



Dear Friend,

As we enter the holiday season, we at **Operation Shanti** realize just how much we have to be thankful for, largely because of the support that we receive from you.

Our **children's home**, Karunya Mane, houses 44 kids and 80% of them now have dedicated sponsors.

**Project Food and More** has grown this year, and 56 HIV+ kids receive our monthly care packages. This program also provides support to HIV+ women who are abandoned by their families.

The women in **Project Street** continue to do well, living more independent lives and taking better care of themselves.

Please read on for more updates and thank you again for your continued support!

## CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH OPERATION SHANTI CALENDARS

Back in August, we held a contest with the boys and girls at Karunya Mane and you voted on their artistic creations —and the girls won! We hung the girls' fabulous piece and plan to auction reproductions, and we've taken the boy's artwork and turned it into calendars just in time for the holiday season.

Make a donation of US\$25 or more between today and January 7 and we'll mail you a calendar featuring the boys' artwork. If you'd like more than one (they make great stocking stuffers), let us know.\*

We're sure that these calendars will bring a smile to your face all year long. To make a donation, [please click here](#).



\* Calendar printing and mailing costs are being covered by the directors at Operation Shanti.

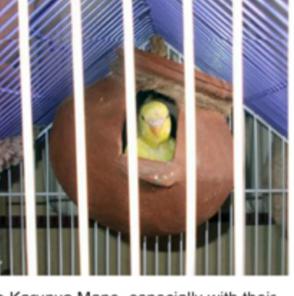
## INSIDE KARUNYA MANE

Part of preparing the kids at Karunya Mane for a successful future includes teaching them life skills. This part of parenting involves.... chores! Each kid has his or her own chore to do each morning and evening. Chores teach kids self-discipline and make them feel responsible for keeping their home clean.

For example, Razak and Padmanabha rinse the plates and cups before breakfast. Each kid washes his/her own plate and cup after eating (big partners wash small partners' dinnerware). Kartik sweeps the outside boys' area in the morning and evening. Latha cleans the "ABC" room, three girls rotate cleaning their room, and on Sundays, four boys give the dogs a bath (a favorite task!).

Some of the kids love their chores and find them more like "play" than work. Other kids are a little lazier and know every trick in the book to avoid doing their chores!

A new chore added to the list? The kids recently got "love birds" for their rooms — two for the girls and two for the boys. The girls named their birds Romeo and Juliet and the boys named theirs Rama and Sita. A couple of weeks later, the boys' karate teacher gave his boys five little white birds. One older boy and one older girl are responsible for daily feedings and cleaning of their respective bird cages.



The birds add that "home" feel to Karunya Mane, especially with their lilted chirping that spreads throughout the rooms.

## WE'RE NOW AT 56!

In September of 2009, Operation Shanti began distributing care packages to destitute families affected by medical hardship, forming the beginnings of **Project Food and More (PFM)**.

In 2013, this program added three new recipients, bringing our total to 56 kids.

Venkatesh\*\* is a 14-year-old HIV+ boy. Similar to many other kids in PFM, Venkatesh lost both his parents and lives with his uncle. We asked Venkatesh if he wants to enroll in school but he's quite reluctant to do so at age 14. Uncle does his best to support Venkatesh but also has his own family to support, and the care package helps alleviate some of the financial burden of feeding one more child.

Mahadesha is a very cute four-year-old HIV+ boy. Father abandoned the family in 2011 and mom Subamma works daily labor jobs in the fields to earn money. Mom and son live with grannie in a nearby village and struggle to make ends meet.

Sharath, eight years old, lost his father in 2009 and his mother cleans houses to earn money. Mom earns about 100 rupees (US \$1.60) a day and a big chunk of that pays the rent on their house in the village.

Sharath attends a convent school -- a local man in his village pays his school fees.

