

Green Tara - Protector of Children, Women, and the Environment

Child Haven International



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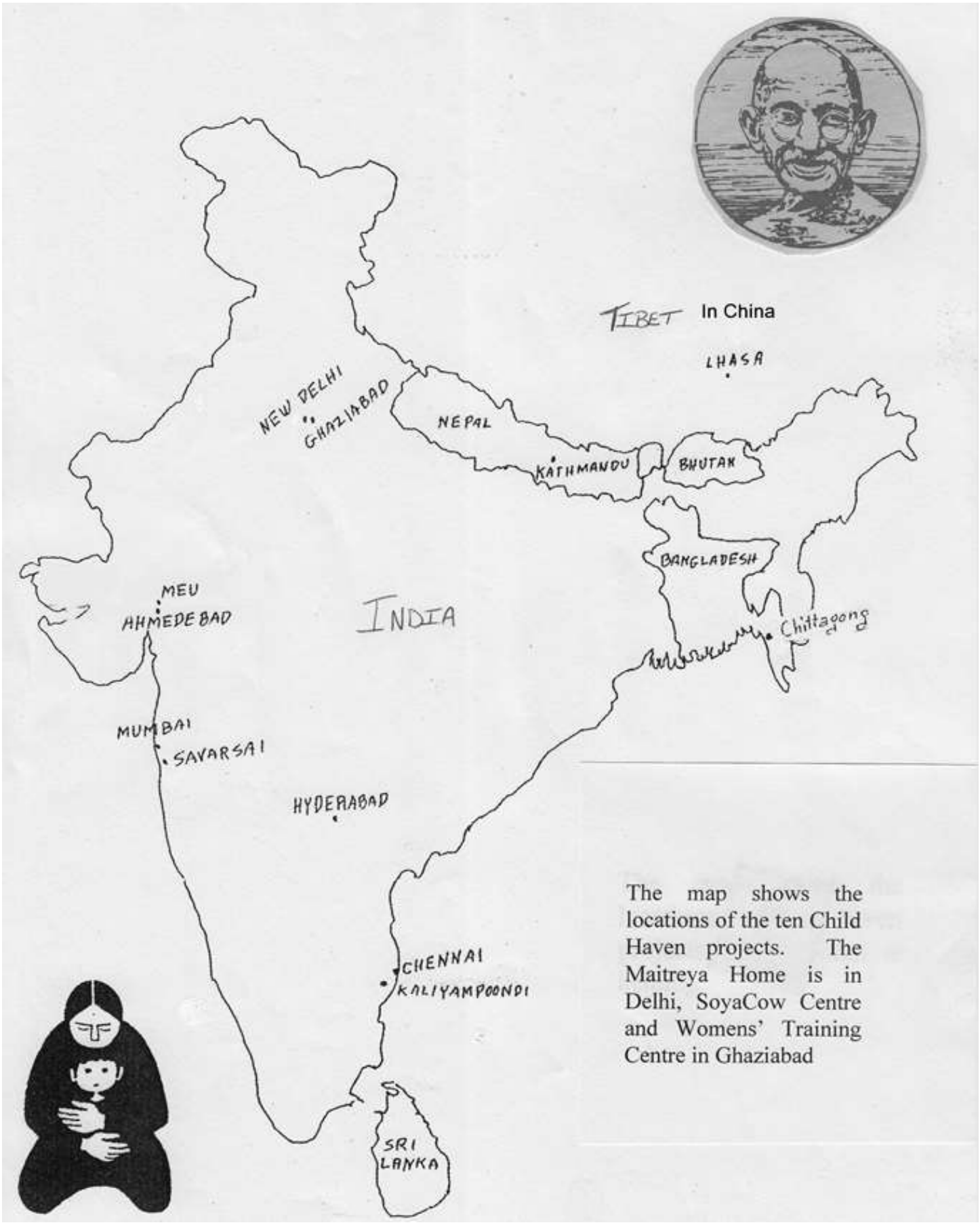
Spring 2021



Kaliyampoondi – Our Office Manger Seenu took this photo. We think he asked them if there was anything girls couldn't do better than the boys.

