Child Haven International



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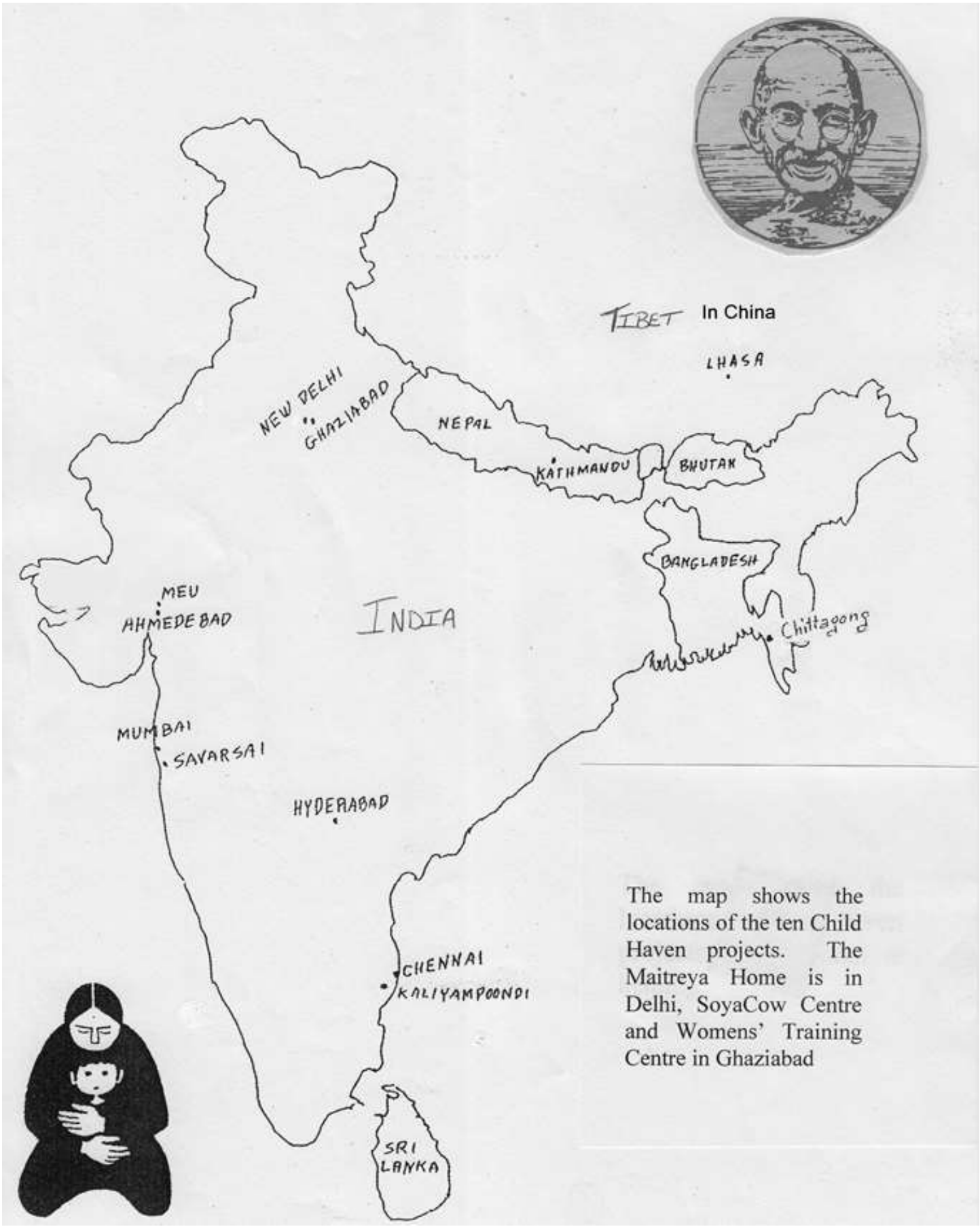


September 2016



Hyderabad – Sisters Shrisha, in Grade 4 and Nakashatra, in Grade 3, are doing their best to get Allen Moses, the most beautiful baby in the world, and son of former Child Haven student, now nurse, Sandhya Rani, to smile for or at least look at the camera.

