



# HOPE CONNECT

## NOVEMBER 2019 UPDATE OF THE HOPE HOME CALCUTTA

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Beloved friends:

### WORLD FOOD DAY – OCTOBER 16

WE WERE HONORED to celebrate the WORLD FOOD DAY on October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Hope Home Calcutta, distributing food packets with freshly cooked biryani to around 100 children! India ranks 102 out of 117 countries in the World Hunger Index released last month. This is EXACTLY the



reason we had initiated the Hope Home Calcutta way back in 2003! A big THANK YOU to EVERYONE who pitched in to help us provide food to the kids. We were also able to provide the monthly groceries (enough to feed a family of 4 for a month) to RAJESH MALLICK through the Hope Home Calcutta Food Bank (our efforts to reach out and provide for groceries and food items to at least one poor family every month). Rajesh is a *Dalit* who are considered



'outcasts' and 'untouchables' in India. He is

also a '*jamadaar*' by profession and cleans toilets in the homes of people near the Hope Home Calcutta for a living, making about INR 200 (USD \$ 3) a day to feed a family of 5! This is considered a 'menial' job in India and only the lowest castes are expected to do this work. Notwithstanding his personal challenges, he is always smiling! We would like to do more for his family as and when we are able to do so. Appreciate your participation in this effort!

### HOPE HOME CALCUTTA FOOD BANK

TREVOR TAILOR, 82: we have shared a couple of times about this wonderful person.



Trevor is extremely poor, lives all alone and struggles for his everyday existence. He has no source of income whatsoever. He lives in a rented room, 8ft x 7 ft one-room and often defaults paying his rent to the house-owner. He has grown very frail since we last mentioned about him in our January update and looked very weak. He has still retained his sense of humor and continues to be very polite, courteous and extremely grateful to receive our help. We are planning to provide regular cooked meals for him and are working out the details of logistics involved. I have recently been challenged with a news report about a self-helped small businessman in Calcutta who has been providing daily meals to over 300 old people in his neighbourhood. For the vast majority of India's 1.3 billion people, there is no social security, no housing, no pension benefits and they are often left at the mercy of their child-

ren and relatives. This is a new area of our operations to make an impact in our community and we need your help and support to make a difference in the lives of these poor and old folks!



**ASBESTOS SHEETS REPLACEMENT:** during the construction of our present facilities between 2007-2008, our contractor had put up corrugated asbestos sheets over the boys dorm spread over 2750 square feet. Over the past 12 years, the asbestos sheets have begun shredding bits and pieces of fibres making this a major health hazard. Besides, cracks have developed in a number of places. We would urgently have to replace the corrugated old asbestos sheets with **metal (TATA) sheet** roofing (along with 'false' ceiling to keep off the heat). The roofing contractor has given us a quotation of **INR 280,00** (approx. **USD \$ 4300**). This is a **MAJOR** project for us and a very urgent one. We would like the replacement to be completed during the Christmas holidays (December 19-January 9) and we need your help. With our upcoming building project in the final phase of preparation, we were not inclined to engage in another large-expenditure, but the health concerns for the boys are real, important and urgent. Please, prayerfully consider pitching in for this need!

### **THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

**LORD**, so often times, as any other day  
When we sit down to our meal and pray  
We hurry along and make fast the blessings  
Thanks, Amen. Now, please pass the dressing  
We're slaves to the old factory overload  
We must rush our prayers before the food

gets cold  
But Lord, I'd like to take a few minutes more  
To really give thanks to what I'm thankful for  
For my family, my health, a nice soft bed  
My friends, my freedom, a roof over my head  
I'm thankful right now to be surrounded by those  
Whose lives touch me more than they'll every possibly know  
Thankful Lord, that You've blessed me beyond measure  
Thankful that in my heart lives life's greatest treasure  
Thank You, dear God reside in that place  
And I'm ever so grateful for Your unending grace!  
...and this Thanksgiving Day, as you sit around your table, think of those who do not have a family, health, food and a roof over their heads. Say a prayer for them and join us in our endeavor to help change their lives by giving them a hope and a future!

### **LET THERE BE HOPE - PHASE 2**

Our upcoming building project is back on track. The inspection by the municipal authorities was completed on October 2 and they have suggested some modification in our design. Our architects have redrawn the building plan and we hope to be able to start work on the foundation immediately after Christmas! We urgently need your help to be able to complete the foundation and first floor to house the girls dorm and additional classrooms for our School project!

**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**

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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 - [yvcc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://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