



NEWS FROM

HOINA

HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

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Let Me Give Them Music

*by Suhaan, 11 years old
HOINA Guest from U.S.A.*

During my stay last year in my dad's hometown in Visakhapatnam, India, I visited an institution called HOINA. My dad spoke very highly of this institute, without giving many details about the place or the cause they are involved in, which made me inquisitive. On a scorching summer morning, my dad drove us with my mom and grandparents to this facility. After driving about a couple of hours in the summer heat and traffic, we arrived at the main gate of HOINA. My dad introduced himself to a smiling old man who happened to be the gatekeeper. Dad mentioned that he was friends with Glory and that we were there to meet the warden of the facility, Mr. Anand. Instantly, there was a spark in the gatekeeper's eyes and a smile on his face. He promptly opened the gates and directed us to the main building. As we entered the campus and drove through the meandering road towards the administrative building, we were pleasantly surprised to see the beautiful campus, curated green grass, well planted trees, and colorful paintings surrounding us on the compound walls.

Upon reaching the administrative building, we were

greeted by Mr. Anand with a very warm smile. He took us to his office and gave us a brief history of the institution. HOINA was built to provide shelter to orphaned,

destitute, handicapped, and abused children from all over South India for over three decades. Their goal is to bring these kids up in a secured environment, help them develop into confident young adults, and teach them the life skills to support themselves and contribute to society. He told us about the values they thrive on and the rigorous process they go through in enrolling a child. They help children of all ages—from toddlers to teenagers—who are deprived of the basics of life and exposed to extreme poverty and hardships. Some of the kids were abandoned by their parents, many of them orphaned, and some just exposed to high risks of violence. I heard stories about how two girls had lost their

parents in a mining accident. One girl's dad was highly alcoholic, and she was abandoned but found alive in unspeakable conditions.

As we sat in his office, we were served water and tea, being served by none other than the students of the home. Each one had a daunting story of their own. Though each child faced a lot of hardships, one could notice happiness and pride in their bright smiles. There were several



Suhaan with Bruno, the HOINA dog

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pictures on the walls of the office each having a story behind them, and Mr. Anand explained each one with pride. A beautiful painting on the wall in the admin office was painted by one of the students. Last, but not least, HOINA has a dog named Bruno. He and I became instant friends and spent a lot of time together.

Mr. Anand then gave us a tour of the campus. Colorful mosaic artwork in the courtyard done by these children caught my eye. He mentioned that the boys and the girls live in separate buildings on campus. While the toddler room held many cribs, the other rooms, which were meant for older kids, had bunk beds. What I liked most about HOINA was the facility itself. It was clean and quiet. Next we toured the library and the cafeteria. It was almost lunch time and the cafeteria was filled with the aroma of tasty Indian food.

Overall, my experience at HOINA was fantastic. All the stories we heard about these kids and their struggles brought tears to my eyes. I was so moved by this visit that I believe that HOINA is where I can make a change in the world. Since music has been a very big part of my life, I believe that these children should also be exposed to more music. I want to start a fundraiser to buy instruments for the school. I want to expose these children to performing music because music unites people internationally. I want to give these underprivileged boys and girls a chance to do something fun like I do. I would use the money from the



Mr. Anand with Suhaan's dad, Pradeep.

fundraiser to buy instruments for the children. The instruments could be a very useful thing for these students. Each student can learn different instruments. Once we have instruments, I could ask some musicians throughout Vizag to help teach the students. I'm excited by this opportunity to help.

Annual Statements

You should receive your annual giving statement from our HOINA office in Brownstown, PA, by the end of January. If yours does not arrive or if you spot an error, please alert our office immediately at 877.994.6462 (toll-free outside of PA) or 717.355.9494 so that we can correct it for you. Your generous support of our work makes all of this possible. Thank you!

HOINA Mom in India

By the time you read this, HOINA President Darlene Large should be back in India. Prayers are appreciated for her safety, health, and successful trip overseas.

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

HOINA
PO Box 87
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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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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.

Holiday Break Allows for Extra-curricular Fun

This fall, India celebrated two big holidays—Dessara and Diwali—causing the students to be out of school for over 15 days. The HOINA girls and boys had a blast participating in various activities throughout their

break from school since they normally attend seven days/week. All of the children chose from a list of activities to participate in all week. The options were tailoring, cooking, English class, and computer skills.

We were so thankful to a chef from an upscale hotel in Vizag who came to teach a week of cooking classes. The students learned how to make different kinds of pasta, spring rolls (egg rolls), fried cheese balls, soup, and fried noodles. It was hard to tell if the students were more excited to be able to make new foods, or to get to eat their creations after class!

In the tailoring class, students got the chance to learn a few basic tailoring skills and how to make their own clothes. During computer class, students were able to practice typing and learn how to use Word, Excel, and other computer basics.

Another group had daily English classes where they played a variety of English-learning games, wrote opinion essays in English, and learned new adjectives to use in their daily speech.

Our extra-curricular fun for everyone helped to make the long break from school a productive and exciting couple of weeks.



Chef Instructor, Kota Veni, Swathi Roopa, and some HOINA boys



Bharathi, Kumari, Jhansi Rani, and Preethika



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Brownstown, PA 17508-0636



January 2020

- 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 / Education Fund.
(circle one)

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Semi-orphaned and Fully Loved

T. Tejaswini was born on July 2, 2009, and has been a joyful addition to the HOINA home. She came from a happy family that suffered some tragedy. Mr. Appla Raju and Mrs. Nagamani married over 15 years ago and rejoiced when they had both a baby boy and a baby girl. Mr. Appla Raju was a daily laborer until he got sick. Sadly, this young family saw its share of sorrow when their daddy died in February, 2014, due to his health problems. Afterward Mrs. Nagamani worked as a daily laborer to feed her young children. Unfortunately, she herself has taken ill and cannot work every day and take care of her children. She has no parents nor other family left to help her. She approached HOINA for their hand of compassion. The staff saw her pitiable condition and admitted Tejaswini. Won't you consider helping us give her a brighter tomorrow? You can send your first monthly gift to our office using the coupon above. Tejaswini and all of us at HOINA thank you.

