



PHOTO: AT KOLAR CHILDREN'S HOME

# hope foundation

## 2012 Action Update



December 17, 2012

## A look back at 2012

We would like to thank you for your commitment to our vision and provide a short update on the progress we made in 2012 towards our goals for Hope Foundation in India.

By the grace of God, we grew in 2012; we opened one new orphanage and increased our investment in operations at our different locations. Today, we support 33 children through our orphanages, along with 10 paid staff members and additional volunteer staff who have contributed throughout the year.

### SHALOM CHILDREN'S HOME, ALUVILA, NEYATTINKARA, TRIVANDRUM

In June 2012, we started a new orphanage in the Aluvila area of Neyattinkara on the outskirts of Thiruvanthapuram (Trivandrum). We care for six children, four boys and two girls at this location. They have been enrolled in an English medium school nearby. Anna Zechariah, our local orphanage manager provides leadership on a volunteer basis and has led the initiatives to establish the orphanage and successfully obtain government approval.

### KOLAR CHILDREN'S HOME, ONNENAHALLI, KOLAR, BANGALORE

Kolar Children's Home is located at Onnenahalli in Kolar which is about 45 miles from Bangalore. 23 girls between the ages of 4 and 14 live in the main building, which was completed in November 2011. We have also rented additional accommodation close by for the 4 boys we care for, who live together with a local school teacher. Pastor Kochumon Joseph, the orphanage manager, lives nearby and manages both units.

All the children come together for their meals, studies, playtime and prayers. Three full time staff care for the children at this location, and two local school teachers provide additional tuition and help. We are in the process of appointing a full-time warden, who will join us in 2013.



Boys from Kolar Children's Home

**Mumbai Slums:** We give monthly financial support to five families so that they can afford to send their children to school while living together as a family.

**Other Support:** Although our main focus is orphan children, we continue to support social workers and other people in need on a case by case basis. In 2012, we were able to give financial support for the marriage of a young woman in Bangalore.



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### KOLAR CHILDREN'S HOME, ONNENAHALLI, KOLAR, BANGALORE (Continued)

All our children are enrolled in an English medium school near the orphanage – at Gnanabodha Vidya Samasthe. Onnenahalli village, Tamaka PO, Kolar. The children are in grades from lower kindergarten to 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

We have instituted various extracurricular activities to encourage holistic development. We received three computers as a donation, and are currently using them to help the children develop computer skills. The orphanage has access to the internet, and we are able to communicate more easily with the children as a result. Our teachers spend time discussing current events, and we encourage the children to read newspapers regularly. They actively participate in school programs as well as in church activities. There is a common devotion time where all children and staff meet together in a hall to read and discuss the scriptures before evening prayers. Some of our children are part of the worship team at the local church. Our children are also motivated to get involved in other extracurricular activities. They also play outdoor games on a regular basis.

### LOOKING AHEAD

The past 6 years have been challenging, and we could not have persevered without your support. As we prepare for the year ahead, we look forward to your continued participation in our mission, to change the lives of the children we have taken responsibility for, and enable them to become leaders of the future. We have exciting plans for growth, and we welcome your participation in our initiatives.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous new year.

The Team at Hope Foundation



Study Time at Kolar Children's Home

**Community Involvement:** Our relationship with the local communities where we operate is vital to our ongoing success. We undertake regular efforts to keep the local community leaders aware of our needs, and have been welcomed into the community with local endorsement as well as contributions from local citizens. In Neyattinkara, we were able to host a visit from a local member of the legislative assembly, with positive feedback.