



Dear Friends,

Greetings to all in Jesus' name. It has been yet another great quarter filled with God's goodness and love. As we learn phases of parenting step by step, we have been experiencing mixed emotions as some of the older children leave to pursue their education. They are all doing well and are still in touch with us, and some of those living not too far away are able to attend church with us every Sunday. As some of the older children depart, we welcome the new ones who instantly become our family.

We have now moved to the children's home and live with the children 24/7. It has been a big move for us and we absolutely love it. The children are also very happy and we are able to connect with each one even more. It is a totally different atmosphere here...our own Disneyworld!

Our recent trip to the US has been great. The best part of what we do is meeting the incredible people who God keeps adding to the bigger family of COF. The love, encouragement and support that we receive from our friends, sponsors and supporters is priceless. Our hearts are fully grateful to God for each person he has placed in our lives along this journey. As we celebrate 12 years of ministry, our heart rejoices as we look back at how God has led us this far and are even more excited about what he has in store for us going forward.

Blessings,

Rosie and Anand

COF SCHOOL UPDATE

We wrapped up the school year with ALL the children passing their respective grades. It has been our best academic year so far. The improvement in all subjects is very vivid. The children's English speaking skills also are steadily improving. The 10th graders have done an outstanding job. They have all received high scores in their exams. The junior college

students have also done very well. Kinnera will be our first student heading on to nursing school and we are very thrilled.

NEW SCHOOL UNIFORMS

The students started the new school year with brand new uniforms. The kids couldn't sleep the night before receiving them because of their excitement.



STUDENTS EXPLORE ART

Miriam Rose Platts from the UK is here at COF. Miriam graduated from Bath School of Art and Design in Fine Art and will be studying for a MA in Art Psychotherapy at The University of South Wales starting this September.

Miriam says, "It's has been an honor and blessing to be the children's first Art teacher. In my first week I have been able to introduce them to different drawing techniques, painting and collage. The children are very focused on their work in class and

are producing beautiful pieces. I hope the children will continue pursuing their creativity after I leave in September. I believe that skills gained through Art practice such as patience, creative thinking and problem solving will be transferable and help them progress in their other studies."



SMILE

During Rosie and Anand's recent visit to the SF Bay Area, they consulted with Dr. Paul Kim, the Assistant Dean and CTO of Stanford's School of Education, about the Stanford Mobile Inquiry-based Learning Environment (SMILE) technology. SMILE is designed to help students of all ages in developing countries engage in logical inquiry, exercise reflective critical thinking, appraise evidence, and solve problems.

Dr. Kim plans to send a volunteer graduate student to COF in November or January to teach teachers and children on the use of SMILE. This partnership with Stanford will be extremely beneficial for the children.

This is just one way Anand and Rosie are working to produce a top-quality learning environment for the COF kids.



HOPE ACADEMY UPDATE

Great news! The purchase of the 5 acres plus of property for Hope Academy has been finalized. EMI (Engineering Ministries Intl.) is sending their design team in September to begin creation of a master site plan and detailed design for the first phase of construction. With the property purchase complete, fundraising for the buildings is now underway.

Interested in learning more about Hope Academy? <http://www.hopeacademyvizag.org/about.html>.

Because you are COF supporters, we want to keep you up to date on this exciting project. Financially, however, we want to urge supporters to make their first priority the sustainability of the Children's Home.

CHANGING LIVES – SURESH PAUL



Can kids get any cuter? Suresh Paul is the newest addition of our family. He is 5 years old and comes from a very poor family. He instantly won our hearts with his sweet smile and personality. He is very excited to be here and LOVES the swings and slides that he has never seen before. He is the youngest of all the children and is very loved. One of his favorite things to do is sing. If asked to sing whenever and wherever he just does it. Can't get enough of him. Each child who steps into COF is chosen by God, and we are so happy that Suresh Paul is part of COF family now.

PRAISES

- The students all performed well in exams.
- Kinnera getting accepted to nursing school.
- We will be getting washing machines soon.
- Purchasing the land for Hope Academy.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for the team from EMI that will be visiting in a few weeks to design the Hope Academy.
- Pray for the construction of the third floor of the boys' dorm that will start in October.
- Pray as we need additional staff.

We now have a prayer wall and we encourage you to send us your prayer requests, as the young prayer warriors here would love to pray for you.



CRICKET FUN

The boys participated in their first cricket tournament held in Vizag. They were the youngest of 24 teams. In their first match, by the luck of the draw, they played Anand and the adult team from the church. They put up a valiant effort but lost. They displayed great teamwork and strategy, and played very well. The boys say it was a dream playing on a professional cricket field. Sarat, who is studying in 10th grade now, performed brilliantly and his batting and fielding was noticed by many players who want him to play for their team. Overall it was a great fun and good exposure for our boys.



A RECENT VISITOR'S STORY

One of our supporters and child sponsors, Jon Lee, visited COF for the first-time in early July "on his way" to China, and he shares about his experience.

