



NEWS FROM

# HOINA

HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

P.O. Box 636, Brownstown, PA 17508-0636 • [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org) • March 2021

## Educational Encouragement Leads to Employment

As told by Madhu S., HOINA Graduate to Glory Janes, HOINA Board Member

*[Editor's Note: As we move through 2021, HOINA looks back from the first days that HOINA Founder Darlene "Mom" Large had the vision to start this work. Now, 50 years later, we celebrate our milestones by sharing with you different HOINA graduates and their life stories. This first month features Madhu S.]*

### My Backstory

When I was 10 years old, my father died from AIDS after he had contracted HIV. A few months later, my mother died, too, because of the same disease. All of a sudden, we didn't have any family; and my sister and I became orphans. After my parents died, my uncle took us and put me in a government hostel. My sister, who is a few years older to me, just stayed at home. I was at this government orphanage for a year when one of my uncle's friends told him about HOINA. My uncle took me there, and I was accepted into HOINA. Normally, HOINA takes in kids at a younger age. I was on the higher age, being 12 years old at the time, but still HOINA accepted me seeing that I was an orphan.

### Mom and I

When I was in 12th grade, I received a call one day from Mom in America. I used to not have much interaction with her until I came to my college age because I was always more interested in playing and tried to avoid serious conversations. To this day, Mom will call us older kid to talk to us. That day, Mom asked me what my plans for my future and goals were. That is the point when I realized that I actually have someone who thinks



Article author pictured with his HOINA pals—2014

Back row, left to right: Immanuel, Santhosh, Tatarao and Madhu

Center: (Red Shirt) Anil; Front row, left to right: Moses, Dhanujay, Pavan and Ram

about my future. She made me start thinking about my own future. I was doing my Bachelor's degree in Chemistry in the 2nd year. Mom encouraged me to be

## Encouragement continued

focused and said that she will support me in whatever I decide to pursue. That is when I looked into the possibilities and started narrowing down my interests. After I finished my degree, my friend suggested that my degree wouldn't bring me great opportunities without technical skill along with it. He suggested I take a course in Quality Control. I got information about the course and emailed the tuition details to Mom. She replied right away that she will support me and help pay for the entire tuition.

### My Education

The tuition was 50,000 rupees. Mom said she was going to pay for it, from her personal money that a friend gave her, since normally HOINA supports kids until they finish their bachelor's degree only. When she said that, I felt so bad to make her spend so much of her personal money. So, I decided to meet the management. Normally, the people at the accounts department don't let anyone meet the Correspondent/Owner. So, I told the accounts man that I wanted to discuss with them about a job opportunity I have. When they finally let me in, I straight away apologized to Mr. Prasad, the owner, and asked for just five minutes of his time. I then told him my story and about Mom and her service to the Indian children. In the beginning, he didn't seem like he believed what I said. He later made an enquiry about HOINA and called me to the office the next day. He said, "I will not give you any figure to pay; just pay however much you can." I told him I had Rs.15,000 to pay, and that I would pay it all if he wanted me to. He then suggested that I pay 12,000 and with the rest of the 3,000 get my passport done. Not only that, after the course, they also helped me with training and placement.

### How HOINA Differs

I was asked what the difference is between HOINA and the government hostel I stayed in after my parents died. This is my answer: Oh! There is no comparison between that place and HOINA. That was a hostel and this is a home! At HOINA, it is not just about giving food and clothing, but we also have a lot of people who counsel and guide us along the path. At the government hostel all that matters is whether we are there or not. They didn't



HOINA brothers forever: (L to R) Tatarao, Madhu, and Chanikya.



My favorite thing to do—working out at the gym.

offer me any help or plans for my future.

Also, Anand sir, Jani sir, and Bujji sir [HOINA Managers] have always been supportive of me and always encouraging me. I always consulted with them and took their advice. I also am thankful to my sponsors Glory mummy and Douglas dad. They write letters to me, send pictures to me, and make me feel special. Glory mummy counsels me to focus on my goal. She talks to me about my emotions and how to behave properly.



# Encouragement continued

## Employment

As of now, I have been working in quality control for 18 months at MEIL, with a steady monthly salary, plus food, accommodation, and traveling expenses as a Junior QC Engineer. This job allows me to help support my sister financially as well as myself. All



Madhu performs quality control using an ultrasonic device to find discontinuities under the welds and to help check pipe quality.

this is possible only because of one reason – because Mom started HOINA. If I didn't come to HOINA, I will still be living in the slums, in poverty, or just doing some labor work. Thank you HOINA and thank you, USA.



Madhu loves to travel. Above he is pictured at Gangtok, Sikkim, India near the eastern range of the Himalayas—elevation 5,410 ft.

*This is the story of Madhu S. who without your generous and kind hearts, would be just another statistic, one of the millions of orphans lost in the cycle of poverty. He came in at 12 years of age. Today at 21, he is an educated young man with a stable job, an identity, and a future. He loves traveling and working out at the gym. He is what we call in the USA, an "old soul," someone who is wise beyond his years. Thank you for helping boys and girls like Madhu have a shining future.*



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This newsletter is published to inform our readers of the work HOINA does among the handicapped and abandoned in India.

Edited by Letti L. Becker  
Layout by Eberly Designs  
Printing by Prestige Color

### Send donations and address changes to:

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March 2021

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As each year passes (and especially after getting through the trials of 2020), we realize more the preciousness of life itself. At the end of this month we celebrate one woman's life. With your help and President Darlene Large's hand at the helm, HOINA has helped thousands of orphaned, widowed, and abandoned people over these last decades. While she is healthy and getting acclimated to her new town, the Covid-19 restrictions have made it hard to meet new friends. We appreciate your prayers on her behalf. If you care to send her birthday greetings, please use the address below:

Darlene Large  
514 NW Murray Rd, Apt 112  
Lee's Summit, MO 64081