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The map shows the locations of the ten Child Haven projects. The Maitreya Home is in Delhi, SoyaCow Centre and Womens' Training Centre in Ghaziabad

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Bangladesh – Manik glances up from the action during a bird board game at the Home.

Child Haven Homes

Meu (Gandhinagar), Gujarat, India 68 children 8 women, Language: Gujarati
Hyderabad, Telangana, India 183 children 14 women, Language: Telugu
Kaliyampoondi, Tamil Nadu, India 325 children 35 women, Language: Tamil
Maitreya Foundation, New Delhi, India 24 children 1 woman, Language: Tibetan & Hindi
Savarsai, Maharashtra, India 48 children 4 women, Language: Marathi
Tribal Home, City of Pen, near Savarsai Home, 55 children, Marathi plus tribal languages
Kathmandu, Nepal, 203 children 22 women, Language: Nepali
Tibet in China, sponsoring 14 children 4 women, Language: Tibetan
Chittagong, Bangladesh, 70 children 15 women, Language: Bengali
Ghaziabad Women's Centre, Uttar Pradesh, India; education in tailoring for 50 women at a time; inexpensive sanitary napkin production and sale; Beauty and Wellness Course, Language: Hindi

(Many other children are sponsored for education, but are not living in one of our Homes.)



Bangladesh - The older Muslim boys having Iftar (above), the evening meal to end their daily Ramadan fast at sunset. The other children in the Home celebrate their own various traditions.



Cook Parul (left) takes advantage of mango season to make some mango pickle for the Home. Chopped mangoes, sugar, cayenne pepper, lemon, a little salt, stew them together: happy Home.

Bangladesh

Farzana (right), working on a quilt she and the other children made as a surprise gift for Manager Saiful and his wife Eni's most beautiful baby in the world, Alesha Azzahra Aziz (below).

Photo by volunteer-intern, Shelley Adam





Roni (right), one of the many artists at the Home, holds up a recent creation. He and the other children take a weekly art class from a local artist who visits the Home to offer inspiration, encouragement and technical skills.

To see the vibrant colours of Roni's painting and Alesha's quilt, you can look at this newsletter in full colour on our web-site, www.childhaven.ca





Meu – Above volunteer Intern Simone Emery gets within a good metre of the ball while playing "football" with the children. Simone, from Calgary, is spending 3 months at the Home.



Left, Kajal, who is considering the vocation of beautician, practices on Simone

Overseas Interns Needed:

We have space for more volunteers who will pay their own travel and commit three to six months interning in India, Nepal, or Bangladesh. Please contact our office in Maxville 613-527-2829. Or email fred@childhaven.ca
A $50 fee covers processing costs and your attendance at a two-day orientation in Maxville. Additional $200 donation partially covers overseas room and board. You can check out our new Intern Brochure on our web-site childhaven.ca/intern.html

Meu – At several of our Homes, the State Government requires us to house and care for wards of the state in need of temporary shelter as no appropriate state facilities exist. While this can be disruptive, our staff and children do the best they can to accommodate these children. One such charge was Pooja, (right) age 8. Pooja is from Madhya Pradesh State. Shortly after her parents died, she ended up somehow in Gujarat, where the Meu Home is located. She was found begging in the street by Gujarat authorities who brought her to the Home. She didn't speak any Gujarati, but was able to communicate with some of the staff in her native Hindi. Her stay was temporary till a place could be found for her in Madhya Pradesh. Regulations required her to be cared for in her own state.



When she first arrived at our home Pooja ate everything in sight: plastic, crayons, leaves and so on. Staff members believe this habit was left over from her begging days when she wasn't getting enough to eat.
As she stayed at the home and her schedule stabilized, with regular eating times and enough food, this habit slowly began to disappear.

After three months, many tears were shed the day Pooja left as the staff and children had grown quite fond of her. We wish her well in her new home in Madhya Pradesh.



Devraj (right) is 13 and studying in the 8th grade. His favorite subject is English.
He says he wants to be a computer engineer when he grows up. He has some time before making up his mind.

