

Seeds on the Wind

NEWS FROM BETHANIA KIDS • SPRING 2022

Equipped Anew!

Dear Bethania Kids Family,

We write with deep thankfulness for you and your faithful partnership as we recall the extraordinary events of the past two years. COVID-19 has significantly impacted the lives of our precious children and families in India. But thanks to our gracious God, we were baptized for times like these! We were adopted and commissioned into the mission and ministry of Jesus to be his hands and feet on earth. Now, emerging from the pandemic, we are “equipped anew” as we in North America resume regular life, our children in India are returned to school, their parents are now working, and our Indian staff resumes their exemplary service on behalf of the children, women, and families of Bethania Kids.

Jesus: “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” -John 10:10b

In this Special Issue:

- Read snapshots of some of the **remarkable people who serve** as Jesus’ hands and feet in our four areas of Bethania Kids ministry: residence homes, care centers, special schools, and women’s empowerment programs.
- Follow almost moment-by-moment as the crowd gathers to celebrate the completion of the **new Shalom Home for Girls**.
- Read the inspiring **stories of two young people** who have been nurtured and equipped at Bethania Kids residence homes.
- Learn how a **church congregation in Maryland** partnered with Bethania Kids to equip our children and staff with much needed supplies and support for recovery as the pandemic eases.

Bethania  Kids

Residence Homes

For 35 years, Bethania Kids has provided love and care in our residence homes for orphaned and abandoned children in desperate need. Our alumni are uniform in their appreciation for being rescued from poverty and often despair, enabled to advance their education and skills to become good citizens, to rise above the bonds of poverty, and to raise a family with the love they were shown by Bethania Kids staff and supporters.

As of March 2022, the children are returning to our homes. Some have lost weight and are pale and withdrawn. This is truly a challenge. In response, the leaders of our four homes have met together with Dr. Gnanakan, Kate Teece (President, Board of Directors), and Larry Zimmerman (Chairman, Board of Directors) and agreed that health, education, and emotional and spiritual support will be supplemented. Funds now in place will come from the COVID Relief and Recovery Program. Spirituality is a strength of all our staff, and the love of Jesus is once again being poured into our children.

Grace Home for Girls, Nagercoil, is led by **Selva Saroja**, a counselor by background. Her skills as a nurse/counselor have been most helpful in restoring the returning girls to their safe and secure environment. With a capacity of 40 girls, the home is expected to welcome a growing number as the original group of children are reunited.



Dayavu Home for Boys, Kannivadi, is being capably led by **Joseph and Anusia Murugesan** as the search for a permanent Project-in-Charge continues after the death of Isaac Eduman. We greatly appreciate how they have taken on this role in addition to their work as grounds caretaker and bookkeeper. They have continued the emphasis on elevating the education levels of our boys.



“Every day children are playing games after school and staff are concentrating on the boys’ physical, mental, educational and spiritual development to bring about holistic development.” – Anusia Murugesan



Angel Home for Boys,

Rajahmundry, is led by **Solomon Mungamuri**, who has reported that Angel Home received special dispensation from the Andhra Pradesh Child Welfare Department to keep the boys at the home during the pandemic. The older boys were provided computers to attend college virtually. Tutoring continues to enhance their education. The boys are now emerging from COVID-19, and their future is bright.

“Alumnus J. Anil Kumar supported through Angel Home from 5th to B.S., Engineering successfully completed his education and [is] blessed with a good job in 2021. He is semi-orphan with poor background.”

– Solomon Mungamuri



Excerpt from Anil Kumar's letter of thanks: *“Mr. Solomon... did not leave me alone, he always motivated, communicated, encouraged, supported me in my studies and financial needs.*

Currently I am working as Application Development Associate in Accenture Solutions Private Limited. ...everything is because of our Bethania foundation. Thank you so much... God bless you all.”

Shalom Home for Girls,

Batlagundu, is being led by **Mrs. Ruby Kumar**. For many years, the girls of Shalom Home have lived with transition and change as they moved from one rented space to another. Now, with their newly dedicated permanent home, they will begin to prosper in new ways. The new home can house 48 girls and meets all requirements of the Juvenile Justice Codes for residence homes. Mrs. Kumar and her staff are so glad to at last have ample room sizes and outside spaces for playgrounds and special programs. The lovely dedication ceremony is featured in this publication.