Project Food and More recipients receive a monthly care package, including rice and dahl, bath and laundry soap, mosquito repellent, protein powder, biscuits, toothpaste, and a small amount of cash. Each care package costs about Rs. 1,200 (US\$20 at today's exchange rate), which may not seem like much to us but represents a big chunk of these families' monthly earnings.

To read more or donate to PFM, [please click here](#).

\*\*Names have been changed to protect their privacy.



## VACCINES SAVE LIVES

In India, although immunizations are provided for free in government health facilities, vaccination rates remain low because of a lack of proper healthcare providers (especially in rural areas) and unreliability in the supply of vaccines. Moreover, many poor people do not understand the benefits of vaccines.

Most of our kids at Karunya Mane —all from the streets and slums — did not receive vaccinations during their early months and years of life. Even if they may have, their moms (if they have a mom) have no immunization records. Your donations provide our kids with their basic needs and help ensure that they are properly vaccinated.

To learn more, [read the full article on our blog](#).



## SUPPORT FROM LE YOGA SHOP PARIS!

Our friends at Le Yoga Shop Paris collect their favorite clothes and items from creative friends and best-loved places around the world — some of the nicest "yoga or workout clothes" that are wearable off the mat. The best part? Le Yoga Shop Paris is donating a portion of its profits to Operation Shanti!

[Please click here](#) and check out their great merchandise.



## HEADS UP! NEW MEMBER BONUS FOR OPERATION SHANTI

Established in 1997, [iGive.com](#) turns everyday online shopping into donations to worthy causes at no cost to shoppers or the causes they support. Operation Shanti is a proud member of iGive.com, which lets you shop at 1,350+ online stores, including Amazon.com, BestBuy, and major airlines. Each member who makes a purchase through iGive.com between October 18 and November 12, 2013 earns Operation Shanti an extra \$5 in addition to the donation amount.



[Click here to get started!](#)

## FOR THE LOVE OF ART

N.S. Pradeep Kumar, lecturer in graphics at the Chamarajendra Academy of Visual Arts (CAVA) and a lifelong Mysore artist, has kindly donated selected pieces from his collection of original abstract watercolor paintings to Operation Shanti to be sold. All proceeds will benefit our programs in Mysore.



[Click here to purchase yours today!](#)

## DID YOU KNOW?

At Karunya Mane, we go through a lot of food each month to feed 44 growing and very active little (and not so little) ones! Here's our average monthly food usage:

- 200 kg (441 lbs) of white rice
- 75 kg (165 lbs) of red rice
- 10 kg (22 lbs) idli rice for idlis
- 35 kg (77 lbs) (dahl/lentils/beans for protein)
- 240 eggs
- 10 kg (20 pounds) of chicken
- 150 liters (40 gallons) of milk
- 90 kg (198 lbs) of millet (ragi in Kannada)
- 10 kg (22 lbs) of semolina for puma

AND

- 20 kg (44 lbs) of wheat flour for chapatis!

The kids also get a daily multivitamin -- that's 1,320 chewable tablets a month!

Thanks again for your support and wishing you a great holiday season.

info@operation-shanti.org  
www.operationshanti.org

Peace,  
Operation Shanti

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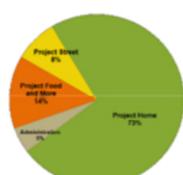
Sponsor an  
**Operation Shanti**  
Kid

**Thank you for your support!**

Your generous contribution goes a long way in supporting our work

Sponsoring a child is a great way to put your donation to good use. To sponsor a child at Project Home costs \$400 a year. That comes out to \$33.33 a month for 12 months or a little more than \$1.00 (Rs. 40-50) a day. Your sponsorship helps pay for the child's educational needs, basic daily living, and medical expenses.

For more detail on how your donations are used, please click on the chart below.



## CONGRATS DIVYA!

Divya is the #1 student in her class!



Divya used to live on the street with her dad. Now, she's a healthy and happy 6th grader at Operation Shanti!

## GET INVOLVED!

[Click here to find out how!](#)