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Using our secure online application, you can set up a withdrawal from your Canadian bank account through a simple electronic funds transfer. Lower transaction charges and reduction in handling and processing; Direct Deposit is a cost effective method of receiving contributions.
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To give through United Way, just designate your donation to 'Child Haven International' and include our Registered Charity # 11885 1922 RR0001. Receipts are issued by United Way. IN SOME CASES THE NAME OF THE DONOR IS NOT GIVEN TO US. WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR DONATION. GIVERS THROUGH CANADA HELPS ARE ALSO ANONYMOUS.

We are also able to receive **gifts of stocks and securities.** (better tax advantages than donating cash.)

Another way to offer your support is by **leaving Child Haven a bequest in your will**. There is a brochure on several ways to do this on our web-site at childhaven.ca/donate.html



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Bonnie Lore by Fred Cappuccino, her long-suffering husband.



Having started in 1985, Child Haven now cares for formerly destitute children, many of whom came to us from traumatic situations: death or illness of one or both parents, and poverty. We have been watching through the years, and are pleased to report that their time at Child Haven has been good for the children in many ways.

Perhaps the most noticeable is that among our 1300 children, as far as we can tell, there is *no obesity!* We're doing something right.

One factor surely is their diet, which is nourishing, but simple – the same fare as the local villagers: variations of beans and rice, with home-grown vegetables. The only "outside" product is soya milk.

From the beginning, Bonnie tried to make sure their food was good. Another Child Haven board member, Dr. Nat Shah said, "It's not only the good food. It's also the fact that they move around a lot. They have daily calisthenics, and do a lot of active playing."

Another factor, hard to define, is the remarkable cultures of India, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Tibet (in China). There is a hardiness developed through millennia, and a gentleness apparent in the Gandhian way of living.

The photo below shows a typical group of our children, active, and usually happy.





Nepal - New to the Home are twin girls Ishika and Aayusha Thakuri, age 6 and studying in the 1st grade, shown at left with their care-giver Mina Karki. Their mother was living on the street and when her husband disappeared, she was no longer able to provide for them.

Below Volunteer-Intern Sylvia Mondy working with one of the Montessori Classes at the Green Tara Child Haven School. Sylvia has worked in Montessori schools around the world and had some very valuable insights to share with the teachers and children. Here they appear to be pondering the number "4".



Nepal – On a recent trip to his village Ram Krishna (right) became inspired to become a health assistant and set up a clinic there, as now people have to travel very far for medical care. He is awaiting the results from his entrance exam at a health assistant training program.



Below left, the new principal of our Green Tara School, Prakash Nagarkoti, with his wife Ranjana Thakulawat and Bonniema holding their daughter, the most beautiful baby in the world, Pauravi. Pauravi means "horizon in the east or west".

Below right, Samual, age 9 and Yubraj, age 7 are ready for their 4th and 2nd Grade classes at Child Haven's Green Tara School.







Kaliyampoondi
Gagalakshmi holding Deeksha, the most beautiful baby in the world, and daughter of care-giver Rajeshwari