Care Centers

As we ascend the mountain in Tamil Nadu, in South India, we enter Kodaikanal and the eleven Care Centers in the surrounding Palani Hills. Here day care and after-school programs have restarted after two years of COVID-19 closures. Staff have been actively serving the community as our centers were closed and children and families were quarantined. Further north in the state of Odisha, our two Child and Mother Care Centers in rural Cilpajodi and Dholdholi are flourishing. After serving as community centers for food distribution and COVID-19 education, they are nearly back to normal functions.

Kodaikanal

Here is a glimpse of this ministry that allows children to obtain a “head start” in education and learning. Children ages 3-6 attend day care, where they experience the love of Christ while learning early childhood skills. Visitors may see them reciting books and verses of the Bible and the Lord’s Prayer, singing songs of praise, and eagerly sharing their early artwork. Big smiles abound. These are places of joy! They also receive a good meal daily, and many are provided food to take home for the weekend if needed. Our staff knows each child and family and reaches out with support when needed. Our after-school programs allow children to remain at the center until their parents return from work to pick them up. Here older children get help with schoolwork, are fed a meal, and learn Bible stories. Without both day care and after-school care, parents would not be able to work to support their families.

Demand for our Care Centers is great, and we have a waiting list for openings. We have heard stories of expectant mothers asking to register their soon-to-be-born children in our programs. Local schools are keen to have our children as they are well behaved and very advanced educationally. One of the most difficult times each year is when we must select children for the programs.

Meet the amazing leaders serving in our Kodaikanal Care Centers:

Shanthi G

Nathanael Kids Care Center, Day Care

Arockia Selvi Vanitha

Nathanael Kids After-School Care

Elizabeth Jeyanthi

Mabel Care Center, Day Care

Pradeepa V

Mabel Care Center, After-School Care

Daisy Kamala J

Mahanaim Kids Center, Day Care

Josephine Selvan (temporary)

