



NEWS FROM

**HOINA**

HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

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

## From Underdog to Successful Businessman

My name is U. Madhu. I came to HOINA in 1997 when I was 8 years old. I come from an extremely poor family, so much so that even getting one meal a day and getting by a day at a time was very difficult. My father died when I was very young due to brain cancer. We had a couple of tractors, and he would plow fields for others to make a living. But once he died, my mother had to sell them to provide for us. Eventually, life was so hard as we had nothing left to sell; and my mother, having no education or skills, couldn't get any work. I remember the struggles and tears my mother had every day.

My uncle in Hyderabad took my brother and cared for him, but he could not take both of us. Eventually, we had heard about HOINA, and so my mother took me to there to the Home in Bapatla, A.P. From the day I went into HOINA, my life changed completely around. I had never dreamt of being in a home and living with the facilities that I got there. Matter of fact, I wasn't even aware of some things that they existed.

As I grew to be a teenager, I developed anxiety and started having a stammering problem. I wasn't good academically either and had poor grades always. My peers had graduated, and went into high school and college, but I was stuck at 9th grade level. I never made it past that. This gave me low self-esteem, and my stammering would be more pronounced. The house parents and staff decided to teach me a vocation and sent me to tailoring school. After learning tailoring, I spent a few years helping sew uniforms for all the other kids, along with HOINA's master tailor. He taught me a lot about the skill, but somehow my heart wasn't there either. I quickly grew out of it and didn't really like being

a tailor. I would be quiet, introverted, and mellow most of the time.

At that time, Krishna Anna [Krishna Uncle, who is a HOINA Board member in India] talked to me and convinced me to join an A/C [air conditioning] mechanic's course. I went for a while, but within a month I sneakily quit on it. HOINA's General Manager Glory counseled me with patience and joined me again. After that I worked hard for two years and graduated, and there was no turning back. I joined apprentice at an A/C dealer, and there connected with a major refrigeration company, Voltas, who gave me a job. After this, I got a job with the State's tourism department. I worked there for a few years and then went back to my hometown of



Madhu with his family. Inset: Madhu when he was at Hoina as a young boy.

## Successful Businessman continued

Bapatla, and opened my own A/C servicing center. Now in my 30s, I am settled in my personal and professional life, all because of HOINA. I am married, and have two children. Recently, I also built a house on a small piece of land.

At HOINA, Mom always encouraged me and supported me. She made special effort to talk to me personally. I will always be indebted and grateful to her and HOINA as long as I live. Every staff member who works at HOINA have all tended and cared for me and all my friends very well. Mom loves the children very

much. I can't even think what condition my life would be if I didn't find HOINA.

I learned many things at HOINA – how to be respectful to elders, how to behave in a social setting, how to communicate with others, how people can be independent and stand on their own two feet instead of always being dependent on someone else; and most importantly, how to be helpful to others the way I got help. My wish is that I can meet Mom once again and give her lunch in my home. If she steps into my home, there is nothing more I want.



HOINA Executive Director Glory, HOINA grad & host Madhu U., HOINA General Manager Anand, and Krishna, HOINA Indian Board member visit Madhu.



HOINA grads and still friends after all these years, Joseph (left) with Prakash M. (see page three)

## Continuing Connections: A Reunion at Madhu's House

*by Glory Janes, HOINA Executive Director*

On my last trip to India in 2019, I went to Bapatla along with Anand, Jani, and Krishna to visit the lunch program clinic. While in town, some HOINA graduates came to meet us at Madhu's home. While having lunch and talking to the other young men, my eyes wandered toward his main front door (pictured at right). What I noticed blew me away. His front door was custom made and had the HOINA logo carved on it. Tears filled my eyes. This is proof that HOINA changes lives. Some come back and keep in touch, and some don't; but what



we saw there was so fulfilling. The story of a child who was an underdog and underachiever with just a little support, encouragement, and most importantly, career guidance, became a well-settled and grateful man. He is a fine husband, father, and a good citizen of Indian society. Think about how you all have impacted not just this one child, but his children who are growing up looking at the HOINA logo on their front door, remembering to pass it on!

In May I had a phone call from a dear friend who asked what I had heard about the [polio-handicapped] boys and their [orthopedic] surgeries. I told her that the Chicago Shriner's Hospital was swamped. She said I needed to come up to Chicago to see the doctor to explain the cases. I was reluctant to do this since Healing the Children in Munster, Indiana, had worked for four years on this problem.

However, when I called my sister, Letti, in Florida, she told me, "Definitely you must go. Don't worry, God will give you the right person to speak with. You know that."

