

# **HOINA Children Great Help in Difficult Times**



By Mr. Anand Murthy HOINA General Manager, India

I would like to take a moment to talk about how much of a blessing our children are to us. Much of the world, including India, is under a lockdown. Therefore, we do not have all of our staff members on campus. Our older children at HOINA have been a wonderful help, stepping up to take responsibility around the home.

As you can see in these photos, one day it suddenly rained very heavily and flooded much of the campus. The outlet drains were blocked, and water was turning much of the campus into a lake. Immediately, the college boys stepped up and cleared the blockage



so that the water could go outside. I was so happy to see the way the elder boys took ownership and responsibility without anyone asking them to come and help. It truly shows the depth of character these boys are developing.

### **Great Help in Difficult Times**

continued from page one

Because of the COVID-19 stayat-home order in India, some of our staff have been unable to travel from their villages to HOINA, including the couple who wash the children's clothes and bed sheets. In our staff's absence, our college girls have taken the initiative to wash clothes every day to help us all.



# Keeping Safe and Being Helped by Local Neighbors



Staff from the Child and Women's Welfare Department came by our home to check on us. Our watchman stopped them at the gate and called to me. Then he gave them sanitizer germ killer [hand sanitizer] and water to wash their legs, hands, face, etc. He warned them to not remove their face masks.

When I got to the gate, they said to me, "We came to teach you about

protection, but you people taught us more. Even the children taught us. Your mom [HOINA President Darlene Large] taught you all about cleanliness. We heard how she likes everything clean and neat.

Officers from the local police department came. These photos are from the first visit they made when they brought fruits and vegetables. The next time they came, they brought us more vegetables. Then the third time they brought us rice, curry, and sweets, which was their own dinner; but they decided to give it to the HOINA children.

When I called the Inspector to thank him, he said, "These gifts from us are nothing compared to what HOINA is doing for the community." We are grateful to be so well thought of among our local neighbors.

## **Great Help**

continued from page two



Our HOINA boys worked hard at clearing brush and downed trees to keep our property in good shape while they are on lockdown and cannot attend school. We so appreciate the staff who are still on campus and our students for their helpful attitudes.

We have conducted special prayers for COVID-19 affected people and communities. During one of these prayers, some of the children said that they felt strongly this was their chance to pray more for their sponsors. One of them said, "Our sponsors do so much for us, and now is our chance to do something for them and show our gratitude." They have been praying continuously for all of HOINA's sponsors and their families.

#### What Are YOU Thankful For?



One day, Mom asked me to ask the children one guestion: "In these difficult circumstances, do we have anything we can be thankful for?" The children's response was an overwhelming yes!

"I'm thankful for the opportunity to pray for people in need." - Vimala, HOINA staff

"I'm thankful to be safe and sound during this time." - Esther Joy

"I'm thankful that God has given me a great place to live. Many people don't have an opportunity like this." - David Shepard

"I'm thankful to have food during this time." - Priya

"I'm thankful that even though this is such a difficult time for the world, God has given us everything we need." - Vinisha

I am thankful so much for this wonderful opportunity given to me by God through Mom to do such amazing work. With many thanks, Anand

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The HOINA Campus was hit with some heavy rain recently. See the story on page one to find out how the older students helped out.

