

Green Tara - Protector of Children, Women and the Environment

Child Haven International



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Special Edition - May, 2020



Kaliyampoondi This is Darshini who is in the second grade. She came to the Home not long ago, after her father died of HIV. Her mother also is HIV positive and very weak. She was being raised by her grandmother who was having an increasingly hard time supporting her. Her grandmother comes to visit occasionally, but her mother is not able to. Fortunately, her new front teeth are working well enough to make quick work of this afterschool watermelon treat!

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Kaliyampoondi Much like Darshini on the cover, these future agriculturalists of Tamil Nadu were very impressed with the sweetness and juiciness of the watermelon served for their after school snack. They concluded that it would be most advisable to propagate such a desirable watermelon specimen by planting a few of its seeds in a quiet corner of the compound. First they carefully loosened the soil, planted the seeds, watered them and placed protective stones around their plot.

This Home buys watermelon by the ton, sometimes by the field in season, so a few more plants will doubtless be appreciated! The boy's names are Vijay, Kalaiarasan and Muthuraman. They are in Grade 5 and 10 years old.

Child Haven Homes

Meu, 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
Many Other Children are sponsored for education, but are not living in one of our Homes

Child Haven Sponsored Women's Programs

Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, education in tailoring for 50 women at a time; inexpensive sanitary napkin production and sale; Beauty and Wellness Course. Language: Hindi
Rahon, Punjab, education in tailoring for 50 women at a time. Language: Punjabi
Pen Village, Maharashtra, inexpensive sanitary napkin production and sale. Language: Marathi
Kathmandu, Nepal, education in tailoring for women. Language: Nepali

Child Haven's Revenue Canada Charitable number is 11885 1922 RR0001.
Our USA Charitable number is 22-2637689





Kaliyampoondi These pictures taken after the covid-19 lock-down in India show the children and staff practicing social distancing. Visitors have been restricted at this and all our Homes and those who need to come for deliveries and the like are asked to wash their hands at the gate and take other precautions. Staff are remaining on-site for 24 hours, and leaving as little as possible for needed supplies.



The government ordered many of our children to leave the Home to be with any family members they might have. We tried to keep as many children as possible since those leaving often left for homes without clean water and with little food or security. We have been keeping in touch with these children and providing food assistance when needed.

We hope everyone will be able to return soon.

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



Bonnie and I are deeply concerned about all of you in these challenging times. We hope you are finding the support you need. We send our deepest condolences to those who have lost loved ones, and to those struggling with the illness and the economic insecurity the virus has brought upon us. We know that this will pass and know that everyone will do their best to help each other stay safe in the meantime.

Bonnie and I are sequestered here at our Loch Haven farm. Luckily our Child Haven office is attached to our farmhouse. Most of our staff are working remotely from home.

Our kids, and our family doctor and fellow Child Haven Founder, Dr. Nat Shah, have us under strict orders not to leave our farm. Staff and family members bring us groceries and the like. Bonnie is learning what it's like to sit still for a change. The phone and email keeps us in constant touch with our Homes overseas, family and friends.

Life on our farm is a lot more relaxed these days. There was a time when we had 16 of our own children living here, and also a renovated shed full of newly arrived Vietnamese refugees. Our 4 milking dairy cows back then made a huge difference in the family finances. Our girls did the milking and the boys cleaned out the stalls. Bonnie mostly stayed in the kitchen cooking and doing laundry (except when she was off gallivanting in Asia setting up Children's Homes, as if there wasn't enough work to do around the farm).

When she was here she liked to show off - like when she and the girls grabbed pitch-forks and pretended to be cleaning out the barn for a visiting photographer (below). Of course I was much more likely to be down in the barn, but she likes to get all the credit.

We're lucky to be cooped up in such a beautiful place. There are wild turkeys and ruffed grouse that walk through the yard, and the occasional deer passing by as well. Spring is in the air, the leaves are budding and soon it will be time to plant a tomato in the pot by the front door. Maybe I'll plant a few seeds. I'll find a bucket, grab a shovel and gloves and give them to Bonnie ask her to go find some of that manure she was shoveling in that picture. I'm sure she'll remember where to find it. Besides, I'll remind her that Dr. Shah says it is important to get exercise while we're cooped up here. We'll see how that goes. I'll get back to you. Take care!



