

hope & Help for Orphans in India

Where are they now?

The goal of Hope Abides is to help orphans and impoverished children in India. We do this primarily through the funding of not only food and shelter, but primarily education.

As Hope Abides enters its 15th year, we are happy to report that many of the Hope Abides children have left the care of the orphanages and are now adults with successful jobs and families. We thought we would devote 2025 to sharing some of their stories.

Through the years, we have helped a variety of orphanages throughout India – from Uttar Pradesh in the north, to Kerala in the south, Maharashtra in the west and West Bengal in the east, as well as regions in between. They exist in urban areas, rural areas and slums. The leadership at the various orphanages hail from a wide range of educational and vocational backgrounds, as well as personal (often inspirational) life stories. All these factors influence the opportunities available to the children as they journey into adulthood.

We hope you find their stores inspirational and THANK YOU to our loyal supporters for their generosity and compassion.

(Con't)

While working at salons and as a salesperson, she noticed her peers from Sphoorti who had completed their degrees and were doing well financially. Inspired by them, she applied for a HR role at a global tax services provider and got the job. Despite not having a degree, Madhuri considers herself a quick learner and aspires to complete her bachelor's degree someday with the help of savings and financial aid.

Looking back at her journey, Madhuri offers valuable advice to future students of Sphoorti Foundation: "Don't overthink. If you have a dream, be confident, believe in yourself, act, and work towards it". She also encourages them to help others, no matter how small the act of kindness may be. The happiness it brings, she says, is more rewarding than any material possession.

* Playback singers provide the actual vocals for the actors in Bollywood's famous musical numbers).

This is Teja. He is 11 years old and in 6th STD (grade).

His favorite subject is science and he would like to become a doctor.



Teja's parents are divorced and re-married. He was left with his grandparents who could not afford to care for him. Due to these factors he joined one of our partner orphanages in Andra Pradesh.

If you would like to sponsor <u>Teja</u> or another Hope Abides child please click <u>here</u>. Dec 2024

Madhuri's Story

provided by Srivyal Vuyyuri Founder and Chairperson Sphoorti Foundation

Madhuri's story begins at the tender age of 4, when she lost her mother. With no one to look after her and her siblings, her grandmother stepped in. One evening, while her grandmother was selling flowers, Mr. Srivyal Vuyyuri approached her. He was building a home for orphans, Sphoorti Foundation, and offered to take Madhuri and her siblings as the first candidates.

<u>THEN</u>

<u>NOW</u>



VEMULA MADHURI

Their grandmother agreed. Moving to Sphoorti Foundation felt like a re-birth for Madhuri. Sphoorti staff took care of them like a family, dropping them off and picking them up from school, arranging additional classes after school, taking them to museums and attending parent-teacher meetings. Around 2011, Hope Abides chose Sphoorti as one of their partners in India. This association gave Sphoorti a lot of confidence. Hope Abides provided sponsorships to many children.

Madhuri found a sponsor through Hope Abides. With his support, she was able to continue her high school education. Madhuri discovered her passion for singing at Sphoorti. She was enrolled into music classes, and she even had the opportunity to be selected for training by a famous Indian playback singer * and teacher, Komanduri Ramachary. Unfortunately, Mr. Ramachary moved to the U.S., and the project fell through. Though disappointed, Madhuri didn't give up on her passion. She used her skills to perform at school events, conquering her initial stage fright with the help of her friends' encouraging words: "Everyone will have opinions. But even if you make a handful of people feel good with your music, your talent is making an impact."

After finishing STD XII, Madhuri faced a tough decision. Because of the ill-health of her grandparents and pressure from her uncles, she decided to return to her family and start working. She opted for a beautician course instead of pursuing undergraduate studies.

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Questions? Comments? E-mail us at <u>info@hopeabides.org</u>