



NEWS FROM

HOINA

HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

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Precious Cycle of Life



By Dr. Glory Janes
U.S. HOINA Board Secretary

I had the opportunity to spend nearly a month at HOINA in India this summer. Since I worked for HOINA as the general manager in the past, I enjoyed seeing some of the staff I knew from 16 years ago. Some of the children are still there, too, but that bunch has grown up into wonderful young adults. Some of the children I knew in those days have now graduated and are pursuing life. Others are in their final years of high school or college. However, the most satisfying part was seeing those who were then toddlers now grown up and helping the younger kids as the big siblings. HOINA has always had a family atmosphere, one in which our older students help the younger ones dress, clean up, complete homework, and learn essential life skills. What a sight to see. Maybe

you have heard of the “Vicious Cycle of Life,” but this is the “Precious Cycle of Life.” These children would have definitely been in the vicious cycle—of poverty and abuse—but for HOINA. The continued support through prayers and donations that you provide has helped break the vicious cycle and given these children a real chance at a successful life.

While I was overseas, I got to meet the principal of the Jindal School where most of our children attend. He had almost nothing but wonderful things to say about the HOINA kids, that they are always so respectful and hardworking, with a handful of challenges here and there. I had the opportunity to spend time with the older teenaged kids, some of whom were struggling with typical emotional issues. I was pleasantly surprised to see the results after just a few one-on-one sessions with them. As with all children, they want a little attention. Those of you

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who have a teenager definitely know that there's no such thing as "just a little" attention with them. If any of you are sponsoring HOINA children who are now in their teenage years, I strongly recommend writing to them once in a while. Your encouragement, even from afar, helps them feel loved and noticed.

The staff are a fine group of enthusiastic and hardworking people. We had a lot of coaching sessions: in Western-style cooking as we featured last month, on communication skills, as well as on hygiene habits and avoiding cross-contamination or spreading of sicknesses. The care they give to the children is very special to watch. I was amazed that all the staff knew the names of each and every child. I saw that the bond that they share is not strictly professional. I say that in a positive way meaning that it's not a staff/child relationship but more like a parent/child one.

November being the Thanksgiving season, I would like to take time to thank everyone involved in HOINA. To all the people who have been there from the inception, to the ones who have joined during the last four decades, thank you. To all the family, friends, churches, colleges, clubs, classes,



Dr. Solomon with his wife, U.S. Board Secretary Glory Janes, and Mr. Krishna, board members; Mr. Jani, Accounts Manager; and Mr. Anand, General Manager.

past and present volunteers, and board members, THANK YOU! The HOINA children remark regularly that they are grateful and wish they could personally talk to you and thank you for giving them a chance to pursue happiness.

Help Mahima Reach New Heights



Mr. Tarakeswara Rao and Mrs. Vara Lakshmi were married in 2005. A year later, their daughter, Mahima Rao, was born on May 7, 2006. Sadly, Mrs. Vara Lakshmi left her husband for another man. She abandoned Mahima, who was nine months old at the time, with her father, who was not able to take care of her as a baby.

He then left his daughter with his grandparents to live and left the family. Mahima's grandparents raised her until last year but have found it increasingly difficult to take care of Mahima given their old age and developing health issues. Mahima's grandfather left their town and came to HOINA seeking admission for his granddaughter. Upon seeing their difficult situation, we have granted admission to Mahima.



HOINA "big sis" Esther braiding "little sis" Mahima's hair.

Mahima Rao's favorite color is pink, and her favorite animal is a rabbit. Someday, she would like to travel the world as an airplane pilot. Won't you help? See page 4.



Open Wide!

Every year the Rotary Club of Vizag Elite comes to HOINA to conduct medical check-ups for our children. In the past, they have done eye exams, too. This year, they brought over a team with a dentist and a couple of dental assistants. They checked all 195 boys and girls. In addition to checking all their teeth for cavities and gum issues, the dentist talked to each home (boys' and girls') about dental hygiene and eating clean foods for good dental health.

Any children who had dental problems were later taken to the dental clinic in Vizag for further treatment the following week. We are grateful for the long history HOINA has of help from Rotary Club International and its chapters. Rotarians and HOINA board members Jim Cunningham and Dr. Larry Gagnon (dec.) were active in connecting us with help in India and in the U.S. Although the clubs are different from city to city, we're glad to partner with this Vizag chapter. We also offer thanks to HOINA's General Manager Mr. Anand for his continual efforts to make HOINA's name known in the surrounding area.



A New Appreciation

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My recent medical scare has given me an empathy and insight into what Mom has lived through and given for HOINA. I cannot imagine the loneliness and despair she felt. Thank God she pulled through. She did not let that near-death experience stop her from going back to India to care for the children of HOINA. My experience makes me think of all the disappointments, failures, hurts, and sacrifices it took to make HOINA what it is today. So many thousands of children's lives were saved because of Mom's and her family's sacrifices. So many thousands of children have a chance to not simply exist but to flourish, making successful lives of their own. One woman's promise to God and her passion for less fortunate children has changed one corner of the world.

Fill the Christmas Fund

It's time to refill our Christmas fund! If you send your monetary gift to our office soon, you will help us plan accordingly when deciding on staff bonuses and what we can buy the HOINA children. Our staff members need time to shop and wrap the hundreds of gifts we give out, so please consider sending a generous gift with the coupon on page 4 to fill our fund. You can be sure that the HOINA children will have a happy Christmas celebration. Know that we gratefully appreciate each gift, no matter the size.

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.

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November 2019

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 Christmas Fund / General Fund.
(circle one)

This gift of \$ _____ is in honor / memory of
(circle one)

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(please print clearly)



All donations are tax deductible.



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A New Appreciation

By Dr. Glory Janes

The first week after I landed in India, I got very sick because a mosquito of the same breed that carries the West Nile and Zika viruses bit me. I contracted what is called Dengue Fever. My platelet count fell to 7000, which is dramatically low, and my pulse went to 45. Disoriented, I was not sure I would survive. I begged God, asking Him to spare me. I was rushed to the hospital and treated there for days. After my discharge my sweet mom cared for me in my parents' home. I was fortunate and blessed to have family to care for me.

The reason I mention this is not to play the martyr but to show you a new perspective God has given me regarding HOINA's President and Founder, Darlene "Mom" Large. On her first trip to India, she contracted Cholera (a bacterial infection with severe diarrhea due to contaminated water and food). She was so severely dehydrated that they told her she would die. Her illness occurred in the 1970s when she had no family, no friends, no air conditioning, no proper toilets, no telephones, no electricity sometimes, and no proper medical facilities nearby. She just lay there in her room for days waiting to get well or die.

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