Bonnie showing off with our daughters Tibiki, Mei Lin and Kim Chi



Kathmandu It's a Grade Two homework and study class with Girl's Care Giver Shusila. Studying with her are the scholars from left to right, Shankar, Ayush, Rytham, John and Tilganga.

With school cancelled during the corona-virus lock-down, these study classes are keeping our children up-to-date with their studies.

This is a Grade Six Social Studies class at our Green Tara Child Haven School. It is being taught by Prakash Simkhada. Prakash grew up in our Home. After studying Fine Arts (he is a very talented artist) he became interested in studying social work and is now working on a Bachelor in Social Work degree. He has also discovered that he very much enjoys teaching and is helping out in the school in his spare time.

All schools in Nepal including our Green Tara Child Haven School have been closed during the corona-virus lock-down.





Our new computer room is located in Dr. Pradhan's Cottage next to the kitchen. The room was renovated and computers added thanks to generous donations to our Needs Chart! The new lab is proving to be most helpful as an engaging activity for both staff and kids during the corona-virus lock-down.

Thanks to everyone who helped! The Grade 9 class shown here and all our other children are making very good use of this new learning opportunity.





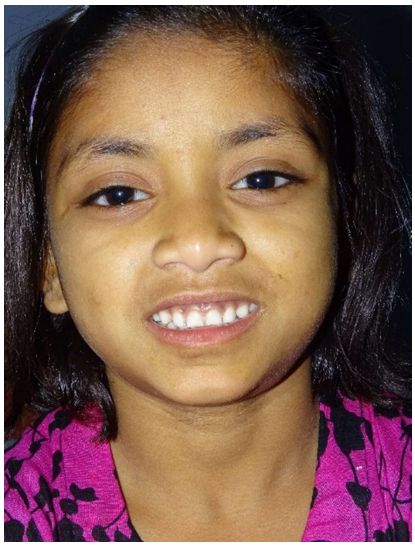


Chittagong After some of our students did well on their exams, Manager Jasmin and Assistant Manager Forhad decided to take them to a Book Fair to help purchase books for our Home library from funds donated to our Needs Chart (above). The purchasers included, (above left) Forhad, Shetu, Sweety, visiting Volunteer Intern Coleen McShea, Subeha, Jasmin, Ayesha, Usanu, and Pathan.

The library has become a popular site during the covid-19 lock-down for our children including Jannatun (below left) and Jawing (below right).






Chittagong Here are some of the new children at this Home. Polinush, above left, is 7 years old. He is from the Shawtal indigenous community in Northern Bangladesh. One of our Assistant Manager Forhad's cousins works in that area. He heard that Polinush's mother had died and that he was staying with his grandmother until she also died. After checking with government officials, it was confirmed that his father had run away and so Polinush was welcomed into our Home where he is adjusting well.

Nasrin, (center above) came to the Home this winter. Her father is missing and her mother makes a very small salary as a maid. She was unable to watch Nasrin during the day or afford to feed and clothe her.

Bakul, (above right), also came to the Home recently. Her mother died in childbirth. Her father ran off. She was living with her grandmother, but she is quite elderly and no longer able to work in the garment factory where she was employed. Now that the corona virus has come, millions of garment factory workers in Bangladesh have been laid off as contracts are cancelled. Now these women are now facing an economic crisis much like that of Bakul's grandmother.

Below, the children play in the court-yard during the Bangladesh lock-down in this photo recently sent by Forhad. Nasrin is second from the right. Matron Sokina keeps score in this tag game.





Chittagong – Staff member Rehana helps some of the children wash their hands. This picture was taken before the corona-virus became an issue. All our Homes are now washing hands throughout the day, restricting visitors and making every effort to keep all the children and staff safe and well.

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