Editor's Note, We have printed in black and white for many years to help save funds. Having realized that the cost for colour is going way down and, with so many of our loved ones shut-in during the pandemic, we are offering our newsletter in full colour to help uplift us all with the most beautiful children in the world.

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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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Chittagong – Farouk, above left as a young boy in the Home, and to the right more recently grown up. He graduated several years ago with a degree in electronics and is now working as an electrical lineman. During a recent visit he mentioned that while he has a somewhat dangerous job, he is excited to be working and helping to support his single mother.

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

Women's Programs Child Haven Sponsored

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





Chittagong – One of the regular practices at this Home and others is for the children, both boys and girls, to practice and develop their culinary talents, a very necessary skill. Here, some of the older girls have taken a turn preparing a special meal for everyone which is served as a buffet in the court-yard. Above left, two of the chefs, Binita and Preti, deep-fry delicacies. Above right, the food is served.



To the right Anonna and Punam with their first helpings.

Below, Tasfia, Kamis and Joyanti partake of the feast. As is the custom in this part of the world, our girls are using their hands to eat. According to our interns who have embraced this method, the food tastes even better!





Chittagong – Volunteer/Intern Dyane Lynch of Burnaby, B. C., was all set to go to Nepal to help out in our Green Tara Child Haven School when the pandemic took us all by storm. Undaunted, Dyane, with the help of our staff in Nepal arranged to teach on-line Advanced English classes for our teachers at the school once a week. This went so well that she is also working from Canada with the teachers and some of the students at our Chittagong Home and school. To the left is a screen shot of teacher Asma Akter (large photo) and some of our other Chittagong teachers and students on a zoom call with Dyane.

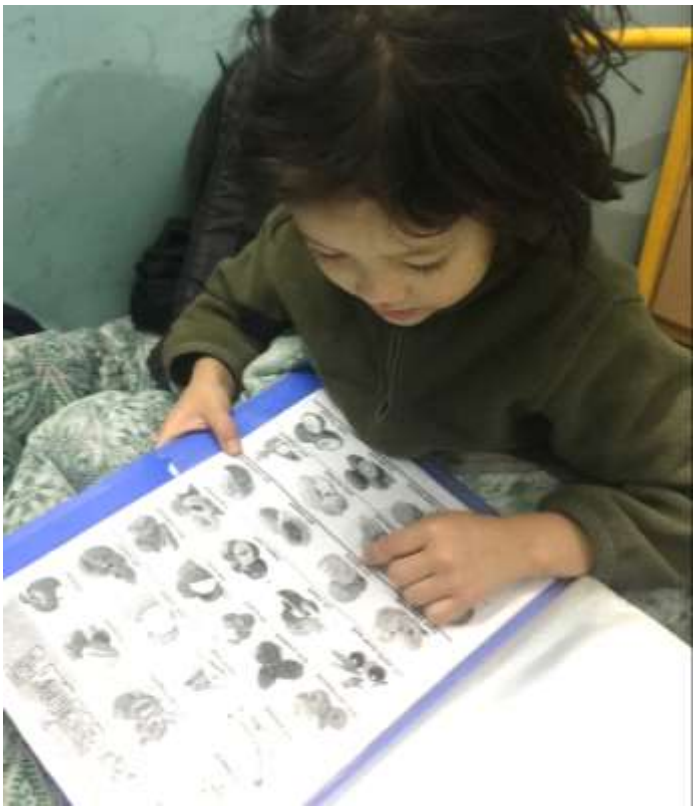
To the right some of our young agronomists survey the crops they are monitoring in this plantation in the Home's courtyard. They are from left to right, Jawing (6), Polinush (7), and Mong Thin Laug (6).



Below are some of our girls modelling the new frocks made for them by our multi-talented Matron Sokhina. From left to right they are Tasifa (8), Bokul (7), Mihika (9), Kamis (10), Rabiya (8), Joyanti (8), and Nasrin (7).

