



Hand In Hand USA | Newsletter 2015

A non-profit organization for humanitarian aid

December 2015

**Season's
Greetings!**

"Love grows by giving. The love we give away is the only love we keep."

-Elbert Hubbard

Happy Holidays!

We wish you, your family and friends a very happy holiday season! We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity this year. We appreciate your support which has made it possible to continue the humanitarian projects in India and around the world in 2015. This includes the *Balashram*, our residential school for poor and orphaned children, providing loving service for more than a decade.

May your new year be filled with health, happiness, success and peace.

Charitable Health Care Centers

The new Hariharananda Charitable Health Center (HCHC) in Cuttack was inaugurated last year and provides free comprehensive medical treatment to the poor and deprived people in the region. Now, more than 5800 patients are being treated every month at all the clinics combined and an additional 2400 patients receive care monthly at mobile health camps in rural villages and urban slums. New physiotherapy equipment, eye care equipment, computers and healthcare software, and office furniture are needed to maintain and improve services.



Poor rural villagers come to dispensary for free medicines

Remembering Dr. Rani Chintam

It is with deep sadness and sense of loss that we report the passing of Dr. Rani Chintam on August 17, 2015. She bravely battled illness and cancer until the end, but her spirit, cheerfulness, faith and humor never diminished.



Dr. Rani Chintam was a sincere volunteer and leader for HIH USA

Dr. Rani Chintam was a gastroenterologist in Illinois and a staunch pillar of Hand In Hand USA. She was a kind and loving health care professional, philanthropist, mother, friend and guide who supported the humanitarian mission of Hand In Hand USA in every possible way. She loved the children of the Balashram. She would rally many people to the annual Chicago fundraising dinner and address them on behalf of the children, the poor and medically underserved.

With heartfelt appreciation and gratitude, we take this opportunity to celebrate her life and service. We also extend our continued condolences, thoughts and prayers to her loving family – husband Dr. Subba Reddy, daughter Veena and son Vishnu. Rani means "Queen." Let us honor her royal legacy of charity with our committed effort to carry forward the good work she championed and encouraged us all to do.

Hariharananda Balashram

Poverty in India is widespread and lack of basic life essentials such as safe drinking water, sanitation, housing, healthcare and food impact the lives of hundreds of millions. For the nearly 30 million orphans and millions more citizens who cannot read, there is little hope for a better life. But, in the state of Odisha, the *Hariharananda Balashram* is helping to fight hunger, homelessness and illiteracy one child at a time. Our residential, charitable school provides a nurturing home, healthy food, quality medical care and outstanding education, ensuring viable futures for society's most vulnerable members.

Each year, the Balashram accepts 40 new nursery age students and this year, will achieve its full capacity of 480 students across 12 grades. The children are rescued from the most dire of circumstances and living conditions and given the special opportunity to experience a better life and brighter future.



Balashram students share their experience each newsletter on Pg. 3

The new health center at the Balashram in Arua is still under construction and needs continued financial support to be completed. Additional utensils and supplies for the hostel, computers for the lab, books and shelves for the library, tools and equipment for vocational training, and furniture for the classrooms are also needed.

Phoenix Chapter

Linda Seligman and other volunteers in Phoenix organized two fundraising concerts this year. The concerts were titled "Dub Kirtan" and featured the talent of local musicians Kacey and Marius with their band "Planet Jam." The events also included an evening of yoga guided by Christy Ma and more music from Dash. Activities and delicious food were enjoyed at Metta Yoga Studio.

Additional funds were raised by selling arts and crafts donated by artist Mary Genser at other Phoenix programs. More than \$2000 was raised for the Balashram at these events and from other donations from local supporters.

Dallas Walkathon

The annual Dallas Walkathon continues to grow, and this year's event was a big success. The family event took place on October 11, 2015 with approximately 150 people participating. Nearly \$10k was raised for HIH USA projects.



Dallas Walkathon participants walk together for charity

Special thanks to Siva Agnoor, the local volunteers and especially the local Dallas children. They worked compassionately for underprivileged children in other parts of the world. They set up a booth at a local grocery store and shared information about the important cause with their local community. The children also sold lemon aid to raise more funds. It is very heartwarming to see the younger generation opening their hearts to the whole world and serving as global citizens.



Dallas children sharing the message, "Walk A Mile - Help A Child!"



Hand In Hand USA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. In the spirit of the season, please consider making an end-of-the-year tax-deductible donation, which will aid our ongoing service projects. The volunteer staff sincerely thanks you for your continued support and so do the children of the Balashram!

In Their Own Words...

A special message from a child of the Balashram to our Hand In Hand USA community

This school is not only to make engineers, doctors and rich persons but to make the students virtuous, experienced, and above all endowed with humanity. Balashram is to beautify the garden of the society with its little significant blossoms. Thus, in my opinion Balashram is just like a human-making factory.



I am feeling good at Balashram. I have been living here more than ten years. Balashram provides nice facilities to the children. There are hostels and quarters for students and other office and teaching staffs to dwell in. The hostels are constructed well. All are living happily. The school assembly is also developing very much with the inclusion of many co-curriculum activities. It's proving that we are growing better and our futures are bright. Food given here is nutritious. The education system is very well. Balashram provides mental, physical, vocational and spiritual education. It has facilitated the student with various study materials. There are science and math labs for better knowledge. Computer education is available for the students. Teach next digital classes are there to expand the knowledge of the students. Physical education is also provided to the students for a good health. Games and sports facilities are also given. Students are developing in these fields of material development. For the spiritual development of a child, value education classes are provided. To cope with this society this education is a necessity.

Balashram has a significant impact on all of us. The surrounding is divine. And at last I bow to Guruji and invoke his divine presence.

Deepak Kumar Sa, Class-IX

HAND IN HAND USA

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It is a time of reflection and remembrance of both our blessings and those in need. We hope you will consider making an end-of-the-year tax deductible donation, which will directly support our school and charitable health centers and our ability to provide relief to natural disaster victims. Thank you for your continued support!!! May your holiday season be filled with joy and peace!!!



Help Your Skin Help A Cause

Hales Cosmeceuticals beauty products are used by many well-known dermatologists, plastic surgeons, salons and spas. Each product is backed by over 20 years of experience and is free of animal derivatives. The products are comparable to any well-known brands in terms of effectiveness and results and can be purchased at a truly low price with all proceeds benefitting HIH USA.

For product inquiries and purchase please email hihcosmetics@gmail.com or call 630-882-0247. Cosmetics can also be purchased at products.handinhandusa.org.

Gift Matching Program

We take this opportunity to remind all our patrons that Motorola Inc., General Electric, Bank of America, AMD Foundation, JP Morgan Chase, Microsoft, Yahoo, VMWare, Wells Fargo and Verizon are matching dollar-to-dollar donations made to our organization. We encourage all our patrons to check with their respective employers/organizations and let us know what, if any, paperwork is required to add Hand in Hand USA to gift matching programs.

Goodsearch.com

Hand in Hand USA has registered with Goodsearch.com so that every time you perform a web search using their search engine HIH will receive a penny. Go to goodsearch.com and select Hand in Hand USA as your cause. Bookmark **goodsearch.com** and start using it for all your web searches.

Getting Involved

Hand In Hand USA requests and encourages it's patrons to organize fund raising events such as dinners/walkathons. Please contact Hand In Hand USA for volunteer opportunities.

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