



NEWS FROM

**HOINA**

HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

1175-B S. Aspen Ave. Broken Arrow, OK 74012 • [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org) • February 2025

## The Circle of Love

By Glory Janes, HOINA Executive Director

It's February, and of course love is in the air. In today's day the word love is used more often than not to express a mere feeling towards someone.

At HOINA, though, love has become a vast word with many meanings displayed in diverse ways. I want to take this opportunity to inform you of all the different ways love is shared, shown, and given at HOINA. This past Sunday I asked the kids what love meant to them. The littlest one, six-year-old Narendra said, "It's when we let the monkeys eat our coconuts," making everyone laugh. Some of the answers I got were: "Love is caring; love is affection; love is my sponsor; love is Mom [HOINA Founder, Darlene Large]; love is forgiving someone when they do something wrong; love is taking care of unfortunate kids." I must say, those last two responses got to me. We live in times when every phone call ends with "Love you!" making me think if we are becoming too complacent in showing real love. But the way the children at HOINA comprehend love has encouraged me and assured me that all of us as a team (including



House father Shadrach doing what dads do.

you) are doing it right. Yes, love is caring; forgiveness; and second, third, and fourth chances. Mom set this example decades ago, and I am thankful to see that the children still feel the same love. We are thankful to her for setting the path for us to carry on.

We went to the clinic to get Nesh (our special needs kid) checked with the Orthopedist for some pain he was having. Apparently, he has a ligament injury near the knee. Nesh was struggling to remove his sandals. Before I knew it I saw our boys' home housefather Shadrach leaning down to unstrap the boy's sandals. Once again, he stooped to help put them back on for Nesh. What an act of love! If you know of Indian or most Eastern cultures, touching some-



Love is sharing with the monkeys, according to little Narendra.

continued on page 2

## The Circle of Love continued

one's shoes is the lowest one can go, the most humble act you can lower yourself to do. It's also considered beneath one to touch someone's feet, forget the shoes. However, Shadrach was raised by Mom in the 1980's. Of course, he knows exactly how to show tangible love as he experienced it from Mom and the other staff during his childhood. She always taught – Love is an action word!

The other day when the teenage girls were acting up and not doing their chores on time, their housemother Vimala got onto them. Vimala Mummy (as kids address her) is known to be on the stricter side compared to Shadrach Daddy. After their scolding, the girls were sulking. That same evening I was going to the city to buy some chairs for the library, and Vimala came to me to ask if I could bring some ice cream for all the children (teenagers included). Seeing that generosity come from Vimala was surprising to me. I chuckled to myself and thought – Love is forgiving.

When the cooks come on time in spite of having a sick kid at their own home, that's love. When they see Todd Uncle or Glory Akka [sister] leave their U.S. home for months to take care of things at HOINA and guiding the lives of the children in India for so long, that's love. When our children get a letter from their sponsor, that's love; when you spare your time or resources for HOINA, it's love.



Vimala Mummy helping the girls during study time.



Shadrach Daddy having a playful game of 'slap my hand.'

Here are some pictures for you to see and enjoy all the different ways love is shown. For most people February is the month of Love, and Valentine's Day is when love is in the retail markets, in the flower shops, jewelry shops and all over the place. At HOINA, love is in the air every day, every month, every year. Love is in the kitchen when the chefs cook, in the washing room where the dhobi's wash, in the business office where the managers Jani and Srinivas work, in the garden where the flowers and produce are grown, and in the vehicles when the drivers transport the kids. Every staff member is such a crucial part of this circle of love that surrounds our HOINA children.

We offer a big thank you to each of you for sharing your



time and love to the children of HOINA. Some of you are unsung heroes who have been faithfully supporting and volunteering at HOINA with your time, knowledge, and resources for decades. Thank you for showing what love is.

The children of HOINA are praying that your days are filled with love.

Big sister braiding the younger one's hair.





## Remembrances

Thank you to the many donors who chose to give memorial gifts through late December. When requesting a gift to be listed in someone's memory or honor, please include the name and address of the individual or family so we can send them an acknowledgment.

