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Hope & Help for Orphans in India

Aug 2021

Our partner orphanage, Aum Pranava Ashram in Tamil Nadu

New Admissions

Esakkiammal and her little sister Muthu-lakshmi (photo right) are orphans who have lost their parents within the short time of three months successively. Due to poverty, their aunt brought the children to us. When the sisters realized that their aunt took them to our Children's Home, they were shocked because they thought that Hostels were terrible places. They were a little difficult to integrate into the children's community.

Their faces remained without a smile, and they did not want to speak to anybody. However, they turned out to be very funny and active very soon! Their hearts softened because of the child-friendly, welcoming atmosphere, which offers the children warmth and a sense of home. And one day, suddenly, the world was fair again, everything was fine.

The photos on the right side show the happiness on their faces!

<u>Hope Abides</u> is a U.S. based organization whose mission is to provide help and hope to orphaned and destitute children in India. We help children regardless of their gender, caste or religious background and seek participation from all.





MUTHULAKSMI

ESAKKIAMMAL

Muthulakshmi is still very young and likes Studies. Esakkiammal is a little bit struggling since she had not been sent regularly to school before. She is ten years old now and was admitted into the 6th standard. It's a big challenge for her, but we are confident that - with the help of tutors - she can pick up and slowly assimilate all the knowledge from the previous classes.

Community Service

We have continued our community service activities, albeit without personal contact. It was possible due to some of the family members having bank accounts (which was very uncommon even a few years ago). Government services have urged ALL people to have personal identity cards (called Aadhar here in India) and bank accounts with Government Banks to receive public service benefits and private support, like ours. However, many people continued to come



A group of beneficiaries

personally to us to ask for help.

The picture shows one group of people (with Visvanathan standing behind them) who can frequently be seen begging on the streets or selling their handmade ethnic fancy items. In the district of Tenkasi, there are between 300 to 400 families/clans of these socially/ ethnically distinct groups of people (photo left at the bottom). Another +/- one thousand low-income families from various other socially/ ethnically specific groups live in and around Tenkasi district headquarters. Some of the families are on our list of monthly financial help. Even though our contributions are like a drop of water on the proverbial hot stone, we continue to support them in whatever way possible. Their lives are full of hardships. It is imperative to help those who suffer most, especially during this pandemic when the streets were almost empty! On seeing the ashram community service activities, some of our friends get inspired and active themselves, leading to fruitful co-operations. An example to illustrate this: Mr

Mohan, a good friend and long-time well-wisher of the Aum Pranava Ashram, likes to distribute food to poor people on the street. We support his initiative by cooking the food in our kitchen, packing it in easily hand-out parcels, which will then be given to people in need by Mr Mohan and Mr Karthikeyan.

And from our soon-to-be Doctor

Hello Hope Abides Family,

Hope you all are doing well and good. I'm fine here. I'm happy to share that our research got published.

Assessing The Risk of Psychological and Cognitive Disturbances in Type II Diabetes Mellitus Patients Published June 30, 2021.

Here's the link of the journal

Thanking you,

M. Saritha.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please click <u>here</u>.

Questions? Comments? E-mail us at <u>info@hopeabides.org</u> or call 1 916 690-4289 (US)