

Dear Friends of Operation Shanti,

Thank you for continuing to follow our kids and our work in India. Karunya Mane, our children's shelter, is thriving with **53** children, Project Food and More now supports **58** kids, up from 30 a year ago, and we continue to help the street kids and homeless women on the streets of Mysore. See our website (www.operation-shanti.org) and our blog (operationshanti.blogspot.com) for more on our work. And, again, thank you for your continued support.

Karunya Mane: Status Quo

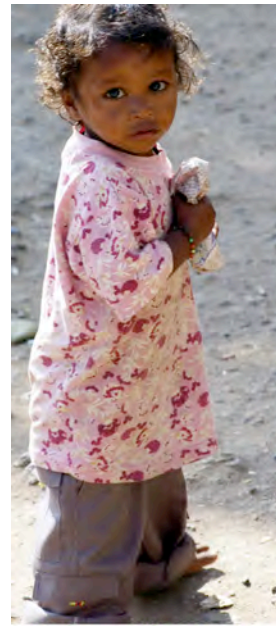
The 2010/2011 school year started in June and the kids are fully engaged in their studies. This year, our kids are attending three schools in the area. Most of our kindergarteners through 7th graders are at Deepa Primary School, while three of our younger children are trying out St. Francis CBSE school, an English-based school with a more rigorous curriculum. Our littlest ones (Adarsh, Umesh, and Darshan) are at Maria Vidyakendra, a small, well-run school for nursery schoolers and kindergarteners. The mornings are busy getting all of the kids ready for school, and they are occupied after school with their tutoring sessions with our eight part-time, very qualified teachers.

All of our children have seen improvements in their overall health. Two girls were fitted with eyeglasses, and this year's new kids have all gained weight since arriving at KM.

During the last school break (April and May), fifteen KM kids participated in two excellent summer camps. The camps, Natana and Rangayana, gave the children a chance to express themselves creatively through art projects, drama and dance classes, nature walks, and direct interactions with leading artists and actors from India.

We've been fortunate to enjoy the presence of a lovely and kind volunteer, Chittra. Chittra, who lives with her family in our neighborhood, comes to KM every morning at 4:30 a.m. (!) to help our little girls with their daily bath. She also comes in the early evenings to spend time with the three nursery schoolers while the rest of the kids are in tuition.

The big news this Fall is about our three oldest boys, Venkatesh, Sreenivas, and Kaleem. Ananth, our friend from the Narayan Foundation, secured memberships in the Mysore Cricket Club for our three boys. The MCC is a prestigious club and membership is quite selective. The three boys ride their bikes every morning to the coaching sessions in the city, and then ride their bikes directly to school. They've promised to keep up with their schoolwork, and in return now get to train and interact with excellent coaches and boys and men from all walks of life.



Mohan on the street in 2008.



Mohan at Karunya Mane in 2010.



Netra on her way to her workshop at Rangayana this past summer. The month-long summer camp went from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. six days a week.



Milk time at Karunya Mane. The kids enjoy a glass of milk in the morning and in the afternoon. Here are Parveen, Umesh, Jyothi, and Manu.



Eight of our little ones enjoy themselves on a sunny Sunday afternoon (after a haircut!): Darshan, Imran Lalitha, Jyothi, Aravind, Tanmaya, Vishnu, and Darshan.

For more on the daily comings and goings of our kids at Karunya Mane and our other programs, visit our blog (operationshanti.blogspot.com), which we frequently update with the latest news on what's happening at Operation Shanti.

Project Food and More (all names have been changed for privacy reasons)

Project Food and More now supports HIV+ women who have no way to support themselves because of their condition. The newest addition to PFM is 40-year-old Leela, who we met when she was admitted to the HIV clinic. Leela's husband died a few years and she now stays with her mother, a day laborer. Also new to the PFM program are:

- **Kavana**, an adorable three-year-old who recently battled tuberculosis; father passed away and mother Devamma takes care of little Kavana and her sister; they live in a village near Mysore and mom works as a day laborer when she is healthy;
- **Eshwanth**, a seven-year-old boy whose father abandoned the family and whose mother refuses to care for him; Eshwanth lives with his grandmother, who is a day laborer;
- **Girija**, a 30-year-old woman whose husband died; she also suffers from tuberculosis and has to support her two children; Girija works day jobs when she can.

Street People Program

We continue our presence on the street to assist those without homes and resources with their basic needs. We assist a poor man with his diabetes medication, continue to support three girls with their educational expenses at a local private school, and support our street moms with their housing. The street women whom we have known and worked with for a long time refer many of our newcomers to us.

Kavita, a long-time recipient of our help, left her abusive husband and now lives in a village near Karunya Mane. Her two boys live with us at Karunya Mane, and she is now our cleaning woman at the shelter---and has proven herself to be one of our most reliable staff members.

Ways to Help

- If you'd like to sponsor a Karunya Mane kid, please click here: [Sponsor a Karunya Mane Kid!](#)
- If you'd like to sponsor a Project Food and More kid for \$25.00 (Rs.1200) per month, please click here: [Sponsor a Project Food and More Kid!](#)
- To donate online if you live in India, please donate through our listing on GiveIndia [here](#).



Vishnu!

- If you are in India and want to make an in-kind donation, we appreciate dal, ragi, vegetables, and fruit, as well as items we use daily, like bath and laundry soap, pencils, notebooks, and shampoo.
- We are looking for volunteers with experience **teaching English** to kids.

Make a Difference. Donate Today.

Many thanks to Janea Wiedmann for the wonderful photographs.

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