India is only a little ways further than China, or so I thought. Turns out that Vizag is quite a bit further but it was definitely worth going the extra miles! My motivation was to see firsthand what was happening at COF, to meet my sponsored child James, and to visit the future site of Hope Academy.

On my first day, I watched as the boys returned to their dorm after school and met and talked with many of them. Soon a commotion arose in the field and I saw a huge snake tail with many boys with sticks in hand ready for battle. I ran to take a picture but the snake escaped into the bushes with the boys chasing it. The boys taught me how to play cricket and I could see how James really loved playing nonstop until dinner.

The next day, I met with grades 6-10 classes and had fun introducing them to many American holidays and celebrations. They told me about many of their favorite Indian holidays. We had a great time sharing in small groups about their future career hopes. I learned just how much many of their sponsors meant to them.

On the final day, I visited the Hope Academy site with James and envisioned what God was going to do in the near future there. Then a final visit with all of the kids, sharing a devotion and singing together with body motions to "Come along with me to my Father's house."

What can possibly come out of a short 3 day visit? For someone like me who has known about COF for many years, the faces, personalities, and hopes of the children become etched in my mind. Come and see and discover the work that God is so actively doing there. I'm so glad I was able to experience COF, if just for a couple of days, imagine what you will discover in a longer stay!



YOUTHFUL VISITORS RETURN

Also in July, Maddie O'Shea and Haley Lewis paid a return visit to COF with Maddie's dad Brian. Maddie and Haley had visited two years prior as part of a youth mission trip. They share some highlights:

Haley – *In our 2 weeks at COF, Maddie and I did a lot of different things with the kids. We helped them all write letters to their sponsors, taught some English classes, led devotions, and took nice portraits of each child. We also gave each kid a new shirt and gave out gifts we had been collecting/buying for a while. We even watched Shrek one night, which the kids loved.*



One of my favorite activities we did was a "mini Olympics". We assigned teams and team colors. The kids all lent each other clothing and managed to wear their team color from head to toe. They competed in a water balloon toss, scavenger hunt, water race, and relay race around the boys' dorm. The team colors came together better than I could have imagined - they looked like one big rainbow and had huge smiles on their faces. It was wonderful to see them all happy and enthusiastic to play and have some healthy competition!

Of all the things we did on this trip, my favorite part was just sitting with the kids each day, talking, laughing, eating, and enjoying each other's company. Maddie and I were so eager to go back to COF after our first trip there with our youth group 2 years ago - this trip was truly an answered prayer. I am so grateful each day to have the kids at COF in my life.

Maddie – One way that Haley Lewis and I worked well on this trip is that we divided and conquered. She naturally gravitates toward the boys, and I the girls. However, we have such love for all of the kids that we have made it our personal goals to know each by their name, their birthday, their personal aspirations and as much of their back stories as possible. God, through COF, has taught me such important lessons about the surprisingly thin cultural barriers between myself and my siblings in India.



I always joke to my family that my greatest dream is to fly the older girls out to Orinda for a giant sleepover at our now empty house. They would get AC, American food, their own bed and a shopping trip. The COF students are so full of promise. They are trilingual, studious, compassionate, excited for the future and love each other unconditionally and joyously.

Rosie and Anand are without a doubt the most inspiring people I've met in my life. They treat us like royals when we stay at COF. They are open, communicative, honest, caring and kind. They are fabulous and generous. They don't know it, but they have helped me renew my previously shaky faith. They've inspired my career path. They've given me a passion at 19 years old, and in doing so have widened my world view. I can confidently say for the past two years that COF has been the best part of my young adult life, and has introduced me to some of the best people God has ever put in my path.

A BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER



Melinda McClure tells about her recent birthday celebration:

Almost three years ago (when diagnosed with stage 4 cancer), I wasn't sure I would live to see my recent "milestone" birthday. But through many prayers by the COF children and God's grace, I was able to celebrate it with friends. Attendees made contributions to COF in my honor. What a wonderful way to commemorate my special day, and over \$2,000 dollars were raised.

WCPC FUNDRAISER

A fundraiser and celebration dinner was held at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church on July 29. Over a hundred people gathered to eat, hear stories from Rosie, Anand and recent visitors, learn more about the students' education and Hope Academy, participate in learning a song in Telugu and Indian dancing, and help raise funds for several worthy projects. Approximately \$21,000 was raised to purchase some land adjacent to the Boys' dorm needed for additional bathroom facilities, provide an improved shower system, create a computer lab, and purchase four washing machines. Additionally, several new educational sponsorship commitments were received.



To make a monetary donation, please make your check payable to "Children of Faith Missions" and mail it to "Children of Faith Missions, P.O. Box 3453, Walnut Creek, CA, 94598." You can also donate online at www.childrenoffaithmissions.org Our email address is: rosie.anand@gmail.com.