Joshua Kids Center, Day Care

Maria Julie Violet

Joshua Kids Center, After-School Care

Josthi Lakshmi Mangapathy Naida

Deborah Kids Center, Day Care

Josephine Amirtham

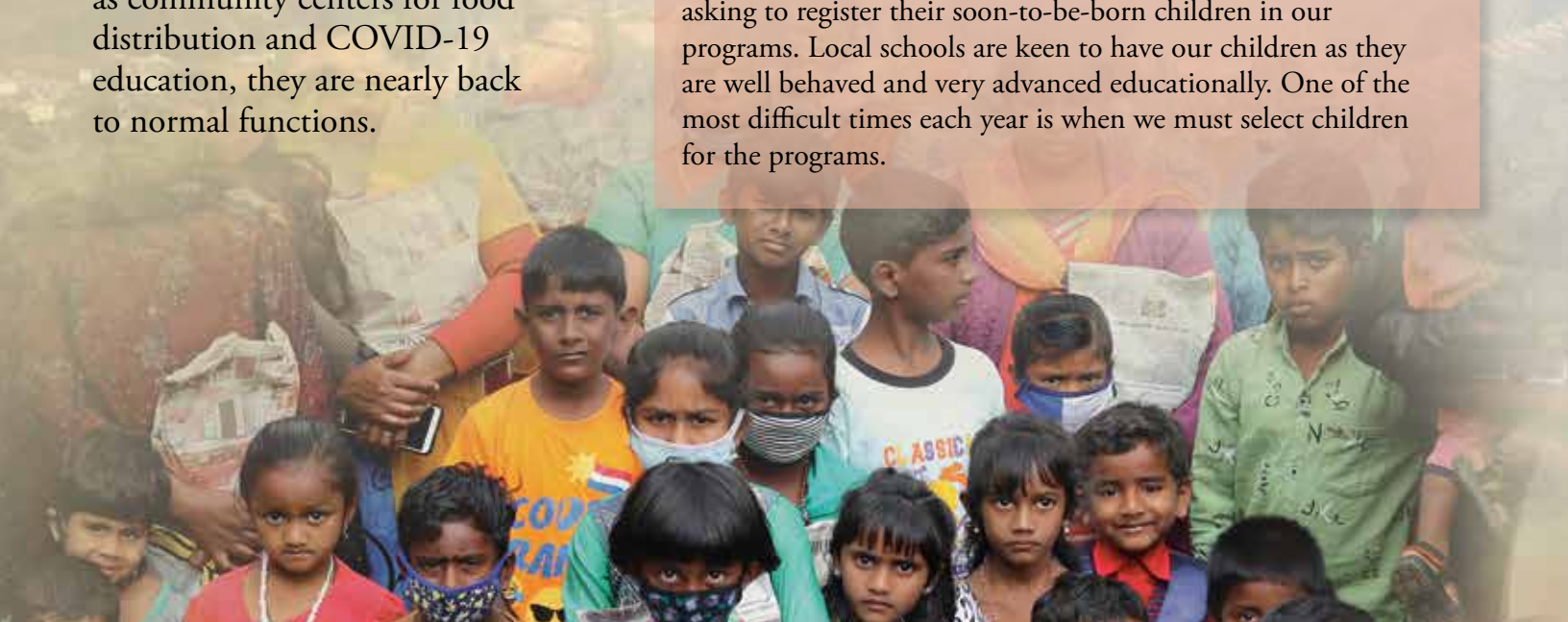
Deborah Kids Center, After-School Care

Sulochana Vasantha Kumari M

Mannavanoor Care Center,
After-School Care

J. Mary Deenal

CSI Center, After-School Care



Cilpajodi and Dholdholi

In 2016, Bethania Kids constructed care centers in these two remote tribal areas, replacing the abandoned churches where we had begun meeting. In these simple buildings, our day care and after-school programs serve as education centers and are led by **Bhagaban Harijan** at Cilpajodi and **Nabin Saunta** at Dholdholi. Children often travel several miles to get here. We delivered bicycles two years ago, which has helped many with the journey to a better life. Most impressive are the community responses.

Bethania Kids Care Center staff across all locations lift the lives of so many children and add to the community life and culture in countless positive ways. We are indebted to each of them for their sacrificial service.

"We start every activity with Prayer. Worship service is conducted on Sunday and all our Children attend the church. Some children are from Christian families, and some are from Hindu families. Both Christian and non-Christian children are interested in praying, singing, dancing, and memorizing verse from Bible. Praise God for the enthusiasm implanted in their hearts."

— Nabin Saunta, Project-in-Charge, Dholdholi



Women's Empowerment Programs (WEP)

We stand in awe of the women who lead our WEPs. With a full curriculum and a certified program, they train women in tailoring, embroidery, and sewing. This work enables women to seek refuge, share with their peers, and experience the love of Christ while learning a marketable skill. The certification prepares participants for work in nearby textile jobs. Providing household income raises the status of poor women within their families, and they gain the satisfaction of providing a better life for their children.

Bethania Kids has founded two new WEPs over the past five years with the addition of the Annapoorani Tailoring and Embroidery Center (ATEC) in Kannivadi and a new program at the Cilpajodi Center in Odisha. These newest additions are truly inspirational.

The ATEC was funded by a grant from Rajesh Subramaniam and the Olejniczak family in memory of their mothers and has blossomed under the expert tutelage of professional seamstress **Sugirtha Jancy Rani**.

Sugirtha's development of this program has improved all our WEP

programs. Recently, the center was moved to downtown Kannivadi, where 20 women now participate in a storefront with visibility to the community.

Champa Handal and **Sushila Sagaria**, wives of Bethania Staff members in Odisha, trained for six months so that they could begin leading our Cilpajodi program, which is being received with great enthusiasm.

And a final bit of WEP news: the Poombarai WEP has moved to a new location at Mannavanoor, where rent-free facilities have been provided by Mr. David Gnanaiah, a member of St. Peter's Church in Kodaikanal. The relocated facilities opened on February 21, 2022.



"My husband is working as a laborer. We do not have enough income. I am looking after my children from home. I have a desire to learn tailoring but in my family situation I was not able to pay. It has been very helpful for me to come to tailoring class after hearing that free training is being offered... I am very happy. The income from my husband's work and my self-employment... will improve our children condition giving them better education. I would also like to thank Bethania Foundation for giving me and other women like me this opportunity."

– Menaga, WEP Participant



Meet the leaders of our Women's Empowerment Programs:

Shanthi Santhiyaku

Mahanaim Center

Charlet Selvi B

Mabel Center

Jayachandra R

Mannavanoor Center

Champa Hantal

Dholdholi Center

Sushila Sagaria

Cilpajodi Center

Sugirtha Jancy Rani

Annapoorani (ATEC)



Special Schools

Our special schools bring tears of hope and joy for the children who are differently abled and challenged. Often neglected due to their physical challenges, these children are loved and cared for by Bethania Kids staff and share the joy of life with each other. Poombarai and the Church of South India (CSI) Rehabilitation Center in Kodaikanal have been favorite programs of our visitors.



At Poombarai, we have operated a special school in a rented facility under the leadership of **Murugeswari Rajendran**. This program is going through change required by the Indian government, which has decreed that the care of special children is the government's responsibility. In 2021 they required us to have doctor-level physiologists on staff full time and indicated that our present facilities do not have suitable access. As a result, we undertook a new type of program — community-based intervention — in which we continue to visit our special needs children in their homes, advocating for them and providing medical and physiological assistance.



