



World Family Foundation

Our mission is to provide a safe place where needy children of the world can learn and grow in a loving environment.

MARCH 2008

Dear Friends and Sponsors of World Family Foundation,

THE SWITCH

It is with a smile that I report that most of you were able to make the “switch” in mailing your donations to the new WFF mailing address:

P.O. Box 351
Ojai, CA. 93024

We apologize to those of you who had to contact your bank and notify them of this change to your automatic withdrawal. It will also not be long before we notify you of another change: a new website. The Board of Directors is actively moving the foundation into the 21st century.

SRI LANKA

We concluded 2007 with a commitment to a small project in Sri Lanka. We will be supporting three teenage girls with their education and continued stay in an orphanage in Kandy, Sri Lanka. Their home in this hill station is run by a group of doctors. The stories of these girls, abandoned by their families, are very touching. The Board is pleased to be able to help them through generous donations from our sponsors. Funds will be wired on a regular basis to support this project.

DANCING DONATIONS

Over the years we have received some very interesting donations to the foundation. We wish to thank one particular family of sponsors who made a very creative donation last year. They hosted a recital for their daughter who had completed many years of training in Odissi Dance in the L.A. area. As it is a custom for those attending such dance recitals to give a monetary donation, the family

suggested that all checks be made out to World Family Foundation. Thanks again for the support and unexpected publicity!

ENGLISH TUTOR

Beginning this year, all the children at Prashanti School will enjoy the additional educational benefit of having a qualified English conversation tutor coming to the school on a regular basis. After visiting the children, one of our sponsors recognized the advantages these children would have if they strongly applied themselves under the direction of a well spoken English instructor. Elizabeth Burnett and the staff at Prashanti School worked very hard interviewing candidates for the position before finally selecting a young teacher from an English medium school in Puri.

PRASHANTI STUDENTS WRITE

Our children in India continue to express their humble gratitude to sponsors in their own heartfelt words. In October, **Tapan Baliarsingh** wrote, “I have been staying here for the past 8 years. I like Prashanti School very much, more than my own house. I like the study, prayer, discipline, and punctuality of Prashanti School.

All of these are necessary for a good student, so I like Prashanti School very much. I have also learned to play the tabla. I took part in a big tabla competition near Jagannath Temple and got first prize. I also got a prize at the debate competition in my school.” Tapan was able to learn to play the tabla because a few sponsors knew the importance of music as part of a curriculum and donated

musical instruments while others donate money for instructors. Believe it or not, music education, although standard in Western schools, is a luxury for these under-privileged children in Puri. It is only a guess, but Tapan would probably have found it difficult to win any prizes living outside Prashanti School or to even excel at the government school without the six tutors that he and the other children now see regularly. Now in class 7, Tapan wants to be a pilot.

Suresh Sahoo writes us: “I am now 15 and reading in class 10. I like the teaching process of Prashanti School very much. I also like to play cricket. I have lived here for 5 years. The school provides proper education for building character. We learn music, art, yoga, and much more from this school. My father expired when I was 5. He was a farmer. He wanted me to be a mechanic and I have kept this in my mind. I must fulfill it. Everyone tries to become an engineer or doctor, but hardly ever do they try to become a *good man*. So I want to be a good mechanic as well as a good man in the future.”..... (Honestly folks I don't make this up!)

Jagannath Pradham is also in his last year of high school. He met his sponsor in November 2007, and he wrote: “I have been staying here for seven years. The learning of yoga at Prashanti School keeps me healthy and strong. I have learned good behavior from the elders. I have also learned name and fame by acting in dramas which we present on Annual Day at Prashanti School. I will go to my house taking farewell from the teachers and others after one year, and it will be very painful to me. I will never forget Prashanti School in my life. If I become a successful person, I shall come forward to help my younger brothers and sisters. I want to join the Indian Army as a soldier. I like the tri-color flag of India very much. If I die in a war, my life will be fulfilled by the covering of that tri-colored flag over my body.”

Puja Bhoi in class 5 writes: “I like the Indian festivals in my school very much. We decorate the school compound very colorfully on these days. When I came to the school for the first time, I was afraid of so many boys and girls, and I wanted to cry. After two days, I became adjusted to the school hostel. I forget my home when I live here. I have promised to be a doctor in the future and serve the people well. I request you to come here and give me some advice very soon.”

“I have been staying at Prashanti School for the last 8 years,” says **Mamata Sahoo**, class 6. “The food is very fresh and tasty. I like most the service of children and others when I fall ill. As you know, I have been suffering from polio since childhood. If I can be cured, then I want to be a teacher. I remain always wanting your blessings.”

Finally, **Umakanta Behera**, class 7, writes: “I have been staying here for the last 4 years. Previously, I was staying in my village and did not know how to study. I was lucky that I got the chance to read here. I was very weak in my village, but now I feel stronger than that. I want to be a policeman to right against the wrongdoers.”

I hope that you have enjoyed reading the brilliant thoughts of these young people. As you can tell they are indeed grateful for their opportunity to live at Prashanti School. They are also keenly aware that their opportunity is directly linked to their sponsors and other people who donate money to World Family Foundation. On behalf of the children, the Board of Directors of WFF once again thanks you for your involvement in their lives. They now have a chance for a brighter future. Hopefully our lives are brighter too!

Ron Hinthier, Treasurer

If you know anyone else wishing to sponsor a child, please contact:

Elizabeth Burnett
805-646-5781



The world is one family

World Family Foundation (USA)
Non-Profit #27-0007430

P: 805-646-7424 • F: 805-640-0365
P.O. Box 351, Ojai, CA 93024

www.worldfamilyfnd.org
mail@worldfamilyfnd.org