Child Haven Support Groups and our Fundraising Dinners

Please check our web site for updated information

Sept 10	**Vancouver, BC**	Katherine Doyle & Ian Cameron 604-255-4077, Yamini 604-476-0264
Sept 16	**Perth, ON**	Sally Ziskowski 613-772-0678, Liisa Rissanen 613-268-2137
Sept 25	**Winnipeg, MB**	Zobida Ambtman 204-489-7630, Arvind Naran 204-891-7510
Oct 1	**Montreal, QC**	Sheila Laursen 514-697-4195, Conny Belanger 514-542-3381
Oct 15	**Hardwick, VT, USA**	Robin Cappuccino 802-533-2296, Rachel Davey 413-250-6204
Oct 16	**Hamilton, ON**	Ginney 905-332-6476, Marion 905-972-0773
Oct 19	**Comox/Courtenay, BC**	Heather Holm 250-338-2181
Oct 29	**Glengarry, ON**	Julie Slater 613-525-1104
Nov 5	**Carleton Place, ON**	Jane Hamilton 613-853-7959
Apr, 2017	**Cornwall, ON**	Elaine MacDonald 613-938-7763
Apr, 2017	**Victoria, BC (Group 3)**	Surinder & Ann Kumar 250-412-5135
Apr 8, 17	**Calgary, AB**	Dave Greene 403-816-1705, Lata Patel 403-462-5474
Apr 21, 17	**Ottawa, ON**	Lynda Inkster 613-837-3532, Dave Basu & Parin Bhimani 613-422-1573
Apr 29, 17	**Mississauga, ON**	Shyam Sheth & Leena Motwani 647-876-8488, Tushar Mehta 416-839-1938
Apr 30, 17	**Waterloo, ON**	Deepti Celetti 519-846-0505, Carol Burrows 519-744-8449
Spring, 17	**Kingston, ON**	Andrew Rush 613-542-6992 or 343-333-1974
Spring, 17	**Victoria, BC (Group 1)**	Christine Johnston 250-385-5444
Spring, 17	**Lincoln, MA, USA**	Christine Damon 781-879-5870
Spring, 17	**Lennoxville, QC**	Keith Baxter 819-346-8273
Oct 22, 17	**Edmonton, AB**	Sylvia Krogh 780-454-6216
Fall, 17	**Qualicum/Parksville, BC**	Leona Matte 250-752-7404
Fall, 17	**Canmore, AB**	Paula Duncan & Simon Bryant 403-609-8125
Fall, 17	**Victoria, BC (Group 2)**	Jenny Farkas 250-721-1579
Fall, 17	**Naniamo, BC**	Robert & Wendy Stewart 250-758-7532, Dale Lawlor 413-250-6204

MVP –Program Co-ordinator Rajni, far right, leads two tailoring classes per day over the summer, from 10 to 12 a.m. and 12 to 2 p.m. with 25 women in each batch. With public school on vacation, many young women take the courses which last for 2 months. When school is in session the courses last for 6 months.



Rajni, a trained nurse, has been working in the community for over 15 years. Once a week during these summer sessions, she does counselling in health and hygiene issues. She talks about cleanliness in the home, food hygiene, and the importance of education for girls. Family Planning is a regular part of her talks. She often visits women in hospital, if needed.

Ruby, below, is one of her students. Her father is a rickshaw puller who if he is lucky, makes 150 rupees a day ($2.90 CDN), unless it is raining then much less.







Hyderabad – Harish Reddy (left) finished Grade 12 with a 91% average, and is now enrolled in a 4 year Mechanical Engineering College. Shekhar (right) received his Diploma in Mechanical Engineering with an 84.6% average. He is now working on a Bachelor's Degree.

Below, some of the older boys are planting spinach in the Home's vegetable garden. Hanumanth, (far right), is now enrolled in a Bachelor of Social Work Degree after becoming interested in helping people through his experiences in the Home.

If you are willing and able to help with our vocational and college student sponsorship program, please contact Sheila Laursen at Sheila@childhaven.ca.



Hyderabad – Oh it can be hot in Hyderabad in June! At right Sandeep, age 18, fills the outdoor water dispenser for the other kids hard at play. On such a day, the dispenser, one of 2 in the yard, can be filled and emptied 7 times!



Sandeep is now enrolled in a Vocational Catering Training Program.

Below, that water tank maintains multiple variations of Hop Scotch, and a volleyball game. Hyderabad's sandy soil proves useful for marking boundaries. Ramkrishna, our watchman of many years (seated at top of picture below) watches.





Kaliyampoondi – Indara, left, has been working at our Home for 22 years. Shortly after her husband died, she came to the Home with her 8-month old baby. Vanita, who is now waiting for her results in her Masters of Chemistry Degree.

Indara says "Child Haven is a temple for me – only after coming here were people respecting me in my community. My favorite work is being with the children".

Meera, right has been working at the Home for 6 years. She came with her son and daughter after her husband left. Her son now works in a steel factory and her daughter is married. She is working as a care-giver for the small boys. She says "I like that the little boys listen to me, and that they call me 'Amma' (mother)."

Meera has diabetes and appreciates that the kitchen makes special food for her and others with sugar issues.



Kaliyampoondi One of the new children at the Home is Kalaselvi, 6-years-old (right). After her mother passed away her father stopped caring for her. She began sleeping at her impoverished grand-mother's home and going house to house in the village looking for food. One of our staff members heard about her situation, and after receiving permission from the local child welfare authorities, brought her to the Home.