Meet **Bobby Abraham Zechariah**, who oversees the CSI Rehabilitation Center. Bobby is an electrical engineer who changed professions and dedicates his life to the care of children with special needs. During the time of widespread polio, the center was the regional prosthesis-fitting facility for polio and other needs. The CSI Rehabilitation Center has a live-in residence for specially challenged people, operates a school for challenged children, and has a vocational training and job center.

In Conclusion

With uncommon unity, Dr. Gnanakan (CEO of Bethania Foundation, India), our Board of Trustees in India, our Board of Directors in North America, and the staff of Bethania Kids in India have bridged many challenges. We adapted quickly to changes beyond our control. This could not have been accomplished without the tremendous outpouring of your concern, donations, and caring. You have indeed helped us in this critical time “to nurture and equip the children of India to change their world through Jesus’ love.”

In His service,

Larry Zimmerman
Chairman

Kate Hennig Teece
President



Welcome to Your New Home!

The Shalom Home Dedication

It has been a long journey for the girls at Shalom Home from desperate need to dream come true. During the past 16 years, Shalom Home had no permanent residence but rented seven different facilities in Kodaikanal, where the 30 girls slept on floor mats in a common room every night, rolling up their mats each morning to store them in cubby holes. After many prayers and a wide search by the Bethania Kids staff and Board of Trustees in India, they were led by the Lord to property outside the town of Batlagundu, near the base of the mountain leading up to Kodaikanal and close to Dayavu Home for Boys. The Comprehensive Campaign that Larry Zimmerman (Chairman, Bethania Kids Board of Directors) launched in 2015 to appeal for funding from our supporters in North America yielded a truly astonishing and generous donor response. After two years of building during the COVID-19 pandemic, the project was completed at the beginning of this year, and the dedication of the new Shalom Home was scheduled for January 20, 2022. Shalom Home Project-in-Charge Ruby Kumar and

Bethania Kids staff members Josephine Selvan and Lilly Priya coordinated the dedication activities with Dr. James Gnanakan (CEO of Bethania Foundation, India) and Trustees Ms. Dency Michael and Mr. Samuel Paulraj.

The day before the dedication, 12 of the girls visited the gated compound where they would soon be living. They were filled with delight as they stood on the veranda waiting for the tour and were even more entranced as they then entered the beautiful doors to see the inner courtyard, their spacious bedrooms, and finally the flat roof, where they could view the hills where they used to live. When they went outside the house, they were led to the new white bus, which would transport them to school. Board of Trustees member Mr. Paulraj said a blessing and handed over the keys to Mrs. Kumar.

On the morning of the dedication, a large crowd gathered outside the new Shalom Home, where they were warmly welcomed to the dedication

ceremony by Ms. Dency Michael. After an opening prayer by a local pastor and an opening hymn sung by the Shalom Home girls, four of the girls helped to cut the yellow ribbon to make the opening official.

Dr. Gnanakan next unveiled the dedication plaque between the doors and spoke a few words. An emotional moment came when Dr. Gnanakan handed a large wooden key representing the key to Shalom Home to Mrs. Kumar, as the project-in-charge and chief caretaker of the 48 girls who would soon be living there. Two plaques listing the names of over 400 donors for the

building and its furnishings were unveiled by Mr. Ashwin Fernandes of Kodaikanal International School and Mr. Sakthivel of the Dindigul District Child Protection Office.

Attendees were then led into the inner courtyard of the house, which had been transformed into a presentation space with a stage and lovely decorations for the festivities. It was a grand assemblage of people, including Board of Trustees members, local dignitaries and pastors, staff from other Bethania Kids ministries, boys from Dayavu Home and alumni from Shalom Home.





