

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

# **Grateful for Independence Day Gifts**

#### by Sharmila

On our Independence Day, August 15, we found new jigsaw puzzles given by our American sponsors. The puzzles are so beautiful, and we are so interested to play with them. We have more than five sets in each play room. The girls have a set, and the boys have a set. One is a map of India, and another is an Indian physical map, and a third one is the world map. We have Mickey Mouse puzzles and also cube puzzles. Mostly we love to play with puzzles. They teach us a lot about geography. Our new games include, Chinese checkers, handicrafts, and jewelry sets. We are so happy with these gifts. We thank our friends in America so much because you made new smiling on our faces. In HOINA's home, small children are happy to play with them, too. In HOINA we have a playroom and on any day that we are off from school, we enjoy playing with puppets from Mom's collection and we enjoy dancing, playing with toys and dolls, singing, and hearing stories from books. As we play, we discuss them and do the puzzle. These kinds of games making our brain development. So by this, our mom will be happy if she knows this. Once again thanking you America for such nice gifts to our home.



Mr. Anand and Mr. Bujji have fun working jigsaw puzzles during a break in their work.

## **Our HOINA Managers: Family for our Kids**

[Editor's Note: Last month we allowed our children to give you their perspective on life at our HOINA homes. We conclude their news in this month's issue.]

### Anand

### by P. Priyanka

Anand Brother is our general manager. He is the one who also is directly in charge of our girls' home. We are so lucky to have him. He see us like his own children. He take care of our studies and he advise us to take a good course after our high school years. He always say to be example to someone. He say to be special to others. He encourages us to play games, and he teaches us so many new things we do not know. Sometimes he plays games with us, and he makes jokes with us. He is a good friend to us. Sometimes he tells us how the world is. He tells how people are suffering without food, shelter, and clothes. He take good care of us and he always wants us to stand on our feet so that we do not depend on others. He teaches us about girls' safety when we move out of HOINA. He teaches us God's Word, and he is excellent. When he sings, we all want to listen. We love the sound of his voice and his music. He is a very good big brother.

## **Super Food in HOINA**

by Yashoda

In HOINA food is cooked by kitchen staff and is very excellent. The kitchen has a menu to cook the food for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Every Tuesday morning we have eggs, and every Tuesday night we have fried fish. On Sundays they cook chicken meat to us and they give the different fruits to us also.

In HOINA the girls will cook the food if they are 16 years old and above. They do this during their school holidays. When we all lived in our homes long time back, we didn't live at HOINA and we didn't have good food to eat. After we came to HOINA we get good food to eat. My favorite food is egg rice. It is super. Every evening they give snacks to us, and when we get holidays and festivals they cook different items to us. Sometimes we help to them in preparing food. When we have special programs in that time the staff give us cakes, ice cream, biscuits [cookies], and chocolates [candies].

Really we are the lucky children to live in HOINA homes. We are all blessed by God also. We all give thanks to God and our Mom. When we are sick they take special care and give good food to us. When we feel hungry, then we go and ask to our staff and they give us snacks at any time. They cook the food that we like to eat and only for us. The food is very good. We are so happy.

Our HOINA girls working in the kitchen (back to front) Teja, Shalini, Mithra and Vinisha

## **Our HOINA Managers**

continued from page 1

#### **Srinivas Kumar**

We call this manager by his pet name, Bujji. He is the boys' home manager. We all like him so much. He takes care of our studies. Mainly, he tells us about health. If we are sick, he takes care and gives us good medicine. He encourages us in everything. If we do any mistake he finds out and advises us to not repeat the next time. He takes care very well. He teaches us about general knowledge,

### Jani Maston

Jani anna [brother] is our office manager. He does accounts for the boys' home and the girls' home. He is always busy with bills. If he is free, he talks with us. If we want money for bus fare or books, he gives this to us. He don't like to spend money for wasteful things. He asks the reason if we ask him for money. If it is a good purpose, he immediately gives money. He always want to keep things safe and clean. He teaches us tennis, and he teach us how the [exchange] rates are increasing and how we have to use the funds nicely. He takes care of our studies, and if we are sick he says to take us to the hospital. He is always smiling. He

so that we can learn more things. He says we must play sports games as it is good for our health. He is so silly with us: he always wants our faces to smile. He doesn't like anyone to be sad. He advises that we should not be discouraged for any failures we have to overcome. He told us that our motto is to be "I CAN DO IT." He helps everyone. He wants to see us in good position. He understands our problems.

