



Parents, we empathize if your kids are home 24/7!

We hope that everyone is practicing social distancing and other recommendations during this difficult time. At Karunya Mane, home for our 40+ kids, life has changed a bit with Mysore, India, following a shelter-in-place until at least March 31.

Some of our kids' exams were postponed until after March 31, other kids completed their exams. Surya finished his 10th-grade exam, and Divya and Vijayalakshmi completed their 12th-grade exam. We are sure they did well as they diligently prepared.

The task now is a bit more demanding for our housemother and housefather because our teachers cannot hold classes for a while. As you know, our 16 teachers, along with our karate, fitness, and dance and drama teachers, provide daily tutoring and activities. We were also just about to start extra classes in the afternoons now that school is out, but we're of course postponing that.

So what do you do with 45 kids with endless energy who are at home 24/7?

Well, we're lucky that our college kids have returned. They are stepping up big time to help out. We are maintaining our daily schedule of activities and our college kids (Pavan, Prajwal, Mamatha, and Prema), and Divya and Vijayalakshmi (about to start college next school year) have been appointed as our yoga, karate, and fitness teachers!

They have been tasked with, and have happily while giggling accepted the responsibility of helping to keep the days creative and positive. They are alleviating some of the stress that our house mother and house father are feeling, as are all parents throughout the world who now have their little ones at home 24/7. We feel for you!

Here are a few snippets from life at Operation Shanti during this trying time. We hope this makes you smile and gives you some hope that, no matter what, we will persevere!

Be hopeful. Laugh a little. Wash your hands.

"Stay socially distant and spiritually connected."



Our kids know how to do more with less, like paper volleyball in the girls' room to pass some time having fun and not break windows!



Up: Here's Mamatha on the right, tutoring her group of kids.

Divya and Vijayalakshmi are on the left with their groups of very mischievous little boys.



Video above: Pavan during the kids' afternoon activity session. Magnetic dart throwing is a lot of fun!



Prajwal (showing off his shade hairstyle, *very* popular among the boys in India) during tutoring with his group of older kids who just finished 11th grade.

The leaders switch groups every day to keep things interesting.



To end the days, the kids play outside after 4:30 p.m. (it's super hot now in Mysore so they don't play outside before then) for an hour and a half and burn off any extra energy.

Helping

If you are inclined, we are taking donations.

[Donate](#)

If not, we completely understand, but please consider donating to a healthcare entity in your country that may desperately need assistance fighting Covid 19.

There are a lot of ways to help, and if you can, please find a way that works for you.

Peace,

The Operation Shanti Team

Useful links:

[CDC in the U.S.](#)

[MyGov.in in India](#)

[WHO](#)



Operation Shanti
125 Gilbert Street Unit 3
San Francisco, CA 94103

Operation Shanti (India)
Cave Shiva Temple
Mysore, Karnataka 570010

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