National – U.S.

Faith-based Charity 'Hope Abides' Reaches Out to India

By LISA TSERING India-West Staff Reporter

Brent Adams wants to help India's underprivileged children find homes, medical care and educational opportunities, and he has created a plan to leverage the best work of India's orphanages with resources from the West.

Adams is the president of Hope Abides, a new faith-based charity that is now evaluating a list of 50 orphanages there to best target the charity's funding and organizational experience. "While the founders of Hope Abides are Christian we know that poverty, hunger and illiteracy are not limited by gender or religion. Accordingly, we help children regardless of their gender or religious background and seek help from all regardless of nationality or faith," reads a statement on the organization's Web site.

Adams, who is based in Elk Grove, Calif., became committed to helping children when he accompanied some Northern Californian doctors on a missionary trip to Guatemala in 2006

"One morning a group of about two dozen Mayans came into the city to get medical treatment from the doctors," he explained in an

One Sutter Street, Ste. 700

e-mail interview. "By the time the afternoon arrived, some of the Mavan children were showing signs of distress - flushed faces and such. At first the doctors thought they might be sick but we quickly discovered the problem was that the children had nothing to drink since they arrived.

"There was a little market next door to our location selling five gallon bottles of water for about \$2. That meant that amongst the approximately two dozen members of that group, they did not have \$2 to buy their kids water.

true poverty, but this time through the eyes of an adult. Needless to say we quickly got the water for them, but that event has replayed itself in

"During this same time frame, my wife and I developed an affection for Bollywood movies and made friends with several Indian Americans through our jobs. Due to all these factors and knowing that India has more orphans than any other country, and that a huge percentage of the population lives on less than \$1.25 a day, and that much of the population speaks English, we decided to focus our efforts on India."

Adams is currently in the fund-

"I was reminded of the face of

my mind many times since then.

to start.

will ask that they

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practices as well

as about govern-

mental and soci-

etal requirements

he told India-West. "In return we

assist struggling orphanages with

funding, operational efficiencies,

government filings, outreach and

other factors," he said.

Law Office of

AN A. SAMSON, J.D., Ph.D.

Brent Adams, founder of Hope Abides, and his wife, Marie-France Adams. The Adamses created the new faith-based charity to address a range of children's needs in India. has been performed by volunteers 3 public charity. It will work priand all overhead has been paid marily around Pune and Amritsar for out of the private funds of the directors or through product dona-"First, we will partner with existtions. The only exception to that ing well-run orphanages in India to has been the filing fees associated fund some of their priority needs," with formation of the charity. Our

> "...Knowing that India has more orphans than any other country, and that a huge percentage of the population lives on less than \$1.25 a day, and that much of the population speaks English, we decided to focus our efforts on India." - Brent Adams

long-term goal is to keep admin

"In order to do that we believe we have to provide for all the needs of a child - food and education and medical care, etc. We think our approach will accomplish that.

"Another reason is that we believe that there can be a benefit by establishing mentorship and

that a little bit of money goes long

way there. \$3 can buy medical

insurance for a month, \$200 can

hire a teacher. Some of our In-

dian friends are now part of Hope

Abides and others have helped us

with networking opportunities and

For more information, or to

donate to the charity online using

PayPal, visit www.hopeabides.org.

information."

interning opportunities between well-run and struggling orphanages in India. We want to explore that possibility.

"It also helps

Former Lecturer: U.C. Berkeley Law School, Visiting Lecturer: Bombay University for operating suc- BUSINESS • BANKRUPTCY cessfully in India." • PERSONAL INJURY During 2011-2012, Adams and his team, which includes in-coun-& AUTO ACCIDENTS try advisers in Pune and Amritsar, Attorney's fee is only 30% for settlement; please will determine the number of compare this fee with that of other attorneys charities they can effectively part-**I**MMIGRATION ner with, and will then "take our Greencard • Political Asylum • H-1 and L-1 Visas lessons learned from the previous Deportation Defense • Labor Certification • Work phase and use that knowledge to

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costs between 5 and 10 percent," he said. India-West asked why Adams

wanted to go through the effort of creating a new charity when there were already several top-notch organizations doing work in the country, such as CRY, Asha for Education and Akshaya Patra.

"One reason is that we want the children to become independent,

> **Dhillon Elected Chair of San** Francisco Republican Party

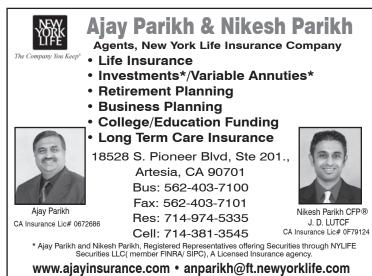
[Cont. from page A2] who unsuccessfully ran for state Assembly in 2008, against popular Democrat Tom Ammiano.

In an earlier story (I-W, Dec. 3), outgoing Republican party chair Howard Epstein noted Dhillon's competence and her no-nonsense

approach to politics. Dhillon founded the San Francisco, Calif.-based Dhillon and Smith in 2006, and specializes in business disputes, civil rights, election and campaign law, intel-

lectual property, and water and

land usage issues.





ing stage, and has gotten Hope "To date all administrative work productive adults," he explained. Abides certified as an IRS 501(c)