

Dear Friends of Operation Shanti,

It's been a year since we opened our shelter, Karunya Mane. We are quite pleased with the progress of our kids living there, as well as how our newest effort, Project Food and More, has been received. We're also starting an annual list of Operation Shanti Extraordinary Peace Makers, recognizing five supporters who go above and beyond the call of duty. And, for our donors in India, see the news on our recent listing on GiveIndia.org. As always, see our website (www.operation-shanti.org) and blog (operationshanti.blogspot.com) for more on our work. And, thank you for your continued support.

Karunya Mane: One Year Later

Karunya Mane, our shelter, now houses **38** kids, one adult, and three full-time staff members. The thirty kids who started school this year finished up the year at the end of March, and we are quite happy to report that they all did very well. Most received final grades of As or Bs, and what was most inspiring was the improvement in their study habits and desire to learn.

During the summer break (April/May), the kids remain at Karunya Mane, where they are engaged in a variety of activities. They continue with karate lessons and daily tutoring sessions, and are learning a few helpful hints in the kitchen from our cook and volunteers. And, one of our after-school teachers is engaging the older kids in chess and dance.

Many visitors and volunteers to Karunya Mane commented on how clean and well-behaved our kids are, especially after learning that they are all from the streets or horrible slum conditions. If you are in Mysore, please give us a call to schedule a visit to meet our kids! And for frequent updates on what's going on the kids at KM, keep an eye on our [blog](#).



Project Food and More

We now have **30** kids in our Project Food and More program, which distributes **monthly care packages** to destitute kids and their guardians. Our newest additions include Sagar and Sindhu, who lost their dad to HIV/AIDS eight years ago. They live with their mom and the three are alone, as their extended family refuses to acknowledge their existence. Also new to the program are Ravivarma, age seven, who lost his dad to HIV/AIDS and who stays with his mom in their uncle's house for free. Mom cleans houses and earns 1,000 (US\$22) rupees a month.

The 2009 Operation Shanti Extraordinary Peace Makers

Over the past few years, several individuals have contributed to our efforts above and beyond, in several ways. They spread the word about our work and contribute goodies and love in meaningful, creative, and touching ways that require time, effort, and thought on their part. As a way of recognizing these individuals—even though they do what they do not for recognition but because they want to—we are announcing the 2009 Operation Shanti Extraordinary Peace Makers.

Since this is our first year of special acknowledgment for our Extraordinary Peace Makers, instead of only five, we included seven... here they are:

Infosys Volunteers

A consistent presence in the lives of our kids. Helping them become active, good citizens in their society.



Tom Poplawski and Tamara Reasin

Numerous fundraisers. Endless meals and snacks for our kids, who love their whole grain, healthy, low-sugar, vegan cookies!



Mr. Joseph

Santa Claus for so many kids... And so many presents each year!



...more —>

The 2009 Operation Shanti Extraordinary Peace Makers (cont'd)

Dr. Ben Kim



Fabulous fundraising. Ongoing publicity.

Anuradha Ganesh



Consistent support. Sizeable donations of food and support staff for fundraising events. Thoughtful guidance and support... endless contributions and impact on our programs.

Matthew Ryan



Fundraisers.
Events.
Recruiting musical talent.
Articles and publicity.
Friend to the kids.
And more.

Tracy and Ray Cox



Shoes.
Arts and crafts supplies.
Taking collections.
And carrying it all to India
for our kids.
Wow.

You Can Still Sponsor a Kid!

For just over \$1.00 per day, payable at \$400 (Rs.17,000) per year or \$33.33 (Rs.1400) per month for 12 months, you can sponsor one of our Karunya Mane kids. Your sponsorship pays for their stay at KM, including food, clothing, and education and medical needs. Click here to:

Sponsor a Karunya Mane Kid!

In return, you receive a report on your child, and if you are in Mysore, it's always fun to meet him or her. Some of our sponsors have done this and really enjoy the personal touch.

Other Ways to Help

- Donate to support the Street People Program, Karunya Mane, and Project Food and More. We want to expand our programs to help even more destitutes, and our kids appreciate your continued support.
- Become an **Operation Shanti Extraordinary Peace Maker**. Support us in ways that interest you: make a donation event out of a luncheon at your house, show a movie, or teach a yoga class. Use **your hobbies** as a way to support our cause, especially during these tough times. Write about us in your blog or on your Facebook page... be creative!



Happy Vishnu!

For \$25.00 (Rs.1200) per month, you can provide a child in our Project Food and More program with a monthly care package. 100% of your funds are distributed through this care package to your child, who has lost a parent, or both, to a debilitating disease. Click here to:

Sponsor a Project Food and More Kid!

Our care packages help these kids maintain good hygiene and a healthy diet, and avoid mosquito bites.

- We are now listed on the GiveIndia.org Web site for charities in India. **GiveIndia** is donation platform for charities doing good work in India. After a rigorous due diligence process to ensure our credibility, GiveIndia has listed us on their site, enabling donors in India to make online and payroll donations to us. To donate online if you live in India, please see our listing on GiveIndia [here](#).
- We are specifically looking for volunteers with experience **teaching English** to kids like ours.
- And, thank you for your continued support.

Make a Difference. Donate Today.

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