



NEWS FROM

**HOINA**

HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

P.O. Box 7167, Lee's Summit, MO 64064 • [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org) • November 2023

## HOINA Welcomes New Treasurer *By Letti Becker, Newsletter Editor*

This month, we are pleased to introduce you to the newest addition to HOINA's board in the U.S. Randy Bentele is a retired Technology Executive who has led large global organizations in industries including finance, banking, energy, telecommunications, human resources, engineering, and distribution. He is a sought after trainer, speaker, and mentor in Project Management principles and has taught as an Adjunct Professor at Rockhurst University's MBA program.

Randy has a BS in Computer Science and Management and an MBA from Rockhurst University. His management and finance skills bring another benefit to HOINA. He now steps onto our board as the HOINA Treasurer, taking over for Tom Yohe, who has been our interim treasurer and who is now ready to retire from the day-to-day financial duties while staying on our board to encourage the work. (We give our great thanks to Tom for all the gaps he has filled over his years on the board!)

Randy lives in Olathe, KS, with his wife, Cindy. They have four children and two grandchildren. Randy is active in his local community, where he serves as the Vice Chairman of the Executive



Randy Bentele with his wife and grandchildren.

Board for Mission Southside, a local non-profit organization.

Randy's IT work allowed him a trip to India where he was able to visit HOINA in 2004, just before the tsunami struck southern India. He reminisced with me about that trip. "My first memory is of riding off from my hotel in HOINA's pink auto rickshaw to the girls' home. I think it took a good hour to get there from Chennai. Mainly I remember being completely overwhelmed by the experience. The girls were so excited to have me visit. They put on a show for me and insisted I sit in a simple plastic chair right under the only fan in the room.

The girls performed songs and dances: it was just a beautiful experience. I brought them chocolate candies as a treat. I also enjoyed eating a meal with the girls in the midst of their joyful chatter.

"When I got back to my hotel in Chennai, I remember I called my wife Cindy. I was completely drained and very emotional. I felt so honored by the girls and so humbled by the whole experience. Cindy and I have supported the progress of HOINA since then."

Todd and I have known the Benteles since our first move to Missouri in 1992. Our history with their family has shown us Randy's trustworthiness and abilities, which led to his invitation to serve on the HOINA board.

As we make changes to our processes, you will note a new address on our masthead and coupon. You can begin sending donations to that address any time. We ask that you make note of the new address in your records.

ACH donors, fear not! We are staying with PNC Bank, so there will be no changes to your online giving. Those of you who use your personal bank's bill-pay service will need to alert them to our new address.

# HOINA Grad Helping Others

Once upon a time, in December of 2000, two HOINA boys traveled halfway around the globe to get corrective surgeries at Shriner's Children's Hospital in Chicago. A generous couple, Dennis and Kieran Penning, served as M. Prakash's host family. They are still in touch with Prakash, who works for the Indian government as a social worker, serving local elderly clients.

We are grateful they have stayed connected for so long and are happy to share this update with you. HOINA really is a family. Many hands have made this organization function for almost half a century: some pray, some give financially, some visit us abroad, and some have taken in our children while they have been in the U.S. Each one of you supports us as you can, and we are profoundly grateful for the difference you have made in the lives of so many.

T. Nagaraju (l) and M. Prakash shortly after they returned to India in 2001 after they had surgeries at Shriner's Children's Hospital in Chicago to correct the effects of polio.



M. Prakash (above) poses on the motor scooter that allows him to serve his elderly clients now in his role as a government social worker.



A young Prakash gets a break from the rigors of his hospital stay by playing BINGO at the Chicago Shriner's Children's Hospital.

## A Gift from You Blesses Doubly

An honorary gift is a win-win situation: it's easier than buying, wrapping, and shipping a holiday gift to your loved one and helps our children and staff enjoy the holidays, too! Please consider sending a gift with the coupon on page 4—any amount would be a blessing.

As always, your generosity is such a blessing, and we thank you.



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

**Contact us at:**

717.355.9494

Email address: [contact@hoina.org](mailto:contact@hoina.org)

Website: [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org)

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

**Send donations and address changes to:**

HOINA

PO Box 7167

Lee's Summit, MO 64064

U.S.A.

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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.

