record on each person's card.



(Carbons? Yes, this was pre-computers. It wasn't until 1993 that we became fully computerized and were able to record donations with the click of a mouse.)

Week after week, Sandy faithfully attended to our books, working diligently in the basement office in Leola while ladies upstairs hand-wrote thank you notes by the dozens each week. Somewhere along the line, Sandy was invited to be a member of our board and served as our Treasurer as well. She has seen us through lost credit cards,

bank snafus, overseas banking and the headaches that came with that when we had to snail mail physical overseas drafts (checks) in the mail before online bank transfers.

She has offered her wisdom and knowledge freely, and we cannot thank her enough for her more than 25 years of dedicated service to the HOINA children. At the close of this fiscal year, on March 31st, Sandy is retiring from our board and her volunteer work with us. We have great expectations that whatever she uses her time for next will be blessed indeed by such a faithful servant. Thanks, Sandy, we'll miss you!

Child Sponsorship Needed



Dhurga is a sweet 10-year-old who came to our campus in 2014. She is in need of a sponsor. Her parents were married in 1993. They were beggars. They had four children who were forced to beg with the parents. Mr. Sammayya died in 2002 as a result of his drinking problems. Mrs. Dhanmma remarried and had Dhurga. Her second husband died also due to drinking problems. The eldest daughter did not like to see her little sister begging on the streets, so she approached HOINA and asked if Dhurga could be admitted to our HOINA hostel. Dhurga's

favorite color is red, and she enjoys a running game called Kabadi. Would you help her achieve her dream of finishing school and getting into medical school?

The children love getting pictures and letters from their sponsors: If you would like to write to Dhurga her address is:

B. Dhurga (K462)
The HOINA Campus
Kothasunkarapalem
Balighattam B.O.
Kothavalasa Mandal
Vizianagaram- 535183
A.P.
India

American Sponsors Visit Our HOINA Campus (continued)

America, Spot It! The little girl who I gave it to was so overjoyed when she got it, she could not believe it. The girls were really good at it. I was impressed to hear that the girls had gotten presents on Christmas Day. Some got watches, others got necklaces or dolls. My brother Jay gave his American football to a girl named Esther Joy. She would not let go of it. Our plan was to treat all the kids at HOINA to cake and ice cream, but Anand said that the children would catch a chill if they ate ice cream! It was at least 75 degrees fahrenheit (27 C), and which is summer weather in America! Instead, we settled on cake and apples. Before we served the cake to the girls, they sang and danced for us. It was so cool! Then they asked Jay and I to sing a song. We sang 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas'. We served the cake and apples to the girls and then went over to the boys' home. Jay and I sang 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas' again and served cake and apples to the boys.



Jay Ranji (third from the right in the blue shorts) visits with the HOINA boys.

The next day was our last day at HOINA. I actually went to Sunday School with everybody! Sunday School was mostly singing, and I sang something too! When we got back to HOINA, I played for a little while and then I had to pack up. I was so sad when we left. I loved HOINA and I plan to go back soon!



HOINA Girls continued to help clear the remaining brush from Cyclone Hud Hud. The storm's effects are still being felt.

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

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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



MARCH 2015

All donations are tax deductible.

- 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.
- This gift of \$ _____ is in honor/memory of _____ (circle one)
(please give name and address of person): _____

(please print clearly)



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Brownstown, PA 17508-0636

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Card Shower to Celebrate 80th Birthday



March 31st is HOINA Founder and President, Darlene Large's birthday. While she is still overseas, we have the opportunity to surprise her with a birthday card shower. She won't be home until days after Easter in April, so you still have time to send a card to our HOINA office at PO Box 636, Brownstown, PA 17508. Our board secretary, Amy Mowbray, will send them to her in one big package. Thanks for helping to make Mom's birthday special!

