



PARTNERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF INDIA PARTNERS

OCTOBER 2006

Bill and Nikki: Advocates for India

Sitting at the kitchen table, Bill Stevenson was reading through a past issue of this newsletter. He came across an article that talked about joining a volunteer team to India. The article piqued his interest. Bill asked his wife Nikki whether she would be interested in joining that team. To his amazement, she did not say no. In fact, it soon became apparent that God was calling them to volunteer their time, talent and their hearts in India. They applied to join an India Partners team.



You can put smiles on their faces!

Before they knew it, the wheels of their aircraft touched down in Chennai. Even with their team training, says Nikki, they were not prepared for what they saw. Among her first impressions were “myriads of people, garbage in open piles, humanity going as fast as they can.” The constant car horns, the smells, seeing the wealthy getting out of their fancy cars with truly impoverished people all around—like nearly every first-time visitor to India, Bill and Nikki’s senses were overwhelmed.

However, as they worked alongside our partner organizations, their initial

sensations gave way to their love for the people of India and deep appreciation of our partners.

Bill was personally moved by the faith of Pastor Parishudha Babu, Director of **Orphans Faith Home (OFH)**.

“When Pastor Babu said that he prays for a miracle every day, that really touched me,” Bill said. “How often do we pray for miracles?” Nikki was touched by the children at the orphanage, where, to her pleasant surprise, she found joy and hope abounding: “You can see the kids are happy!” she exclaimed. “They’re happy, content, being cared for.”

The Stevensons were impressed by the humility of all our partners. “Real, no pretense,” is how Nikki describes the Directors of **Living Sacrifice Ministries (LSM)**, Eliezer Devasahayam and his wife Prema Kumari. Eliezer and Prema have such a heart for the orphans in their town that they opened their own house to eight orphan children.

When Bill and Nikki learned that these eight orphans were to enter India Partners’ sponsorship program, they said they wished to find sponsors for them through their church. Shortly after their return from

India, they shared at their church how they were amazed that a young couple with children of their own would open their home to eight orphans. Bill and Nikki placed photos and biographies of each orphan at LSM in the front of their church. After they spoke, people went to the front, looked at those photos and read the biographies. “Our church, it is not a wealthy church, but the people are good, honest people, and [they] responded,” says Nikki. She noted that you could tell they were deciding which child to support. And in short order, all eight children were sponsored!



Bill and Nikki befriend Gideon at OFH

When they landed in India, the Stevensons were perhaps not prepared for all the sights and sounds of India, but they were prepared to serve the risen Lord. Bill and Nikki have become advocates for the needy in India. In Nikki’s words: “A day doesn’t go by when I don’t think about these people.”

You, Too, Can Be an Advocate

We invite you, like Bill and Nikki, to become an India Partners Advocate for people in need in India. How?

Here are ideas: Display photos and biographies of children awaiting sponsorship at your church or Sunday school. And did you know you can also sponsor a widow, pastor or school teacher? Call us for information and materials.

Share about India Partners’ ministry at your church’s missions service or at a regional missions conference. We would love to help you; just contact us.

We’ve mentioned a couple ideas, but better yet, **we’d like you to share yours** by calling us or emailing us today at advocate@indiapartners.org. We want to hear from you!



India Partners

P.O. Box 5470
Eugene, Oregon 97405

Toll-free: 877-87-INDIA
(877-874-6342)

Phone: (541) 683-0696

www.indiapartners.org
info@indiapartners.org

Mission Statement:

Partnering with the people of India in ministry by cultivating relationships, sharing resources, and encouraging self-sufficiency, through the compassion and wisdom of Jesus Christ.

India Partners is a Christian international development and relief organization committed to supporting self-help ministry projects in India.

We believe in helping the people of India help themselves, with God's grace. All are served regardless of caste, religion, gender or creed.

Activities include orphanages, schools, literacy programs, church support, Bible training, disaster relief, vocational training, medical ministry, livestock loans and agricultural projects.

India Partners also manages short-term teams, speakers and sponsorship programs.

India Partners pledges to use your gifts in the most efficient way possible to help suffering people, and to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

Our annual report and independently audited financial statements are available upon request.

India Partners is a 501(c)(3) charity. Donations are tax-deductible according to law.

Tax ID#: 93-1164757



Member of the Association of Evangelical Relief & Development Organizations



Board of Directors:

Brent Hample James Krueger
Sue Paiement Dean Rees
Deb Stewart, C.P.A. Jim Torrey
Milt Watson, M.D.

Staff:

Brent Hample, President/CEO
Donna Glass, Regional Representative
Joseph Fancher, Communications Officer
Brian Palmer, Office Administrator



Pastor M. Ezekiel

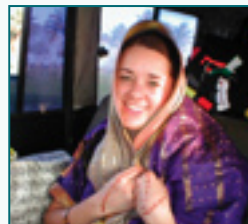
Help Ezekiel Share the Good News

Imagine that you have never heard the Gospel because there was no church, no pastor, no Christian mentor in your area to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Millions of people in India have yet to learn about Jesus; many others know of Him but do not have the opportunity to grow in their faith because there is no local pastor to serve their village.

You can help those villagers deepen their faith by sponsoring a village pastor. Pastor M. Ezekiel is one such minister seeking your help. Working through our partner, Orphans Faith Home, Pastor Ezekiel's own church serves 100 people. Ezekiel has started two new village congregations, and he is eager to minister in surrounding villages. Why do Ezekiel and other pastor/evangelists like him need our help? Because the tithes and offerings of small, poor village congregations are not enough to support a pastor and his family. With your prayers and your financial support of \$30/month for a shared pastor sponsorship, or \$60/month for a full sponsorship, Ezekiel can do the Lord's work full-time. Contact us for more information, or go to our website, www.indiapartners.org, to start your sponsorship today. God bless you.

Blessing the Poor in 2007

You are cordially invited to join the India Partners volunteer team set for **January 3-15, 2007**. You will assist Agape Rehabilitation Center and Orphans Faith Home with their ministries. Our teams are coordinated jointly with DELTA Ministries International.



You will be blessed,
even as you
bless others

Please remember our fall team in prayer as they travel to India Nov. 29-Dec. 13, 2006.

To join the team, or for more information, call Brian Stark at DELTA: (800) 533-5822 or email him: brians@deltaministries.com. Don't delay: the application deadline has been extended to October 13.

Fall Banquet in Portland

You are invited to attend India Partners' fall banquet, to be held in **Portland, Oregon** on **Saturday, October 21**. For reservations, call toll-free 1-877-87-INDIA (877-874-6342).

Workplace Giving

You can make a *life-changing difference* in the lives of the needy in India, by donating to India Partners directly from your workplace. Your kindness will bless many. **Thank you for your support!**

• **Federal Employees:** If you are a federal employee, you are eligible to participate in the Combined Federal Campaign. To give to India Partners through your workplace, select India Partners' CFC number, 1444.

• **State Employees (CA, FL, IL, MO, NC, NJ, NY, OH, PA, TX, VA, WA, WI):** If you are a state employee in any of these states, consult your state's charitable campaign materials to find India Partners participant number.

• **Corporate Employees:** Designate India Partners as your charity and ask your employer to match your gift.

• **United Way Participants:** Write "India Partners" on your United Way form to designate us as your charity.



Merry Christmas to Your Sponsee

Fall is in the air and Christmas is not far away. If you sponsor a child, teacher, widow or pastor, please consider an extra cash Christmas gift for your sponsee with your next monthly donation. **P.S.: Even if you are not a sponsor,** you also may give



a Christmas gift for a needy person in India. Just use the enclosed envelope. **Thank you!**