helps us in so many ways. He likes everyone as his own. He sometimes quizzes us so we can improve our knowledge. He brings so many general knowledge books to read. He encourages us in studys [sic]. He always tells us to study well and get good ranks. He says we must to be in good positons and then you can also help poor familys [sic] when you are in good positions. He always wants us to do new things. Jani's wife recently had a son named Sonu. He is a very cute and nice little boy. When you come to visit our HOINA, you will meet our managers and you will enjoy them. Come and see. We wait for you.



### **HOINA Wedding News**

By Tata Rao

Marriages are made in heaven. In India most of the people believe in that. We have different customs, and traditions here in India. We are giving much importance and respect for marriage. Recently, one of our HOINA staff, Mr. Lakshman got married at Venkatarajpuram Village. Mr. Lakshman Rao is a Hindu and converted as a Christian, and the bride is also a Christian.

Here the marriage atmosphere starts one month before the marriage date. The procedure of the actual wedding starts at 8 AM with a bridegroom bath with turmeric paste. After that, the bride's father and mother give new clothes to bridegroom. He wares [sic] the new clothes. Likewise, the bridegroom's parents will give the new clothes to bride. Both bride and bridegroom wares [sic] the new white clothes, and they walk towards the marriage diose [church].

Once the bride reaches the church and is received by the bestmen, the bride and the groom walk slowly and gracefully with the wedding procession who follow till they reach where the pastor stands for the wedding. The program begins with hymns and selected readings from the Bible. The next ritual is the blessing and the exchange of the wedding rings. The ceremony ends with the final blessing of the pastor. And one last thing is the couple then signs the register, and they walk down aisle, arm in arm.

Wedding is also followed by reception party, which is a grand affair where the newlyweds enter the place and are welcomed by all with a shower of confetti. In the party all types of veg [vegetarian]



The bride and groom at the ceremony.

and non-veg food will be served to the guests. Reception is most celebrated with a dance and a live band performance. It is fun for all of us to attend.

## Time to Refill the Christmas Fund

We appreciate our donors who contribute to HOINA's Christmas fund to provide a gift for their child or for one without a sponsor. Would you consider helping us to provide a celebration for all of our children and staff? An honorary gift is easier than shopping for and wrapping a gift for a loved one and helps our children and staff enjoy the holidays, too!

Consider sending a gift with the coupon above—any amount would be a blessing. Send something to fill our Christmas Fund or our general fund. As always, your generosity is such a blessing, and we thank you.

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.

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#### 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 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, 1.717.787.1057. Registration does not imply endorsement. Thank you to the many donors who chose to give

Remembrances

memorial and honorary gifts. 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

Darlene and Bruce Large Sue Reese

In Memory of

Margaret Johnson Rose Decarlo Marcheleta Susan Nuckols Edna Martin Ioana Popescu

HOINA Sponsor and Contribution Coupon	I want to Sponsor a HOINA boy / girl (circle one). Here is my first monthly gift of \$35.
Address:	Please use this gift of \$ toward the HOINA General Fund.
City: State: Zip:	Please use this gift of \$ toward the Christmas Fund.
Phone: Account Number (on your mailing label):	This gift of \$ is in honor / memory of (circle one) (please give name and address of person):
Mail coupon to: HOINA PO Box 636 Brownstown, PA 17508-0636	(please print clearly) All donations are tax deductible.
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## **Orphan Finds Friends at HOINA**



We hope the articles in this newsletter each month have shown you that the HOINA family is a warm and loving place to be included. This month our feature sponsor child is a full orphan. Koteswara Rao's parents had a baby boy in 2006 who died after only a few days. Koteswara Rao was born two years later on September 29. While his father was a truck driver, his mother started having stomach problems and was diagnosed as HIV positive in 2013. She became paralyzed and died in January 2014. His father was also HIV positive and died in April of this year. Koteswara Rao was uncared for. Fortunately, in June his aunt brought him to HOINA where her son already lives. Now, the two cousins can live with each other and their new HOINA brothers.

Koteswara Rao's favorite color is yellow. He likes kabaddi [a game like tag] and elephants. He would like to be a district officer when he is older.