

GRACE Cares, Inc.
7773 Guilford Street
Brattleboro, VT 05301
www.gracecares.com
gracecaresvt@yahoo.com

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Subject: GRACE Cares Year End Update 2008



Children in the Community Center in La Lomita

Dear GRACE Cares Supporters:

We just received this excellent report from our Lucknow Project Director Nazee Nasser. Despite her busy schedule as a first year college student Nazee has found the time to update us on the incredible progress she has made with improving educational opportunities with two rural, poor schools in India. Attached is her full report. But the following piece of the report reminds us why GRACE is so important:

I have taught English at this school during the past three summers to the school's 325 female students aged 4-19, and about 75 boys under the age of 12. I have found that "The opportunity to learn English allows the children to seek higher education when they get older, but without money, nobody (especially the girls!) will be able to progress. I want these kids to go far, I want them to reach for the stars. They have so many dreams--- girls have told me they want to be doctors and pilots, but without higher education...what will happen? Another generation of women with deferred dreams will be created, women who had the resources in terms of ambition and basic education, but not in terms of finances to build their futures.

2008 has also seen the addition of another GRACE Cares project in India, the TROLL Trust - Supporting Children in Southeast India. A colleague of mine, Tamara Evans, who was a Pfizer Global Health Fellow in India is the Project Director along with local Project Coordinator V. Rajaganapathy.

The goal of this project is to support the ongoing needs of children of poor day laborers and children living in orphanages in Southeast India. To date, the TROLL Trust has provided food, clothing, and school supplies to 125 children in the Nambikkai Illam orphanage in Vellore and to 60 children of poor day laborers in Moolaikolli, Rangapuram. Two cows and a calf were also purchased by a donor in order to make milk available on a daily basis to the children of Nambikkai Illam.



Some Donated Supplies

A recently identified home for 80 deaf and handicapped children needs a generator to operate during the orphanage's frequent bouts of power failure and requires funds to support the day-to-day struggles that these disadvantaged children face. The project hopes to assist in meeting the

needs of the many desperate children in this area of Southeast India and to eventually provide them with opportunities to assist with their goal of self-sustainability.

We remain active in supporting the La Lomita project in the Dominican Republic . Our local Project Coordinator Ruben Ottenwalder remains tireless and generous in support of his community. We also want to welcome Grace Springer-Goldberg, our youngest member, who has shown enormous generosity by asking her friends instead of giving her birthday presents this year to donate school supplies to La Lomita. Last year, GRACE Care provided funds to build a water system for two communities. This year we have provided funds to feed the children in the community. Ruben would like to bring sustainability to his community by starting a Cassava bakery which requires \$6,000 in start-up costs.

So please as GRACE supporters share this email with friends and family and ask them to make tax deductible donations to:

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They can visit our website at www.gracecares.com. Remember, purchases of art, photos and poetry at www.vermontpoet.com benefit GRACE Cares. Do your holiday shopping in one convenient spot!

Also, think about hosting a holiday party and asking people to make a donation to GRACE Cares instead of bringing wine or food to the party. Any other fundraising ideas? Please share.

Thanks for all your help and giving to those in need.
Remember: One great, strong, unselfish soul in every community could actually redeem the world.

Sincerely,

T. Namaya & Zoe Kopp
For GRACE Cares