### In Memory of

Priscilla Chaplo	Joy McClain
Kathleen M. Cunningham	Wendy Ann Micale
Dr. B.P. Dey	Susan Nuckols
Nathan Gourley	Sarojini & TV Parthasarathy
Margaret Johnson	Sampath Ranji
Joel and Borghild Langseth	Rose Scala Risola
Bruce Large	Eric Simon
Dirk Large	John Tennis
Pat & Connie Marinetti (2)	

### In Honor of

Vijay K Bhasin	David Nichols
Doug & Glory Janes	Susan Nichols (2)
Darlene Large (6)	Gautam Ranji
Melissa May	Sabita Singh
Ram Naidu	Anne Tennis

## Tax Statement Questions?

By now, you should have your annual giving statement from our HOINA Treasurer, Randy Bentele. If you have any questions, please feel free to email him at [info@hoina.org](mailto:info@hoina.org). Your gifts in 2024 have helped hundreds of children. Thank you for your generosity!

## Fundraiser Results

We offer our gratitude to those of you who either ate at Panda Express for our second annual nationwide online fundraiser on November 22, 2024, or made a donation toward our total. We raised \$1808.31 in one day! Thank you so much for your support!



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.

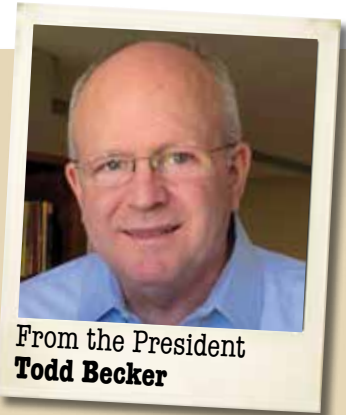
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### Send donations and address changes to:

HOINA  
PO Box 7167  
Lee's Summit, MO 64064 U.S.A.  
Email financial questions to: [info@hoina.org](mailto:info@hoina.org)

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.

## Greetings!



From the President  
**Todd Becker**

I come to you this month with a personal message rather than a HOINA update. My trip to India this year was delayed by a few weeks due to personal circumstances. I left the US to join Glory on campus on January 18. The most significant reason for delaying my trip is that Letti had shoulder surgery in early December. I wanted to stay home to help her through most of her physical therapy. She is healing and progressing very well with her prescribed exercises, and her daily function is improving on schedule. Please remember my wife in your prayers as I will be gone until late March.

I am very excited to share that my daughter is going to India with me for a couple of weeks. I am working hard to minimize my "work" on campus until after she heads home at the end of the month. Traveling abroad is a life-changing experience. Spending time at HOINA is life-changing on steroids. Elsie has a great desire to see the work her Mimi, and now her father are so committed to. Please pray for a safe and transformational trip for Elsie and me.

Lastly, through God's timing we moved Mom from Assisted Living to a Memory Care unit just two days before my departure overseas. While her new (smaller) space is within the same retirement community, this move is still a big adjustment. Please do remember Darlene, Letti, and my family as we work with Mom on this next life transition.

Glory has said it, and I will second it, "Thank you for being part of this ministry and walking with us for all these years!"

## HOINA Sponsor and Contribution Coupon

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


- 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.
- This gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is in **honor / memory** of (please print the name and address of person) (circle one)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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



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

All donations are tax deductible.

February 2025 



**HOINA**  
**PO Box 7167**  
**Lee's Summit, MO 64064**

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## Honoring Bruno Boy



Our so well-loved Bruno passed away in January in an unfortunate accident.

Our India Board Trustee, Mr. Krishna, brought Bruno to HOINA when he was just a month old. For seven years, Bruno has given so much joy and happiness to everyone at HOINA. We will all miss him and his protective and loving nature.

## A New Year. A New Address.

Our HOINA Founder has moved yet again to another section of her retirement community. Her NEW address, effective immediately:

**Darlene Large**  
**500 NW Murray Rd, Apt 3**  
**Lee's Summit MO 64081**

We request that you please don't send her monetary gifts at her new address, and remember to sign your notes with your first and last names.