



HOPE CONNECT

OCTOBER 2019 UPDATE OF THE HOPE HOME CALCUTTA

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Beloved friends:



THE JOY OF GIVING WEEK (DAAN UTSAV) -The Joy of Giving Week (JGW)- **October 2-8**, is a "festival of philanthropy" that aims to become a part of the Indian and international ethos, with the Week being celebrated every year covering the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi (regarded as the 'Father of the Indian Nation') by engaging people through "*acts of giving*" - money, time, resources and skills - spanning the corporates, organizations, government sectors, students in schools and colleges, Churches, neighborhoods, families and individuals. Over the past few years, this movement has grown and growing number of individuals, schools, colleges, Churches and institutions are engaging themselves in endeavors to change lives and work towards sustainable development initiatives that would in turn transform communities across the world. Some of the most popular efforts during this week are:

- **Design For Change:** inspires children between 8-15 to design solutions to problems facing individuals and communities across India and implement them during the Week. The focus could be on **education** of poor children and help them through school – children who would otherwise never had access to any form of education whatsoever.

Dime-challenge initiatives to raise funds for text books, stationary etc. are most common forms of involvement of school children

- ♥ **Clothes collection drive:** is an initiative to provides clothes and other amenities to the poverty-stricken families, especially children. Clothes should be new/used but cleaned, washed and wearable
- ♥ **7 Days 7 Gifts:** is a simple idea where people are encouraged to do "*radnom acts of kindness*" to people they know or don't know for every day of the week. The 7 Day gifting challenge aims to take the focus away from you on to others. The only real condition here is that each gift should be meaningful and some thought should have gone into it. Such random acts could include feeding poor children of your neighborhood, taking your elderly neighbor's dog for a walk, giving your maid a day off, helping poor students with their studies....
- ♥ **Hi-5 Club:** is an event designed to engage high school and college students in volunteering for a cause for 5 hours during the Joy of Giving Week. Students can volunteer on structured opportunities provide by the Hope Home Calcutta like 5 hours of teaching, cleaning our facilities, visiting an elderly home arranged by us, making educational aids or doing a collection drive, etc.

There are countless other ways in being creatively and meaningfully engaged in this transformational movement. Do write to us immediately if you would like to participate!

WORLD FOOD DAY – OCTOBER 16

OCTOBER 16, is universally celebrated as **WORLD FOOD DAY** to commemorate the founding of the Food and Agricultural Organization and is one of the most

celebrated days worldwide. **GREENING THE BLUE** is the theme this year. It is a day



of action dedicated to tackling global hunger. People from around the world come together to declare their commitment to eradicate worldwide hunger from our lifetime. Several events mark this occasion which promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and for the need to ensure food security and nutritious diets for all. The focus of the day is that **food** is a basic and fundamental human right! Consider these facts:

- over **820 million** people worldwide suffer from chronic undernourishment
- **60%** women and almost five million children under the age of five die of malnutrition-related causes every day
- while millions go hungry, **672 million** people suffer from obesity, and a further **1.3 billion** are overweight

The call and the challenge is to work towards '**Zero Hunger**' worldwide. Some of the reasons why we are committed to this are:

- Zero hunger could save the lives of **3.1 million children a year**
- Ending child undernutrition could increase a developing country's GDP by 16.5 percent (like India)
- A dollar invested in hunger prevention could return between **\$15** and **\$139** in benefits (U.N. estimate)
- Proper nutrition early in life could mean **46 %** more in lifetime earnings
- Eliminating iron deficiency in a population could boost workplace productivity by **20 %**
- Ending nutrition-related child mortality could increase a workforce by **9.4 %**

We, at the Hope Home Calcutta have been celebrating this day for the past few years by providing food to the poor and needy in our community. This year, we plan to help distribute food and food supplies to a minimum of **100** people. And we need your

help and cooperation to make a difference on this special day! We are preparing food packets worth **US\$ 5 (INR 250)** for every individual. Come, make a difference in 2019!

TEACHERS DAY - SEPTEMBER 5

SEPTEMBER 5th is celebrated as 'Teacher's Day' throughout India. The students of our school project organized a wonderful program to appreciate and honor their teachers. They presented songs, skits, quizzes dance sequences and recitations and organised games and fun-time activities for



the teachers. It was fun watching our teachers participate in musical-chair, passing-the-parcel and other games!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

'Since you get more joy out of giving joy to others, you should put a good deal of thought into the happiness that you are able to give'
Eleanor Roosevelt

THANK YOU for being part of the extended family of the Hope Home Calcutta! We are blessed immeasurably! We appreciate your visits, letters of encouragement and emails!

Dev and the Hope Home Calcutta family

PITCH IN...GET INVOLVED

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 clearly for Hope Home Calcutta)

ONLINE - vvcc.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