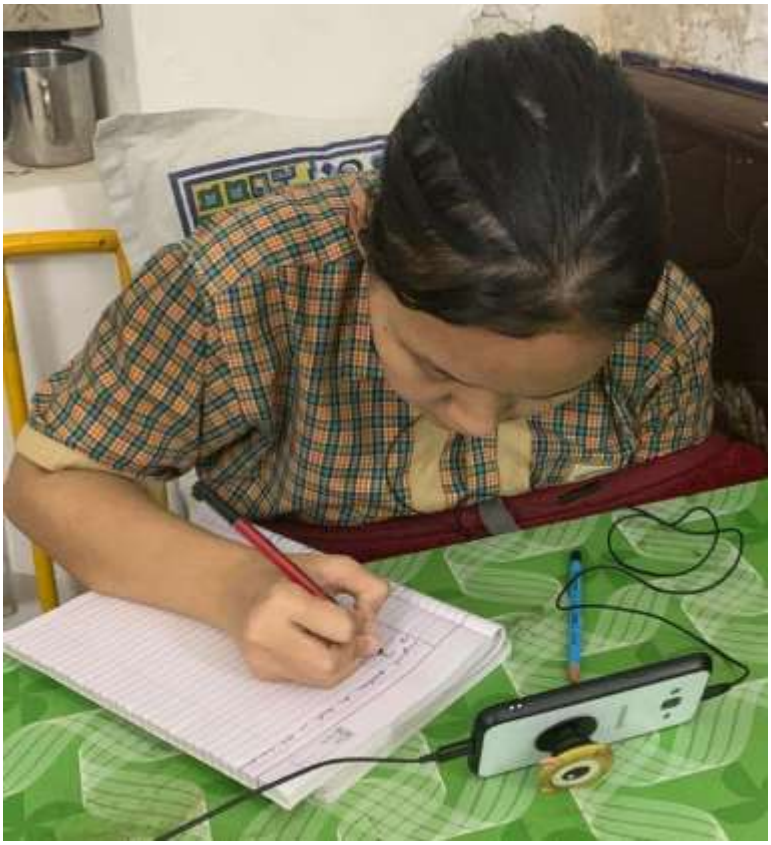






Maitreya Home – Above, Tsering Yankey gives Tenzin Dasel a haircut. Tsering Yankey has many skills. She is studying to be a Homeopathic Doctor. Six-year-old Tenzin Dasel gets a lot of attention at the Home being the youngest. Above right, Tenzin turns her attention to learning the names of her favorite fruits.

Below, Lhamo, left, and Tenzin Sangpo, right, are busy studying in their on-line Grade Nine classes. Every phone, lap-top and computer are requisitioned for these classes.









Maitreya Home – Above, Several of our older students were visiting relatives when the covid-19 lockdown came. They have stayed in regular communication with the Home over phone and zoom. Above is a screen shot of our student Deki video-calling with Home Manager Genden (with mask). To the right above is Tenzing Dakpa speaking with Gendan as well.

To the right, Sonam Dhondup is preparing bread for the morning's breakfast. The young people are on a rotation to help out preparing meals for the Home. Sonam Dhondup is in the third year of his college studies in Tourism Management.



Meu – The boys to the right are practicing their meditation on the roof of the boy's dorm on an early morning. It gets pretty hot up there later in the day, but morning meditation with the sound of calling birds works well.





To the left, Mehul, (left), and Hitesh, (right), exercise their long-range strategy and crisis response skills in this game of chess.

With school closed except for on-line classes for part of the day, the children have the opportunity to focus on other pastimes and skills.

To the right, Pal, age 11, Roshni, in the center, age 12 and Hasti, right also 12, practice on the Home's key-board.

Behind them are a few of the treadle sewing machines that the boys and girls take lessons on every week.









Meu – New in the Home are Kailash, 5, (far left above) and her brother Prakash, 8 years old. They are full orphans and have adjusted well to the Home since this picture taken on their arrival.

Also new are siblings (above right) Dipika, 7, Tushar, 2 and Sahil 3. When their mother passed away, their father was not able to watch over them when he was away working as a labourer. When a neighbor began harassing Dipika, their aunt found out, and they were brought to the Home where they are now flourishing.



Above the children play a game in the courtyard.

To the right, some of the Grade 10 students crowd around a lap-top which is tuned into their lessons for the day. It certainly has been a challenge to follow along remotely, but everyone is managing as best they can. It helps to be studying as a group so they can explain things to each other as needed.