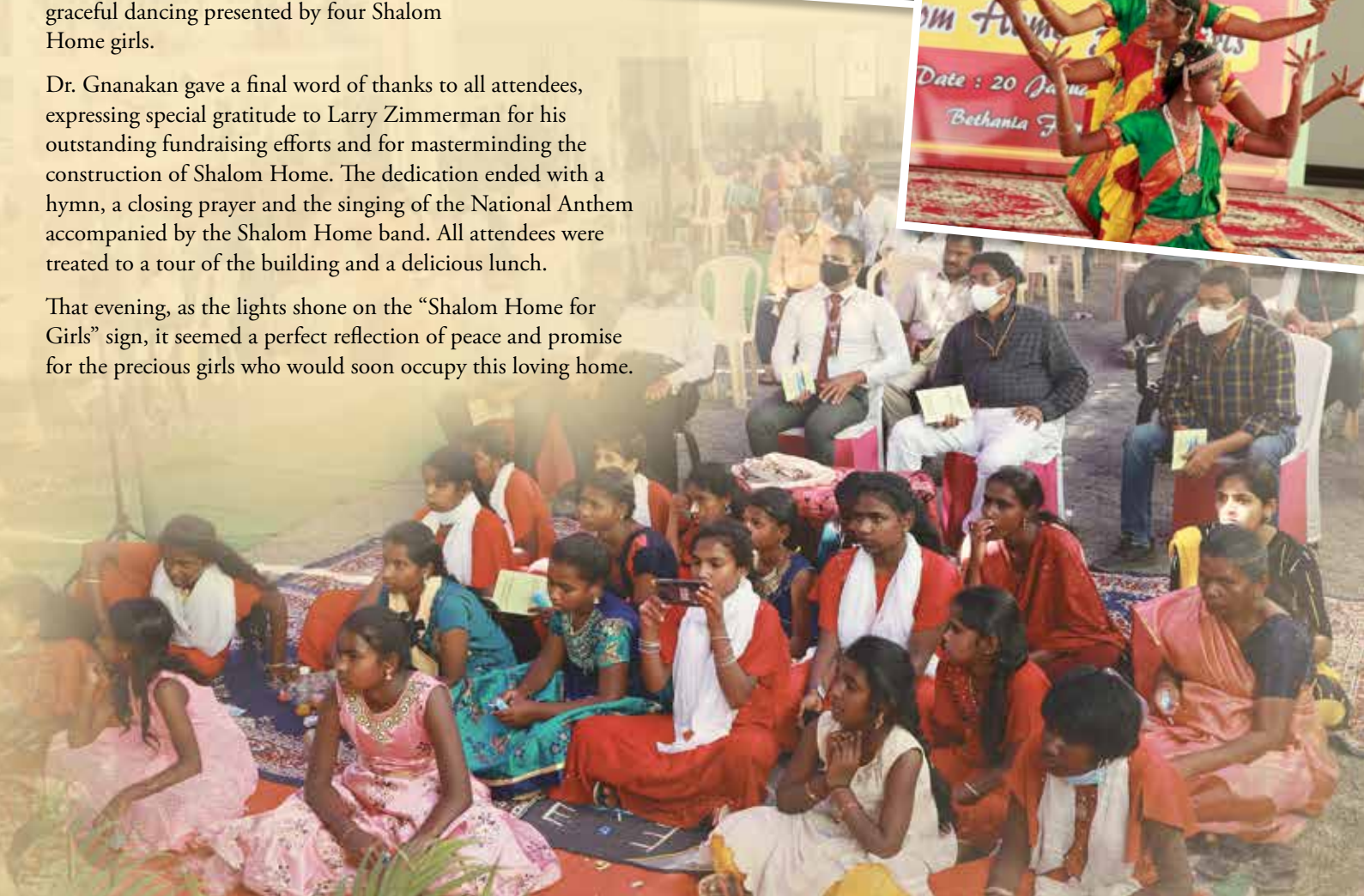
The service began with a call to worship, followed by Scripture readings and a Litany of Thanksgiving, with Shalom Home girls playing an integral role. Larry Zimmerman spoke virtually to the assembly via a large TV screen, passing on loving greetings from the Bethania Kids Family in North America. He also expressed gratitude to God and to the Board of Trustees in India for bringing to fruition the completion of Shalom Home, which would ensure that the lives of many girls would be transformed forever. Kate Teece (President, Bethania Kids Board of Directors) then appeared on the TV to offer words of felicitation.

Several members of the community, including Mr. Fernandes and Rev. Lawrence Jayapalan, spoke to attendees of their appreciation for Bethania Kids, offering congratulations and encouragement. Special recognition was given to Mr. Joseph, the building contractor, and his assistant Mr. Rahul for their remarkable accomplishment of finishing the construction on time despite COVID-19 restrictions.

The crowd next enjoyed reflections from two current Shalom Home girls, a staff member, and a Shalom alumna, followed by lively music from the Shalom Home band and graceful dancing presented by four Shalom Home girls.

Dr. Gnanakan gave a final word of thanks to all attendees, expressing special gratitude to Larry Zimmerman for his outstanding fundraising efforts and for masterminding the construction of Shalom Home. The dedication ended with a hymn, a closing prayer and the singing of the National Anthem accompanied by the Shalom Home band. All attendees were treated to a tour of the building and a delicious lunch.