Before calling my sister, I had spoken with one of our HOINA board members, Dr. Aaron Samuel. He advised, "Go, but don't make an appointment. Just go. I just wish I could meet you and Bruce there and take you to the doctor personally."

The whole thing was gnawing at me. Three trusted advisers were encouraging me to go. On an impulse, I decided to give it a try. The next morning, Bruce and I drove more than six hours to Chicago; but the doctor was out. I asked for his secretary, but she was Miss Ice Cubes, which, no doubt, is what she was supposed to be. Finally, not wanting to give up, I persisted and asked for the social worker, who was polite but firm. "I can give you ten minutes, but in half an hour I have a meeting with the president of the board."


"That's okay. We can wait five or six hours if we must." I meant every word. She hesitated but agreed.

She said she didn't recognize the boys' names. She left to go check with the secretary. Apparently, they could locate one boy but not the other in the computer. I pointed out the correct spelling of their names. "How providential that you came in today, Mrs. Large. They may have become lost in our system forever."

When I returned to India, the boys had U.S. visas in just one day. Delta Airlines personnel volunteered to escort the kids to Chicago, and host families await them. By

January the surgeries should be done.

*[Editor's Note: Pictured in the article to the right are Nagaraju T. and Prakash M., whom HOINA brought to the U.S. The boys' surgeries were successful, and they are now men, living and working in India.]*



NEWS FROM  
**HOINA**  
HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION  
POST OFFICE BOX 67, ST. CHARLES, MISSOURI 63302

September 2000

### Hoina Boys Coming for Surgery

By Darlene D. Large  
HOINA President

I may have had a phone call from a dear friend in Chicago. She asked me what I had heard about the boys and their surgeries. I told her that Shriner's hospitals around the USA weren't accepting any new international cases. Because of that decision, the Chicago Shriner's was swamped. They also had just undergone a budget cut.

She said I needed to come up to Chicago to see the doctor to explain the cases. I was reluctant to do this since Healing the Children in Munster, Indiana, had worked long and hard on this problem. Together, we had worked on it for four years. I spoke to my daughter, Letti, and her advice was, "Mom, butt out of this. Let it go through proper channels. Besides, you have enough other work to do. Would you please just let God do His work?" I agreed with her.

However, when I called my sister, Letti, in Florida she told me,

"Definitely you must go. Don't worry, God will give you the right person to speak with. You know that."

Before calling my sister I spoke with one of our HOINA board members, Dr. Aaron Samuel. He advised, "Go but don't make an appointment. Just go. I just wish I could meet you and Bruce there and take you to the doctor personally."

The whole thing was gnawing at me, and I couldn't get my friend's phone call out of my head. These people were encouraging me to go. Maybe I should go up there. On an impulse, I decided to give it a try. I told my daughter to tell Debbie at Healing the Children our plans. The next morning, Bruce and I drove to Chicago, about a 6 or 7 hour drive. We found the hospital, but the doctor was on leave for a week. I asked for his secretary, but she was Miss Ice Cubes, which, no doubt, is what she is supposed to be. Finally, not wanting to give up, I persisted and asked for the social worker.

The social worker was polite but firm. "I can give you ten minutes, but in half an hour I have a meeting with the president of the board."

"That's okay. We can wait five or six hours if we must." I meant every word. She hesitated and agreed. We only had to wait half an hour.

*(Continued on page 2)*



HOINA brothers Chopra Nagaraju, Madhu U., Prakash M. (who came to U.S.), Siva Narayana and Prakash K, shown as teenagers.

## HOINA Secretary (continued from back page)

Someday, I hope to return to India to visit the HOINA campus. It is my privilege to help carry on the great legacy HOINA has established. "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." (James 1:27)

HOINA is a 501(c)3, tax-exempt organization.

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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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## MEET the **HOINA** BOARD

### Jonathan Murphy, HOINA Secretary

*The U.S. HOINA Board would like to announce that Jonathan Murphy has been elected as secretary of the board to replace Glory Janes, who is now serving as Executive Director. Jonathan, married with four children, lives with his family in Oklahoma, where he works as an Electrical Contractor. Read on to learn his personal story of how he came to HOINA.*

I joined the HOINA executive board two years ago at the invitation of my friend Glory Janes, who was also a board member. Glory and I met about ten years ago at a local church in Tulsa. Our families became friends

and would talk about Glory's time growing up in India.

In 2013 a group from a Christian karate group I was a member of decided to take a trip to India. Glory gladly gave us advice and helped with some of the planning. It was on this trip when I fell in love with India. The beautiful people, the exquisite food, colorful dresses, and historical significance all left a strong imprint on my heart and mind.