Savarsai – Since Bonniema, age 86, refuses to climb the coconut trees, we hire the coconut tree man twice a year to harvest the Home's trees. His usual fee is 150 rupees per tree, but he likes Child Haven so just charges 100!

Above right and below, Home Gardener, Sudhir, opens some of the coconuts for the children.









Savarsai – Our Manager Prakash sent these photos of some manure being delivered by a local farmer with his team of oxen who no doubt also helped produce the product they are helping to deliver.

Their offering is well used to fertilize the chekoo tree (above left), and also the banana trees that our gardener Sudhir shows off. The garden also produces greens which our cooks Rohini and Monisha are preparing for tonight's meal.







Savarsai – When a road crew came to extend the road in front of our Home almost up to our boundary wall, some of our boys got inspired. Using the tools at hand, huge "boulders" were moved and the ground levelled, to expand the play area inside the compound!

Below, after a hard day's work, there was still plenty of energy for a rollicking game of dodge-ball.







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Direct Deposit provides Canadian and US donors an automated process for one-time and recurring contributions.

Using our secure online application, you can set up a withdrawal from your bank account through a simple electronic funds transfer. Lower transaction charges and reduction of handling and processing; Direct Deposit is a cost effective method of receiving contributions.

The Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) Agreement form is available through our web site under "direct deposit" Call us if you need help.

DONATING BY CREDIT CARD can be made through our web site or by calling Child Haven directly, 613-527-2829.

DONATING THROUGH UNITED WAY

To give through United Way, just designate your donation to 'Child Haven International' and include our Registered Charity # Canada 11885 1922 RR0001. USA 22-2637689. Receipts are issued by United Way.

There is a serious problem in donating through United Way. Some cities, including Ottawa, because of a misguided sense of confidentiality, do not give us the names of donors, and we cannot acknowledge and thank you for your gift. Donations through Canada Helps may also present this problem.

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 under "Donating"



Sponsorship Co-coordinator, Sheila Laursen
Social Worker, Christine Johnston, MSW
Office Manager, Steven Bayne
Book-Keeper, Cheryl Ladouceur
Dinner Liaison, Beth Keogan
Web Developer, Kerry Keogan
Administrative Assistant, Chris Cappuccino
Donor Support, Sharon Fialco
Refugee Counsellor in Canada, Tara Upreti
Bazaar and Auction Liaison, Pam Hellstrom
Canadian Directors of Child Haven: Dr. Nat Shah, Peter Freud,
Bonnie and Fred Cappuccino, Bernadette Caron
Decal of Gandhi, P V Anthony,
Mother & Child logo, Eugene Fern
Sketch of Bonnie and Fred, Andrina Cox
International Director, Bonnie Cappuccino
Erudite and Elegant Newsletter – Editor Emeritus, Fred Cappuccino
Editor, Robin Cappuccino

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



It is always reassuring when I have some evidence from another source to affirm what a determined force of nature I have been married to for the past 67 years! Today's affirmations come from the recollections of our dear friend and longtime Child Haven supporter Ida Fisher. To wit, on page 72 of her newly published ***MY VISION IS A PARADOX***, she describes her journey in 1985 to be a volunteer/intern at our very first Children's Home in Gujarat, replacing our son Mohan who had been stuck there for 9 months after planning to stay for 3 months. She describes Bonnie's practical approach to things well when she quotes Bonnie helpfully telling her on a walk to the market that "If the dirt is cold, it's sand; if it's warm, it's camel dung." She went on to recall that the fruit vendor at the market always gave more bananas to the rupee when Bonniema was in town and also insisted they both come to supper at his home.

On a trip years later she recounts how she accompanied Bonnie in Nepal to purchase items for the Child Haven Silent Auctions back home in Canada. Ida says; "when I was with Bonnie in Nepal, she purchased a huge assortment of traditional Hindu and Buddhist items as well as antiques. Certain antique dealers acquired *objets d'art* to auction at the fund-raising dinners in Canada for Child Haven. One vendor had a box with Bonnie's name under the table. A German tour bus had arrived and swarmed his table. He gave us money and said, "Go to the tea shop and come back in twenty minutes." The Germans were gone when we returned. The vendor said "I can make more money in just twenty minutes from the Germans than I can bargaining with Bonniema."