That evening, as the lights shone on the "Shalom Home for Girls" sign, it seemed a perfect reflection of peace and promise for the precious girls who would soon occupy this loving home.



Nurtured and Equipped

Priya's Story

You may have been charmed by the photograph of the four girls dancing in a perpendicular column at the dedication ceremony. Perhaps you would never suspect that the darling girl second from the top started life from absolute destitution to become an accomplished dancer. Now we want to share Priya's story so that many of you, our supporters, can see how you played a large part in this "Cinderella story."

Priya was born in a small mountain village near Kodaikanal. Her father was an elderly man who left the family because her mother had a mental illness. Thrust into abject poverty, Priya and her older sister were at the mercy of impoverished relatives and neighbors to take care of them, which often meant only sporadic meals, tattered clothes and a leaky roof over their heads. Eventually, Priya's older sister was placed in a textile mill to work and live, and Priya lost contact with her. Fortunately, her cousin Roja, an alumna of Shalom Home, helped to arrange for Priya to be accepted at Shalom Home in Kodaikanal when she was seven years old.

In her testimony, Priya states that when she joined Shalom Home, her agonies and suffering came to an abrupt end. Suddenly, she was provided nutritious food, shelter, a warm bed, and an education along with loving care and nurturing, which she had sorely missed as a young child. She also expressed joy at receiving spiritual food and learning about the value of prayer and Bible reading.

For many months during the COVID-19 pandemic, the government prohibited children from staying at our homes, including Shalom Home. Priya's maternal aunt refused to take her into her home, causing Priya to become panic-stricken at the prospect of being sent to a textile mill to live and work, just like her older sister. However, thankfully, Ruby Kumar (the chief caretaker at Shalom Home), who is a widow with a grown son and daughter, accepted Priya into her own home, giving Priya another opportunity to be part of a loving family.

Through the years, Priya has blossomed into a happy teenager who especially appreciates the excellent education she is receiving along with chances to engage in extracurricular activities like playing percussion instruments and dancing. Now in 9th standard at Holy Cross Higher Secondary School in Batlagundu, she is ranked 3rd in her class of 40. She tells us that she is very excited at the prospect of moving into the "fabulous" new Shalom Home soon, expressing heartfelt gratitude to the Lord and to the Bethania Kids supporters who have provided her this golden opportunity for a promising future.



Meera's Story

Did you enjoy viewing the beautiful photos in this issue of *Seeds on the Wind*? Many are the work of a professional photographer in India who is also an alumnus of Bethania Kids!

Meera Syed is an alumnus of Angel Home for Boys in Rajahmundry. His childhood was spent in a pleasant family setting. When his father died unexpectedly, family life was totally disrupted. Eventually Meera was placed in the care of his grandparents. At the recommendation of a 7th grade teacher, his grandfather enrolled Meera in Angel Home.

Meera remembers Angel Home as a great blessing to him because he made many friends there and it gave him a good start professionally. His education at Angel Home provided the discipline he needed to continue with extended studies. As a result, Meera completed his bachelor's degree, learned Information Technology and settled into a paying job. Soon after that he got married and then went on to start his own local photography business.

Meera is thankful to the leadership of Bethania Kids for giving him opportunities he couldn't have foreseen as a young boy. One of those was his selection to represent Angel Home at a drawing competition at Kannavadi. Meera's eye for design undoubtedly influenced his being asked to serve as an official photographer for Bethania Kids ministries and its children, including the recent dedication of the new Shalom Home for Girls. His shots are sure to provide very special memories for the needy girls who will live there.

In the words of Meera, "Once again, I am thankful to all the Bethania dignitaries." In turn we say "thank you" to all the Bethania Kids donors who have given their time and treasures to bring dignity and promising futures to the lives of young men like Meera Syed!



A Church Comes Together to Rescue and Equip

For the members of the Lutheran Church of St. Andrew (LCSA) in Silver Spring, MD, it was a delightful evening spent sharing a catered dinner and enjoying a concert of music from around the world. For hundreds of Bethania Kids children, staff and families in India, that evening's festivities represented a lifeline, making it possible for them to face the ravages of COVID-19 and its devastating effects equipped with protection, support and hope.

