



Blessing Home

Update for 2017-2018 Academic Year



"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23)

We again begin our newsletter by giving thanks to God. He has never failed us. He has upheld this Home through 15 years of changes and challenges, meeting every need according to His riches in glory.

We have much to celebrate. As we look back over this past year, we rejoice to see the fruits of this Home and God's faithfulness. The Home began with 13 young children in 2003. Over the past few years we have seen many children finally graduate from the home: they finished their studies, got good jobs, and are living independently in Bangalore. Read a few of their stories in the following pages. We did not know what would happen when we began this Home;

we never dreamed so many children would be rescued from poverty and despair to live rich and independent lives. We thank God for His kindness to us all.

The Blessing Home currently cares for 22 children in residence. Two more are in nursing programs, staying at their schools. A few more children are on family support: they live with their families but the Home pays for their school, educational, and medical expenses. In total, the Home is caring for about 30 children. As children graduate, we fill their spots with new young children in need. You can read about some of them in the following pages.

Here at the Home, we aim to care for all aspects of a child's existence. Not only do we provide for a high-quality English medium education, spiritual care and growth, social needs, but we also care for their bodies through healthy meals and regular medical care. In April 2018, all the children received their regular medical checkups. In August 2018, a team from the Rajiv Gandhi Medical College provided a dental checkup for all the children.

God has always been faithful. We entrust our future to Him as well, because surely His mercies are new every morning.

Gaining New Experiences!



Around Christmas time and New Years, the children have a wide variety of special experiences. On December 16, the Blessing Home organized a Christmas program and fellowship dinner for all of our friends, childrens' families, and well-wishers. The food was entirely sponsored by our partners. Children gave testimonies, and graduates of the Blessing Home returned and shared what they were doing for work. It was a joyful time of fellowship together.

Throughout the Christmas season, the children are invited to various institutions and recreation centres to put on cultural programs including song and dance. They also received gifts and enjoyed a variety of food. On Christmas Day, a local restaurant exclusively hosted the Blessing Home to a special meal, and the children enjoyed games and other fun activities (table tennis, snooker). On New Years Eve, a partner sponsored another special dinner at another restaurant.

In May 2018, during the childrens' summer holiday, we took everyone on a day trip to Mango Mist Resort in Bangalore. They enjoyed the pools, activities, and food. In addition, all of the teens went to a three-day teens camp, where they met other young people from different places. There were social gatherings, individual counseling, and teaching times. The man who hosts it is very familiar with the challenges that teenagers face. He sees their struggles and was able to encourage and help them in those areas.

Congratulations to our Inspiring Graduates!



Monisha

Monisha, who has been at the Blessing Home from the beginning 15 years ago, completed her pre-university (12th standard). She is going on to do a diploma in education (D.Ed.). She is passionate about teaching, and wants to be a primary teacher to help young students. When she was younger, Monisha was very timid and quiet. Now she feels her eyes have been opened, and she feels confident and capable to teach young children, as well as understanding their challenges.



Preethi

Preethi has also been at the Blessing Home since the beginning in 2003. After losing both parents, Preethi did not know what would happen in her future. Two years ago she finished pre-university college. She enrolled in an operation theater technician course, and has just graduated. She now works as a technician in a hospital in Bangalore. Now she is happy she can take care of herself. Fifteen years ago, she never imagined she would come up in life like this.



Ezekiel

Ezekiel joined the Blessing Home 13 years ago with his younger sister Ruth. Ezekiel always worked hard, always getting through in first class. He has now completed a Bachelors degree in commerce (B.Com), which he also got through in first class. He is now working for an IT company in Bangalore, he is independent and taking care of himself, and he helps the Blessing Home as much as he is able.



Anuja

Having lost both parents, Anuja was struggling, not knowing what to do, but she came in contact with BH and joined 13 years ago. She studied very well, and her desire was always to help sick people, so she joined a nursing program. She recently completed nursing degree at Bangalore Baptist Hospital, and will soon join there as a staff nurse. Anuja is very happy to finally be able to serve sick people. She has learned a lot in school and is very confident and independent now. If she can get the funds, she would like to go to higher studies in B.Sc. in Nursing.

A Letter from Ezekiel

"When I came to Blessing Home, I came without anything and no hope. When I came to this Home, I found that it is a loving and caring Home. It was like a strong tower for me. As I was growing, my life changed totally. I got an opportunity to study English medium, and a will to study and come up in life. I have now completed my B.Com with very good marks, and got an opportunity to work in Great West Global Services Pvt Ltd. Now I am able to stand on my own feet, and I thank God for all the people who played such an important role in my life, especially Prema Amma."

– Ezekiel

Family Support

In addition to our Home, we support a few families who are unable to afford educational or medical resources for their children. This past year one of those students successfully completed her Bachelors of Commerce and is now working for an IT company.

Welcome to the Family!

Shirley's father is an alcoholic who does not care for his three girls. Her mother is unable to help her children due to health issues, and no family members will take them in. She was put in Blessing Home in May 2018, when she was 6 years old. She is starting from scratch in UKG (upper kindergarden). She is intelligent and lively, makes friends quickly, and is slowly picking up in her studies.



Anushka's father died, and her mother works in a tea shop. Unfortunately, she does not make enough to care for Anushka. They live in a slum where it is not safe for a girl to be left at home all day while her mother works, so Anushka joined the Blessing Home in May 2018 for her safety and education. She is now very comfortable, very clever, and interested to study and come up in life.

Veena and Kusuma are sisters who have no one to care for them. Their mother died, and father does not care for the children. They were raised by grandmother, but she is growing old and finding it difficult to continue. They are from a poor background with no family support, and they were not going to school. Their grandmother heard about the Blessing Home and entered them in July 2018. Veena is now in 6th standard, Kusuma in 5th standard. They are gradually picking up their studies.



Special Thanks to Our Friends and Partners

We want to express our deepest gratitude to all our donors and friends of the Home who make this important work possible. A heartfelt thanks to all those who sponsored special meals, celebrations, day trips, new clothing, and many other generous gifts. We always pray for you all and give thanks to God for providing through you.

Prayer Requests

Praise the Lord that after 15 years of saving, Blessing Home has acquired a small plot of land, with the dream of building our own home for 25 children so we can drastically reduce rent costs. Pray for wisdom, and for finances to build a home there.

Pray for those who have graduated from the Home to settle down in their life and find a godly marriage partner.

Please pray that the children continue to grow in their spiritual walk with God and that they are fulfilled in Christ.

Praise God for the 11 children who have graduated from the Home and stepped out to be working and living independently. Pray for their continued guidance and protection, and that they could serve the Lord in all that they do and be a blessing.

Pray for the children doing nursing (Sashikala, Praveena) – for their studies and financial support.

Pray for Jennifer's skin problem. Many excellent doctors are unable to find a solution. Pray for her treatment, complete healing, and medical expenses.

Pray for volunteers to encourage the children and help in office.

How to Partner with Blessing Home

Volunteer opportunities: Office help is needed. We also welcome volunteers to help tutor, mentor, and entertain the children.

Sponsorship opportunities: Our largest expenses include a huge amount of school fees, so we are looking for individual sponsors to fund our childrens' higher studies. We are also desperately praying for donors for construction of the building. Your donations are tax-exempted under Section 80-G of the Income Tax Act.

Contact:

Blessing Home

Registered office: No.55, 1st Cross, BDS Gardens, Behind St. Michael's School, Hennur main Road Kothanur Post, Bangalore 560-077

Email: blessinghome2003@gmail.com

Mobile: 97413 79444

Landline: 080 284 45172

Website: www.theblessinghome.com