You can order a copy of Ida's lovely memoir, at volumesdirect.com/products/my-vision-is-a-paradox. All proceeds going to Child Haven.



The most beautiful baby in the world and some other characters watching Bonniema on one of her Silent Auction shopping trips in Nepal



MVP – Our intrepid Women's Vocational Training Programs are stitching on. Under the stewardship of Rajni, (standing), women wishing to find a means to support their families continue to learn a marketable skill. Here in Ghaziabad they are using newspaper to make patterns and learn to cut fabric to size. When fabric is scarce, they practice sewing using pieces of paper as well. They are utilizing their newly found skills by continuing to make masks for people in need. Our project in Rahon, in the Punjab is also doing the same.

Child Haven Support Groups and our Fundraising Dinners

While our Dinners are on-hold at the moment due to the coronavirus, your donations are still most needed and appreciated to provide loving care for our children. Thank-you! Some of our Support Groups are sponsoring Zoom events featuring updates on our Homes and cameo appearances and performances by some of our children. Please check our web site for updated information

Burlington, VT, USA	Elango Dev 802-598-2630
Vancouver, BC	Katherine Doyle & Ian Cameron 604-255-4077, Yamini 604-999-2549
Winnipeg, MB	Zobida Ambtman 204-489-7630
Hardwick, VT, USA	Robin Cappuccino & Sharon Fialco 802-533-2296, Deborah Hart 802-472-5284
Montreal, QC	Sheila Laursen 514-697-4195, Conny Belanger 514-542-3381
Glengarry, ON	Alyson Graham 613-525-0796, Julie Slater 613-525-1104
Comox/Courtenay, BC	Heather Holm 250-338-2181
Qualicum/Parksville, BC	Cilla Lewenhaupt 250-752-0968
Carleton Place, ON	Jane Hamilton 613-853-7959
Hamilton, ON	Ginny Megin 905-332-6474, Valerie Doughtery 905-465-1911
Perth, ON	Lori Taylor 613-803-1184, Tracey Parker 613-267-4305
Edmonton, AB	Sylvia Krogh 780-454-6216
Canmore, AB	Paula Duncan & Simon Bryant 403-609-8125
Lincoln MA USA	Christine Damon 781-879-5870
Calgary, AB	Salimah Jina 403-284-4696, Cindy Skrukwa 403-686-3595
Lennoxville, QC	Keith Baxter 819-346-8273
Mississauga, ON	Shyam Sheth & Leena Motwani 647-876-8488, Tushar Mehta 416-839-1938
Waterloo, ON	Sydney Cook 519-578-7837
Ottawa, ON	Lynda Inkster 613-837-3532, Parin Bhimani 613-422-1573
Kingston, ON	Andrew Rush 613-542-6992 or 343-333-1974
Cornwall, ON	Elaine MacDonald 613-939-7763



Kaliyampoondi– A Child Haven Home Manager has many responsibilities! As Manager Ganesh demonstrates (left), they can include defending your marbles reputation. Ganesh grew up in this Home so he knows a thing or two about marbles! He and Bonniema speak by phone almost daily about happenings in our Homes.

Below the children take part in an on-line educational game.



If you are lucky, when you help out in the garden, our gardener, Muthal, (far right) just might reward you with some coconut water from inside the fruit of one of our trees. Here he is lopping the ends off coconuts for staff members who were helping him transplant seedlings.







Kaliyampoondi

Pongal is a traditional harvest festival celebrated with great enthusiasm primarily in Tamil Nadu.

According to tradition, the festival marks the end of winter solstice. Elaborate rituals are held in thanks for the year's harvest as our staff and children are doing above.

To the left, some of our girls with a huge ***kolam***, a rice-flour assemblage created to celebrate the occasion.





Kaliyampoondi – Forty-nine of our young artists entered their work in an all India on-line drawing competition on the theme of cleanliness. The winner for all of southern India was our own Ramya, age 17, above left. Her winning entry is below. Above right are Immanuvel, Dinesh and Kamalesh, all of whom are 15 and in the tenth grade with their covid-themed entries.