Babu Antony, (with his mother below) got the highest marks in his school's Grade 12 exam. Babu's father has polio. Babu was brought to the Home 13 years ago, at the age of 6 and started kindergarten. With Child Haven support, he is now beginning a Bachelor of Science and Math degree at a local Loyola College.





Maitreya Home - Yankey (left) is 18 and has been at the Home for the 10 years. Her single mother makes a living breaking stones on construction sites and is not able to support her. Yankey has 2 brothers in a children's home in Arunachal Pradesh, where her mother lives and where Yankey hopes to return one day. When she does, she would like it to be as a doctor. She is now preparing for her medical entrance exam. If she gets a high mark she hopes to get a seat and scholarship in a government college. Yankey says there is just one hospital in Arunachal Pradesh, and is very hopeful she will get that scholarship. Her plan is to set up a small clinic, and then later a second hospital in Arunachal Pradesh.

Yankey fits in well at the Home as she says Arunachal Pradesh was once a part of Tibet. She would like to "thank everyone in Child Haven for supporting me and Bonniema for inspiring me."

Norbu, age 20, (right) has been in the Home for 15 years. He is from a poor family, with no schools in their community. The only member of his family that went to school was his mother who graduated from Grade 3. He was recommended to Child Haven by a Buddhist monk and nun who came to his village in Arunachal Pradesh. He is now in the final year of a History Honors course. He would like to prepare for the Indian Administrative Exams and at the same time polish up his Tibetan, a requirement for someone working for the Indian Government in Arunachal Pradesh something he would like to do.

Norbu would like to go back to Arunachal Pradesh, because he feels the state is undeveloped, with a clean environment and gentle peaceful people. Norbu plans to prepare for his Exams by taking one year of coaching and study.

Yankey and Norbu both describe how Arunachal Pradesh, the most north-eastern of India's 29 states, was once a part of Tibet and shares strong cultural and religious connections.







Tibet in China – Among the children Child Haven supports here, are 6 living in the village where our Home was located. During Robin's recent visit, the children were away in school, but he met with their family members. Dolgar, age 18 lives with his grandmother (above left). His father lost his job as an elementary school teacher because his mastery of the Chinese language was deemed insufficient. Yishi, in Grade 10, lives with her single mother (above right) who finds day labor when available.

Below, a farmer herding yaks through the village, along the river.





Savarsai – Hemant and Aryan with an ephemeral art piece they helped make utilizing flower petals, seeds, leaves and a hibiscus flower from the Home's garden.



As part of their Summer Program this year, the children made statues out of clay including these two of the Hindu God Ganesh, the "Remover of Obstacles".





Savarsai – The children perform a dance extravaganza for Bonniema on her last visit. The climax came when Indrika (third from right above, and center below) did a series of non-stop cartwheels right across the stage. Indrika had not been someone especially drawn to dance, but when her special skills were called for, she leaped to the opportunity!







Tribal Home - Bhaskar (above left) and Vijay (above right) both belong to a Nomadic tribe. Their families have some cattle with which they make ends meet. Vijay is a welcoming boy. He engages every visitor who comes to the Tribal Home uninhibitedly. Bhaskar and Vijay are great friends.

Sonal (left) is in the 9th grade. She has spent the school-year at the Tribal Home for the last 4 years. She also belongs to a Nomadic Tribe and her father sells milk and curds.

The Tribal Home makes it possible for tribal children to have a secure location from which to attend school as their families move from place to place with their herds or to harvest crops.



Nepal - Students at the Green Tara Child Haven School with the detritus they cleaned from the school grounds as part of their celebration of World Environment Day

Let me light my lamp, says the star,
And never debate if it will dispel the dark
Rabindranath Tagore



Kaliyampoondi Grade 10 girls at 7 a.m. taking their turn weeding the Home's garden in the relative cool of the early morning. Staff member Babu also helps. *Seenu photo*

For donations please make cheque out to CHILD HAVEN, and mail this portion to CHILD HAVEN, 19014 Conc. 7, Maxville, ON K0C 1T0 (or to Box 5099, Massena, NY 13662-5099, USA.) Donations to Child Haven are tax receiptable in Canada, India and the USA. General Full sponsorship is $30/month or $360/year. Half-sponsorship is $15/month or $180/year.

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