



# NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

PO Box 87, St. Charles, Missouri 63302 • [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org) • Summer 2013

## Open My Eyes, That I May See

*Darlene Large  
HOINA President*

**E**ven though it is still June, it's nearly the last week of summer for me here in the USA because I leave for India on July 6th. I postponed my trip this year because three of my family members were having surgery and with driving trips to Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Texas, and Florida, the weeks flew by quickly. Bruce and I could not believe we had been in 18 states. I was kept busy on my "furlough" with hospital visits, home care, gardening, cooking, laundry, and shopping for my upcoming India trip.

One of the things that I learned was how much I appreciate our gardener Timmy and his team in India, who keep our grounds. When I thought of the work that our house staff Indira, Jayanthi, Vennie, Rhoda, and Tabitha do as they mop the floors in a 15,000 sq. ft. home, I wished that I could have asked one of them to come help me over the past month or so.

One of the things I am pleased about in India is our clean and tidy campus and homes. We are becoming recognized as a number one chil-



Happy staff—Jayanthi (left) and Vennie—doing chores with a smile.

dren's campus. Thinking back to the three-room building we had in a village near Chennai in the 1970's and contrasting it to what we have today, I realize how blessed we have been.

Back in March we admitted a new young boy named Anand, just like our General Manager Anand Murthy.

Toyanka Anand is between nine

and ten years of age. This past March I was in Visakhapatnam shopping when our general manager called me on my cell, "Mom, we have a new arrival. His name is Anand like mine, and he is 90% blind. Can we take him in? Mr. Roberts [the local child welfare director] asked if we could find a bed for him."

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# Open My Eyes...

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"If Mr. Roberts sent him, then by all means, find him a bed."

My first impression of Anand was disturbing. He was unsmiling and pale. Our manager Anand told me T. Anand was found in a pile of garbage searching for a morsel of food to eat. He had been living in the streets for some time. A college student noticed the boy and reported him to the local police, who immediately went in search of him. The officer told little Anand to come with him, but the child was fearful as he did not want to go to jail. In his young mind he believed the police only came after criminals.

When they arrived at the police station, the officers called the child rescue team. Immediately, two members came and took Anand into their custody. When Mr. Roberts saw how smart and active little Anand was, he thought, "If this boy gets a seat in HOINA, he will surely have a bright future."

Upon T. Anand's arrival at HOINA back in March, our general manager asked him about his past. The little boy looked up at Anand Murthy and began his story. "When I was five or six years old, I was fishing in a puddle of water in my village. One of my friends came to find me. He was running so I knew it was urgent. He told me that my father was coming home with firewood that he had collected. A bad man ran up behind him and hit him on the head, and my father died. This made me very sad. For a while my mummy was there, and one day she became

sick and had a bad fever from Malaria. Then she died, too.

After that I lived with my grandmother. Sometimes my cousins also came to her house to stay, and we had fun. When I became a little older, grandmother told me I had to cook the rice. I went first and brought the firewood to make the fire. Then I collected the water from the village well. I made the fire and boiled the rice."

Amazed, our manager Anand asked him, "Did you cook anything else?"

"Oh, yes, I cooked egg curry and potato curry. I always took the outside shells off the boiled eggs."

"Did you go to school?"

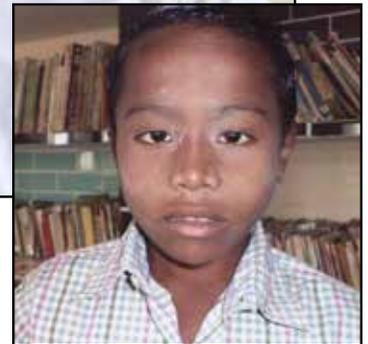
"I used to go to school, but not every day, just sometimes."

Our manager went on asking him, "Why did you eat garbage?"

"Because, Sir, I was hungry. But now I have nice food here, and nice clothing, and I have glasses so I can see to read and write. I even go to school. It is wonderful here in HOINA."



Little Anand, once unsmiling, now happily settled at HOINA.



In a recent phone conversation, our general manager told me more about T. Anand's story. I asked about the boy's blindness. "It seems it may have been caused by a lack of vitamin A in his diet, Mom."

"I think you will need to give him extra carrots, sweet potatoes, and vegetables like those and definitely mangoes and other fruits with vitamin A."

"Yes, Mom, I know. Do not worry. We will take care of this little boy."

"Mom, you will like this, too. Anand asked me today, 'When is Mom coming back?'"

"Why do you want to know?" I asked him.

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## Remembrances - Jan to June

Thank you to the many donors who chose to give memorial and honorary gifts in the first half of 2013. When requesting a gift to be listed in someone's memory or honor, please include the name and address of the individual or family so we can send them an acknowledgment.

### *In Honor of*

Don Cronauer (14)  
Al & Kathy Large  
Darlene & Bruce Large  
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Stan & Arnda Norton Family  
Wayne Olson  
Gautam Ranji  
Donald Semon Family  
Steve & Jackie Semon Family  
Anne & John Tennis

### *In Memory of*

Audrey Norman	Ruth M. Myers
Bashore	Alma Nolfi
Mary Campitelli	Susan Nuckols (3)
Jack Frost	Letti Obradovich
Nathan Gourle	Ruth Pellman
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HOINA

PO Box 636, Brownstown, PA 17508-0636 U.S.A.

717.355.9494 Toll-free: 877.99.HOINA (4.6462)

Email address: admin@hoina.org

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.

## A Perfect Birthday Gift—A New HOINA Sponsor



S. Padma Priya

Sweet S. Padma Priya needs a sponsor. We have very little information on her family background but can tell you that her birthday is coming soon on August 16, 2007. This almost six-year-old's favorite color is red, and she likes tigers. Someday, she'd like to be a district collector, but she has plenty of time to finalize that decision! Would you like to help her along that path?

For the families who would like to commit to helping a little HOINA **boy**, we offer you Toyanka Anand, who is featured in our cover article. Anand was rescued by Childline, which is an organization supported by the Union Ministry of Women & Child Development and Linking State Governments in India. He was found begging and eating garbage on the road side in Bhadrhiri Village. Fortunately, the child welfare personnel brought Anand to HOINA where he was immediately admitted.

A nine-year-old orphan, T. Anand loves the color green and elephants. He'd like to be a police officer when he grows up.

Your donation of \$30 per month will provide a HOINA girl or boy with food, clothing, housing, medical care, and school fees. You may complete the coupon on the back page and return it to our office with your first monthly gift to get the process started. Please know that you are always welcome to sponsor a child in honor of someone else. If you choose to do that, we'll list their name(s) in our semi-annual memorial listing and send them a letter to alert them to your gift. (Please don't forget to give us their contact information when you return your coupon.) HOINA wouldn't exist without our loyal donors. Thank you!

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Summer 2013



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Mom, a village neighbor and Anand Murthy, HOINA General Manager (facing camera)

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“Because I made her a birthday card and no one posted it to her for me.”

“Do not worry. Mom will come soon. She is very interested in helping you to a better life. All of us are. You are definitely going to find your bright future. You wait, and you will see. God helps us here in HOINA, and He will help you, too. You see, He loves you very much.”