



HOPE CONNECT

JUNE 2018 UPDATE OF THE HOPE HOME CALCUTTA

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Beloved friends:

WE would be truncating our monthly updates 'Hope Connect' and putting up most of our activities, projects and prayer needs on our now activated website [more on this launch in our July update]. In the meanwhile we invite you to visit www.hopehomecalcutta.org and revert back to us with your ideas, suggestions and insights for improving this site! We would also encourage you to link our site with your official site(s) if you deem appropriate!

We are thankful to God for providing us with the many individual (and some community) supporters- the Lord provides the increase and we are able to meet our ALL our monthly expenses (sometime barely, but still the Lord NEVER fails)! This month, we decided to let all our supporters, prayer-partners, donors and well-wishers have a peek into how we handle our finances!

HOPE HOME FINANCES

MANY of you are probably aware that the financial year in India commences on April 1 and ends on March 31 of the following year. Hence, we are able to take stock of our financial position by the end of May every year (gives our auditors enough time to complete the auditing and assess the fund position). God has been good and faithful to us from the very inception of the Hope Home Calcutta and provided for our needs miraculously. Many a times the funding dips and is really low- but our testimony has been we have never, ever missed out a single meal in the 15 years of our operations that has touched hundreds of lives, especially those of the children who have lived through the Hope Home Calcutta.

We sustain ourselves with a very meagre funding. For a community of over 25 people,

our monthly cash in-flow I have been told- is at par with what single expat families serving in other countries require for themselves! We are also thankful to God for the godly professionals who are on our Board of Trustees to guide us [all with managerial experience]. Here's how we utilized our funding in a nutshell (listing 4 of our major expenditure heads) the last financial year:



One of the reasons we do not generally spend even USD 50 (INR 3000) – apart from God's goodness in protecting our health- is our strict nutrition plan for children and in-house caregivers! We have also been able to keep down our maintenance overheads to less than 10% (excluding honorariums). Our caregivers, staff and teachers are given a monthly honorarium which is less than 50% of the base wages & salaries paid to workers earning minimum wages in any established organizations. Such is their level of dedication and commitment!

Here's our responsibilities:

- 26 resident children in 2 locations: 22 at the Hope Home Calcutta and 4 at the Hope Home Imphal
- 6 full- time caregivers
- 18 staff members (including teachers)
- More than 80 children attend our school- Hope Education Centre
- 30 children who attend our weekly Fine Arts School and Music School (violin)
- Food Bank (monthly) for the poor

And just to reiterate, none of the members of the Board of Trustees or those who are part of the Management Committee of our school including their dependents receive any monies from the Hope Home Calcutta (as per our agreement with the Government of India)!

V.B.S.2018

OUR CHURCH, St. Paul's Cathedral organized this year's V.B.S. May 21-26. Our children joined over 200 other children from across the city for this 6 day activity-filled learning program, never mind the heat and daily travel (of over an hour each way) from the Hope Home Calcutta to the Cathedral!



All our children were able to join in at the V.B.S. everyday and some of them received awards for singing, memory verses and one of them for simply being the 'most happy child'!!

CHILDREN'S DAY OUT!

WE were able to afford the first out-door fiesta for our children of the year on May 29. The children visited the water-theme park at Aquatica and spent the day splashing and playing in the water- with the temperature



scorching at 105F (with the 'real-feel' index at 115F), nobody was complaining! Away from the daily schedule of cleaning up and studies to enjoy the cool of the pool for a day!



LET THERE BE HOPE- PHASE 2 & HOPE SPRINGS

OUR upcoming building project, 'Let There Be Hope-Phase 2' is ontime and we are awaiting for one last mandatory clearance from the municipality as also for the formal agreements with labor contractor to begin work on the foundation. With the onset of monsoons, we would also have to take into consideration accumulation of seeping ground-water etc. before starting work! Much prayers is needed along with the funds to get this work off to a start! We are taking a **BIG** step of faith as we look forward to start work soon. We are also awaiting funding for our new bore-well '**Hope Springs**' (see 'Current Projects' on our website for more details.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SPONSORSHIP opportunities are available for children both at the Hope Home Calcutta and the Hope Home Imphal. Please consider investing in the lives of the children, especially the girl child in either of our locations. Do write to us for more details! Join us in this transformational ministry of changing lives-in the 'City of Joy' – changing one life at a time!

BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

➤ June 4 : Dev

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man, and ask yourself, if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him – *Mahatma Gandhi [M.K.Gandhi-considered as the 'Father of the Nation' in India]*

Dev and the Hope Home Calcutta family

Support for the Hope Home Calcutta should be sent to/checks made out to:

VERDE VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

406 SOUTH 6TH STREET, COTTONWOOD, AZ 86326

TEL: 928-634 8166 (Please designate your gift for Hope Home Calcutta clearly)

ONLINE - www.vvchristianchurch.net

Donors in India- all donations, including online, are exempted from Income-Tax under section 80G through HDFC Bank. Contact us for details