Kathmandu – With covid cases going down, the municipal government has authorized schools to re-open around our Home, including our Green Tara Child Haven School in which our own children are enrolled along with around 400 children from the community, many with scholarship support from Child Haven. The school re-opening was just in time for the Saraswati Puja. The festival is observed by worshipping Saraswati, the Hindu goddess of knowledge, wisdom, learning, art, music and culture. At our school the festival included offerings to Saraswati's statue in the school court-yard. Treats were served, and much wondrous learning anticipated!



Here is an excerpt from ***BECOMING NANCI DIDI, My Child Haven Journey***, by Nanci Burns of Ottawa. This 60 page book in a magazine format, has over 160 colour photographs. It chronicles Nanci's experiences as a volunteer/intern for three months at our Kathmandu Children's Home.

"I Cried Today – It Is Sibling Day"



"It's the last day of Tihar, a 5 day Hindu Festival that honours the crow, the dog, the cow and the ox. Today siblings are honoured. Don't ask me to explain the logic. However, what better place to see a sibling ceremony but in a home of 100 plus children. I had no idea what to expect, however, the floor paintings, lights, candles, food preparation and new clothing were all indications that this would be a special day. At noon, the mats were rolled out and the boys took a seat. The girls lined up and paraded around the boys three times (everything is always three times). Then the recognition of each boy began. The first "sister" in line put oil in his hair. The next "sister" combed his hair. The third sister put flower petals on his head. The next sister put a wreath of strung flowers around his neck. Then, the next five sisters, each with a dish of different coloured paints, put a tika on the forehead. Then, each sister stood in front of each boy and the boy bowed to her. Following me so far?

Then it was the girls turn, and the boys lovingly put tikas on all their sisters' foreheads. It was a very moving ceremony and I was teary throughout. If anyone questions whether attachment takes place, they should definitely visit on sibling day. Such caring and love between siblings (many of whom) have no parents, can see how they have created their own caring environment that is inclusive, caring and non-judgmental. It's amazing to witness and feel a part of it."



Nanci wrote this book as a fund-raiser for Child Haven. It can be purchased for $21.99 at the site below where an on-line version is also available for $11.99.

www.blurb.ca/b/10165428-becoming-nanci-didi

All proceeds from the sale of this magazine will go to support Child Haven.



Hyderabad – The boys practice yoga in the early morning light with the Sunrise Salutation. Below you can also see the boy's dorm to the left, and girl's dorm to the right, with the covered study hall in between.



Below left, Boy's Supervisor, Yadagiri, and some of our boys create a fruit cake with fruit donated by one of the Home's supporters in the local community. Local donors often make a contribution to the Homes in commemoration of a family birthday, death anniversary, or religious holiday. We appreciate this affirmation and support from the communities surrounding our Homes.

Below right, some of the boys excited to cut and serve their creation to the children and staff at the Home.













Kaliyampoondi – Above left, Office Manager Seenu, wife Sandhiya and son Mithun with the most beautiful baby in the world, Milan.

Above right, Boy's Supervisor Babu delivering rice to local families in need of assistance.

To the left, Babu serves oranges for dessert as part of a special meal. Across from him is Jersha,who is in Grade Two. She has no father and her mother is unable to provide for her.

Above are some of our little boys during a prayer affirming all faiths before the meal.



Kaliyampoondi – Future scientist, Vennila, is doing experiments in gravitational push and pull. She is six-years-old and in Grade 2. Her parents are destitute and travel from place to place trying to survive. They visit her when they can.

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

Rabindranath Tagore





All Our Homes – Increasingly, local government officials have requested that we take at-risk girls and teenagers into our Homes for short periods of time to provide a safe haven while legal and custody issues are sorted out. While this can upset the more familial long-term relationships that our Homes are grounded in, we are gratified that these girls have a safe harbor during the challenges they are confronting through no fault of their own. In many instances the only other option for these young people would be being held in a prison.

Above are some of the girls and teens we have enjoyed sharing our Homes with. Their names are omitted to protect their privacy. To the right, held by one of these young people is Stefan, the most beautiful baby in the world, child of our staff member Stella. Below him is another of her sons, Praveen Raj.

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.

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