# A Future Serving His Country

K. Bhaskar Deepak's family was known by one of our HOINA cooks. Little Bhaskar lost his father earlier this year, and his mother was grateful that we could take in her third grade son. He loves to play cricket with his HOINA brothers, his favorite color is green, and his favorite animal is the tiger. Someday, he would like to be an army officer.



K. Bhaskar Deepak

Can you find it in your budget in the coming year to sponsor him for \$35 per month? Maybe you could do it in honor of someone who needs no more stuff. An honorary sponsorship makes a great holiday gift! Please look online at [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org) or return the coupon to our office with your request. Be sure to give us the name and address of the person you want this sponsorship in honor of so we can alert them.

## HOINA is on the move - well sort of...

...the financial and treasury activities for HOINA are now being handled in Missouri. With this change comes a new PO Box for sending your financial support.



Please use this address for your giving:

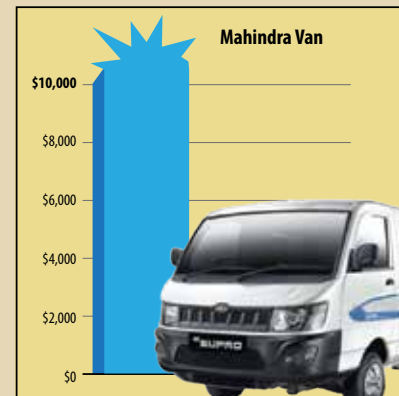
HOINA  
PO Box 7167  
Lee's Summit, MO 64064

## Greetings...

God has been so good to me this year. The campus is more beautiful than ever as I see the landscaping, blooming gardens, a fresh coat of paint, and repairs to leaky roofs. I am also thankful for all of you who support HOINA intentionally and consistently with funds and prayers. With your help, the new white utility van is fully paid for with gifts above your normal giving. The vehicle fund continues as the buses, and other work vehicles require replacement in the coming years. The transition of HOINA's Presidency from Mom / Darlene to me is progressing smoothly. The staff and children are showing stronger discipline with a renewed focus on their duties and studies.



From the President  
**Todd Becker**



- As I think of very specific items on campus my mind turns to:
- Bountiful harvests from HOINA gardens and fruit trees yielding fresh organic produce.
  - Strong gardeners caring for the campus grounds and removing old layers from cement roofs to prepare for water proofing.
  - Diligent security watchmen killing poisonous cobra and krait snakes.
  - Resilient kitchen staff working long days feeding 175 staff, children, and visitors in very hot kitchens.
  - Strong management juggling competing priorities and exceptions every single day.
  - Loving house staff caring for each boy and girl.
  - Grace abounding through the 37 new children HOINA admitted this year.

Finally, I am very grateful to the Boards of Directors / Trustees on both sides of the world, providing priceless wisdom and guidance as I work to envision the future of HOINA. What are you most thankful for this year? Drop me a quick note at [tbecker@hoina.org](mailto:tbecker@hoina.org) or the new finance address on page 4. I'd love to hear from you.

## HOINA Sponsor and Contribution Coupon

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use this gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the **Christmas fund**.

I want to **Sponsor** a HOINA boy / girl (circle one).  
Here is my **first** monthly gift of \$35.

Here's my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help fund the **general expenses** of HOINA as we care for the children.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for **Vehicle fund** or where most needed.

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

(please print the name and address of person): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_\_\_

OR please consider donating online at [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org)

All donations are tax deductible.

Mail coupon to: **HOINA**  
**PO Box 7167**  
**Lee's Summit, MO 64064**



November 2023 



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit Org.  
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## GIVING TUESDAY

Mark your calendar for Giving Tuesday 2023, which falls on November 28<sup>th</sup>. This year, donate online at our website [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org). Your gifts will help us continue to rescue abandoned and orphaned children from the villages, streets, and slums surrounding Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, India.



## Save the Date for HOINA Fundraiser

When: **Friday, December 15, 2023**  
Place your order for pickup or delivery any time on Friday, December 15 !

**Available at all Panda Express locations Nationwide**

How: **Online orders only**

Apply code: **918865** in the Fundraiser Code box during online checkout at [www.pandaexpress.com](http://www.pandaexpress.com) or via the App.

Afraid you'll forget? Online orders may be placed as early as December 8!

Tell your friends—HOINA receives 28% of all pre-tax online order amounts!

