



NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

PO Box 87, St. Charles, Missouri 63302 • www.hoina.org • November 2013

Hard Work Pays Off

By Darlene D. Large, HOINA President

I am so proud of HOINA's teenaged boys. They have been with us for years, and their work ethic is stellar. On one workday while I was overseas this summer, our boys collected old, broken metal cabinets, and broken plastic chairs and drove them to the recycling center in our autorickshaw. When they arrived, two old, grey-haired gentlemen came out to unload the items. One of our teens said, "No, no, Uncles, we will do this. We are young and strong. You sit and tell us where to put everything, and we will do the work."

When they came back home they handed me the money. "Good job, boys. I am going to give you money to buy ice cream and go to the movies with all the children."

"No, no, Mom. We have another idea. Our small refrigerator in the kitchen is breaking. It is old, so we want to buy a new one."

I asked them to choose three boys to go shopping with me in the city the next day. While appliance shopping, the boys found a pink refrigerator. Smiles were everywhere. We negotiated the price, and I let the boys pay the shopkeeper. He gave us a good deal when he heard how the boys had raised the funds themselves.

Fortunately, we had a nice amount of money left over. The boys continued their recycling, adding to our fund. By this time, I knew the boys had another plan. "What are you going to do with this money?"

"We want to buy a big flatscreen T.V. We have little Anand and Ganesh, and both cannot see, Mom. Anand is nearly blind. We need a big T.V. for 100 or more kids to see it."

By the time I left India, we needed only 8000 more



rupees. I told the boys, "Sometimes in life we cannot buy things immediately. We have to take time to save our money and then wait. This is one of those times. If you work hard, and study well, help your teachers and the HOINA staff, we can probably find the remaining funds to buy you that T.V. Meanwhile, I am so proud of you. You have done a great job, but also you have shown your good character."

These same boys made the tile murals on the walls of our chapel. They did the Ten Commandments and then another mural that reads: "In this house we say please and thank you. We laugh out loud, tell the truth, show gratitude, learn from our mistakes, have fun, respect each other, keep our promises, have faith, speak kindly and always say our prayers." (See photo on page 2.)

Counting Our Blessings

By Darlene D. Large, HOINA President

This Thanksgiving we will be counting our blessings. Our first praise is that our homes came through the October super cyclone Phaline unscathed. Our playground was flooded, but that's to be expected during the rainy season. Our neighbors in the next district were not so fortunate. The devastation is complete in some areas.

My busy visit to India this past summer began in July with a two-week trip to Hyderabad to get Bhaga Lakshmi her new ears. She is a different person now. With her prosthetic ears and new wig, she smiles all day. (*Missed that story? See our September newsletter in full color online at www.hoina.org/news.*)

It was about that time when we learned about our state (Andhra Pradesh) in India being divided into two. With the universities in Hyderabad, the big hospitals, the film industry, and our water supply there as well, many people in our area were upset. We had strikes—first weekly, then it seemed daily. School children, medical and hospital workers, lawyers, and shop keepers went on strike. Our children have missed many days of school, but our staff and tutors are “home schooling” them on the days they are off.

Towards the end of August we had surprise company. One of our favorite police inspectors and his family came to spend the night with us to celebrate their son's birthday. We had so much fun talking and visiting. He passed out treats to all of the children, and we enjoyed a talent

show and birthday cake. Making happy memories with old friends is always a blessing.

Unfortunately, our campus manager Bujji (SrinivasKumar) was in a motorcycle accident. He skidded on the road on his way to work in the heavy rainstorm. He is okay, but it scared us all. I took a fall, and then we got word that our Board Secretary had had a terrible bicycle accident. We were reminded that life is fragile. Fortunately, our injuries will heal. Not all can say the same.

Our construction of Aunt Honey's chapel is finally complete! Our big boys did beautiful tile work that you can see on this page. We look forward to having another space to use on campus, especially a dedicated place for prayer.

The last thing I did was sign the check for our down payment on 50 beautiful acres of fertile farmland we have purchased with the funds

from the sale of our old girls' home near Chennai. I wish you could see it. Native peacocks even come to the stream to drink. Finally finding this land is a huge blessing after so many months of fruitless searching.

God is so good. It turned out to be a good trip. And, as always, you—our donors—are at the top of our list of reasons to be thankful.

God bless you,

Darlene



Construction complete!

Successful HOINA Graduates

HOINA has done a great job of educating our kids for the future. We want to thank those of you who have sent gifts to refill our education



Left to right: HOINA Graduates Madhu, Mudarsil, Gandhi, and Sivaiah.

fund. Here's a snapshot on what some of our graduates are doing.

Sivaiah has two cars and has a taxi business; Madhu works as an electrician for A.P. Tourism; and Gandhi is in engineering college. Mudarsil wants to set up his own business; YesuRatnam is in college getting his MBA; and Krishna is getting his PhD soon. *(Read his story in our October Newsletter now online.)* With 26 students in colleges and the cost of the younger children's English medium schools, education fees are a year-round need.

HanumanthaRao, one of our graduates, was selected recently as Employee of the Year by the company in Hyderabad where he works in Human Resources.



He recently came to visit HOINA to donate a gift to use for scholarships and to talk about a project for our alumni. We are calling them "The HOINA Tigers." He is trying to set up an alumni reunion and is very excited about the project and future opportunities for HOINA Alumni to support the home that took care of them when they were younger.

A Gift That Fits Everyone

We thank those of you who have sent money to our office to provide gifts for the holidays to our children and staff. If you are still struggling for a gift idea for someone who has everything, consider making a donation to HOINA in honor of them. HOINA's Christmas Fund allows us to buy presents for all of our children—making sure each boy and girl receives something special—and, when funds allow, to give bonuses to our Indian staff members. Consider sending a gift to HOINA's Christmas Fund with the coupon on the back page. As always, any amount would be a blessing, and we are thankful for each donor.



Prayer Updates

HOINA's Papa Bruce is home from the hospital after having a successful knee replacement. Thank you for your continued prayers for a complete recovery as he has plans to travel to India in January.

We also thank you for your prayers on behalf of our HOINA Board Secretary Amy Mowbray as she continues to



recuperate from her accident. She has been getting stronger each day. Amy's doctor says that her complete healing will take up to 12 weeks.

We thank you, too, for your patience as our other board members, Sandy and Don, respond to your requests and questions while Amy is out of the office.

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

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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:
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November 2013

Please feel free to copy this coupon. 

All donations are tax deductible.

- Please use this gift of \$ _____ toward the HOINA General Fund.
- I want to Sponsor a HOINA boy / girl (circle one). Here is my first monthly gift of \$30.
- 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)



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Best Birthday Present Ever!

Ramhorngam "Ram" Kashungnao celebrates his 13th birthday this month on November 15. Ram's parents worked in the fields as day laborers. They were both killed in an accident in 2005. A relative tried to care for the three children but could not support them. He approached HOINA and asked us to care for them. He joined our HOINA family last year and is still awaiting a sponsor. Would you like to give him a terrific birthday present? Allow

us to tell him that he now has a sponsor! Complete the coupon and return it to our office with your first monthly gift of \$30 to provide food, clothing, education, and a home for this orphan. Remember that HOINA accepts gift sponsorships and can now handle automatic withdrawals from your checking account to assure that you never miss caring for your sponsored child. We thank you for remembering the less fortunate.



Ram awaits a sponsor.