The benefit dinner and concert were part of a COVID Relief and Recovery Campaign held by the LCSA on behalf of Bethania Kids. By every measure it was hugely successful. The \$35,000 raised went directly towards immediate physical needs such as food supply, vaccines, masks, test kits and nutritional supplements. The funds also went towards meeting the urgent need for assessment and counseling for the children as they return to our homes and care centers. Many of our children in our resident homes had been living in emotionally dysfunctional and difficult situations, lacking in adequate food and hygiene. Academically they have all lost out, especially those who did not have computer or internet access.

Bethania Kids strives for partnerships with churches, and the LCSA is one of the many churches that has been a strong partner for many years. From their example we recognize some of the crucial elements that create such a strong partnership. Rev. Mark Hricko, pastor of the

LCSA, says that when someone in his congregation shares that God has moved their heart, he finds that other members of the church listen. Larry and Sue Zimmerman's passion for Bethania Kids is infectious. As Chairman, past-President and member of the board of Bethania Kids, Larry has transformed his passion into commitment. Pastor Hricko has also been familiar with Bethania Kids for over 20 years and feels it is no accident that his congregation gets to support its work. Then there are Al and Evelyn Doermann. Al's parents were missionaries in India. Their son David presently serves on the Bethania Kids board. There are plenty of voices to be heard at the LCSA.

The LCSA staff are enablers for global and local ministries. Staff immediately pitched in with communications, publications, messaging, and plans for the Bethania Kids Sunday, benefit dinner and concert, displays and presentations. Announcements were made several weeks prior to the week of events. The Director of Ministries and Praise Team Leader, Greg Twombly, volunteered his professional musicians to provide a music concert following dinner. The LCSA Global Missions Team got involved with the benefit dinner. Barbara Wahlbrink and Sarita Winter prepared a COVID-19 Relief and Recovery brochure, spelling out the needs and costs. It was aided by a template provided by Bethania Kids design team. Any organization can



insert their own text into this already prepared format. The brochure was then used as a bulletin insert and at displays and presentations to promote the campaign. The QR code on the brochure was used extensively so people could contribute from their phones.

The support that partnerships with churches like the LCSA provide to the Bethania Kids family in India is life changing. But partnerships require a mutuality of benefits to work; so how do the church and the individual members of a church benefit from supporting ministries like Bethania Kids? Pastor Hricko did not hesitate in his answer to that question. He said, "It connects us with God's work beyond the walls of our own church." Bethania Kids has become part of their global extended family and part of the congregation's DNA.

Any church, organization or individual interested in creating a deeper partnership with Bethania Kids is encouraged to contact Wendy Oesterling, Director of Development, (800-993-5179 or wendy@bethaniakids.org) for a treasure trove of available resources for presentations, communications, and effective ideas.

It takes time to introduce the full spectrum of programs and projects to a congregation, creating the building blocks for engagement by donors and supporters. The major points to convey consistently and over time are as follows:

- Bethania Kids is a Christian organization, and the children are receiving the love of Christ as their lives are uplifted and hope is given to them.
- For the orphans and disadvantaged, this is truly a lifesaving enterprise. We are elevating and giving hope to children who now flourish.
- Education is at the core of their future success.
- Our staff share Christ's love for the children. They are surrounded by love; they are safe and secure; they are supported physically, mentally, and spiritually; and they are provided with opportunities in education that they would normally not have.



More Ways to Support the Bethania Kids Ministry

We often get the question “How can we best support Bethania Kids?”

There are so many answers, all of which are “the best.” Perhaps the most appropriate answer is another question: “What works for you and your family?” And we would follow that by saying “Every single gift makes a huge difference in the lives of the children and families we serve!”

For much of our 35-year history, the most common gifts to Bethania Kids have included:

- **Sponsor a Child donations**, which are monthly gifts of \$50 per child in a residence home or \$35 per child in a care center
- **Periodic one-time gifts** to the general “India Fund”
- Gifts made **In Memory Of (IMO) or In Honor Of (IHO)** loved ones
- **Support for a specific project** such as the recently funded Shalom Home or COVID-19 Relief & Recovery campaign
- **Multiply the Ministry** gifts to help fund U.S. administrative and fund-raising costs
- Items listed in the **Creative Giving Catalog**

But wait – there are more ways to give that you may not have considered and may bring benefit to both Bethania Kids and to you.

