



HOPE CONNECT

JULY 2019 UPDATE OF THE HOPE HOME CALCUTTA

hopehomecal@gmail.com

www.hopehomecalcutta.org



Beloved friends:

THE MONSOONS are here in full-blast in the city (although there is an unusual rain-deficit this year). The umbrellas have come out of the closets and so have the rain-coats; the roads are getting flooded again (a common 'picture' here in the city) and many are inconvenienced in their daily commute. But then, there's this group of children in our School who are **enjoying the monsoon rains** come what may! The smile and gladness on their faces say it all! And that's exactly why we initiated this transformational and growing movement that is the Hope Home Calcutta-to provide an environment of love and care to equip, educate and empower boys and girls hailing from difficult, dysfunctional and marginalized families! As we cap the end of our 15th year of this endeavour, we are thankful to God for the countless lives we have touched and impacted over the years!

HOPE EDUCATION CENTRE

HAPPINESS is written all over the faces of our children, especially during recess time! I have mentioned this several times before: that most of the children in our School come



from unimaginable challenging economic and social backgrounds, including a few whose family member(s) have being victims of human trafficking. For most, education, let alone education in English would have remained a distant dream and many would have been enslaved in some form of the

prevailing child-labor traps. We are especially thankful to two organizations who cooperate with us and send children to our School for value-based education! We are also thankful to God for helping us to build



a metal-roofed shed at the side of our main facilities and its sheer fun watching the rain fall while having their mid-morning snacks!

CHILDREN'S DAY OUT

THE CHILDREN were able to go out to **NICCO PARK**-the only amusement park in this city of 18 million people or more- on June 6th for a day-long time of fun, rides



games, food and a much-needed break from their otherwise strict, daily schedule focused on studies! We thank God for providing the



fund for this outing! We wish we could do this more often for the children!

COTTAGE PRAYER MEETING

THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP of our Church, the St. Paul's Cathedral organized a prayer and thanksgiving meet at the Hope Home Calcutta on June 8. Several families from our Church joined the Hope Home Calcutta community for a time of fellowship,



singing, sharing and snacks!

HOPE HOME CALCUTTA FOUNDATION DAY

PREPARATIONS are on full swing for our 16th Foundation Day Celebrations. For those who are newly associated with us, **August 1** marks our Foundation Day which is followed by our Annual School Fete the following Saturday. This year, our Annual School Fete would be held on Saturday, **August 3 from 4-8 p.m.** This Fete is a time of fun, fellowship, games and good food. It also provides us with an opportunity to bond with our community, especially the families of children and students of the Hope Education Centre. Last year, we invited children who are terminally ill with cancer, being treated at the Cancer Hospital just across our main street (housed at the St. Jude's Child Care Centre) as our special invitees and guests! This year too, we have sought permission from the paediatric oncologist to allow few of the kids to come and interact with our children. Also, from last year, several local eateries and well-wishers have begun donating food items to us for sale during the Fete. All proceeds go directly towards our initiative to provide quality and value-based education to children from marginalized families in our community!

GO GREEN - HOPE HOME CALCUTTA

GO GREEN is a new initiative which we would launch on our Foundation Day on August 1. First, we would be planting trees in our facilities and would also pledge to declare our facilities a 'NO PLASTIC ZONE'! Watch out for more details and pictures in our next update!

OUR LATEST FIRE AUDIT of our facilities highlighted the need to install 6 more fire extinguishers to upgrade our fire-safety requirements. Each of the extinguishers (CO₂) costs approximately **INR 4000 (US\$ 65)**. We would like to get them installed

within July and urge you to prayerfully consider pitching in with this special need.



We would still need to do a full revamp of fire facilities (the extinguishers would however remain) by the end of this year. This would be a big project and we would keep you all informed.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES...

FEW OF OUR CHILDREN at the Hope Home Calcutta and the Hope Home Imphal still require regular commitment of support to enable them to live, study, be equipped and empowered and grow up in an environment of love and security. Most of these children, would otherwise, never had a decent upbringing and no access to education. We are also able to provide heavily subsidized education to a number of children in our School as part of our '**Send My Friend Back to School**' initiative. Please consider getting involved and invest in the life of a child!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

OUR GREATEST natural resource is the minds of our children! – *Walt Disney*

THANK YOU for being part of the extended family of the Hope Home Calcutta!

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 - yvcc.churchcenter.com/giving

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