- **Donating securities and stocks** that have appreciated in value and been held for more than one year offers tax advantages
- **IRA Charitable Roll-over** for donors over the age of 72 has tax advantages
- **Estate Gifting**
- A **Bequest** to Bethania Kids in your will
- Naming The Bethania Foundation as a **Beneficiary** in a life insurance policy, IRA, other retirement plan, or Certificate of Deposit (CD)
- A contribution to the **Education Endowment** to support post-secondary education expenses
- **Donor-Advised Funds** you can set up for charitable giving
- **Matching gifts** from your employer



Bethania Kids staff will be happy to provide more information to help you make decisions about the best way to make contributions to our ministry. Visit our website at bethaniakids.org/ways-to-give and feel free to contact our Director of Development, Wendy Oesterling, at director@bethaniakids.org, or our Administrator, Lisa Smit, at administrator@bethaniakids.org. We also encourage you to discuss Bethania Kids gifts with your financial advisor.

We are delighted to be partners in ministry with you and to work closely with you to nurture and equip the children of India to change their world through Jesus' love!



In Honor Of

Michael Burger
 Kristin DeHaven
 Lora Dundek's 70th Birthday
 The Gerber Family
 Rebekah Granner
 The Heerboth Family
 David & Susie Granner's wedding
 The Hagstad Family & Friends
 Bill & MaryBeth Hagstad
 Joe & Ruby Hoppesch
 Larry Meinzen
 John Luther Meinzen's 58th birthday
 The Steve & Faith Meinzen Family
 Larry Meinzen's 96th birthday
 James Nohl
 The Nohl Family
 Toni O'Connor
 Wendy Oesterling's birthday
 Amy & Steve Pitts, in appreciation of their hospitality
 Cha Posz
 Allan & Heidi Rowe
 The Sanford Family

The Stemmler Grandchildren:

Tristen, Steybi, Finley & Beckette
 Blake Swientoniowski
 Keira Swientoniowski
 Claudia Trautmann
 Katelyn Vera
 Madelyn Vera
 Larry Zimmerman
 Larry & Susan Zimmerman

In Memory Of

Marilyn Beyer
 Rev. James Braaten
 Susan Palo Cherwien
 Glen Childs
 Marian Etzler Stup
 Judy Fogle
 Helen Graham
 Rev. Ernest Hahn
 Gene Hennig
 Robert Hennig
 Albert & Erna (Polly) Hennig
 Spencer Johnson
 Art Kleindienst
 Mildred Meier
 Rev. Lawrence & Mildred Meier



We're Digital, Too!

You can keep up with latest news and happenings at Bethania Kids by following us on Facebook (Bethania Kids Foundation) and receiving our monthly e-newsletter, The Vine. To subscribe to The Vine, visit www.bethaniakids.org and scroll to the bottom of the home page or e-mail administrator@bethaniakids.org directly.

Not seeing The Vine in your inbox? Check your "Spam" or "Promotions" folder—sometimes it hides in one of those!





Bethania Kids is a Christian mission bringing wholeness and hope to poor, abandoned and disabled children in India, equipping them to share God's love.

We channel 100% of every penny donated into direct ministry for children.

Bethania Kids is an IRS registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit and benevolent organization.

Bethania Kids Administrative Offices

PO Box 2140 • Winchester, VA 22604-1340

Phone (540) 450-2729/(800) 993-5179

www.bethaniakids.org



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

FIRST-CLASS
PRESORTED
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT # 229
ANN ARBOR, MI

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Call to Action

Education is foundational to a successful career. We remember our own school experiences and then watch our children and grandchildren rise through each grade level. Many of us can relate to packing backpacks, walking to the bus stop, partnering with teachers, supervising homework, and cheering students on through their academic journeys.

At Bethania Kids, school performance and annual exams are also taken very seriously. Impressively, the children are very disciplined—they rise at dawn to study, attend classes, and continue working into the evenings. They seek balance by taking time for play, chores, self-care, and Bible study. The children value the gift and potential of education. They are eager to learn and to make themselves and their caregivers and families proud. But unfortunately, the past two years have resulted in learning losses that are taking additional time and energy to remediate.

Now that the pandemic is receding, it is time to “equip our children anew.” We want to do all that we can to support the children in realizing their career aspirations. ***One important way that you can help is by sponsoring a child in a residence home for \$50/month (\$600/year) or a care center for \$35/month (\$420/year).*** As always, 100% of your donation will be spent on ministry to our children, including their educational needs. To contribute to our India fund, please visit bethaniakids.org/donate or mail a check using the enclosed envelope. Thank you!

Proverbs 16:3 reads, “Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans.” Let us pray and partner together for the bright futures of our dear Bethania Kids children.

*One of the most helpful
and appreciated ways
for you to support
Bethania Kids is to
‘Sponsor a Child.’*

All printing and mailing costs associated with this publication are 100% funded by Bethania Kids Board of Advisors and Board of Directors.