

September 2018



## India Rural Evangelical Fellowship

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**New Sponsorships Are Now Available** The 2018-2019 school year is underway and IREF has many new smiling faces we would love for you to meet. The IREF staff works at the main campus work diligently each year to properly enroll each new child that comes to attend any IREF School, College or Child Development Center. The process starts with understanding the child's home life and socioeconomic status to determine if the child's parents have the resources to contribute to their child's education. IREF offers education first and foremost to those children who face the largest challenge to completing their education from an economic and spiritual standpoint. This has always been the focus for IREF and it's seen many who had no chance at a better life receive a quality education along with the Gift of Salvation. Please let us introduce you to these fine faces...

Hi, My name is Mogadamma Seru and I am in 2nd Grade. My parents are Lakshmi and Yedukondalu Seru and their current occupation is fishing. At times they fish in the Bay of Bengal for several days straight leaving me at home alone to find my own meals. My parents only earn about \$1 dollar per day and cannot afford to send me to schools that cost money. My parents heard about IREF through our local IREF Pastor in Nizampatnam and he gave a good reference for me to live and attend school at IREF where I receive free education and three meals a day. Plus I am safe day and night.



Hi, My name is Deena Arava and I am in 3rd Grade. I am from Chirala about 70 kilometers from IREF in Repalle. My parents are Cook Helpers and they earn less than \$1/day. They often don't get paid consistently so our family goes without food during those periods. I have one older brother in 5th grade at IREF and he encouraged my parents to send me there as well. My parents feel good about how IREF is providing me with education, Christian discipline and constant prayer.



Hi, My name is Mary Jyothi Govathoti and I'm in 1st Grade. My father's name is David and my mother's name is Jyosthana. They currently do not have any occupation as they are without jobs. They learned about IREF through a television program where Dr. Emmanuel Rebba was preaching. My mother inquired of IREF and immediately enrolled my sister (4th Grade) and myself. My mother really appreciated the help to educate and feed my sister and I, but she is also learning to appreciate the Christian discipline I am being taught daily.



Hi, I am Tre Moore, the New IREF Donor Relations Director. I recently joined the IREF team and I am working quickly to provide current child sponsors with progress updates for any child who is receiving ongoing education at IREF. A reoccurring donation of \$35 per month makes a life-changing difference for a child in India. However God is touching your heart, please respond today and help by sponsoring a child or help with any offering given in faith. If you have any questions regarding your sponsor child or would like to partner to support one of these newly enrolled children in 2018, please contact me at [tmoores@irefusa.org](mailto:tmoores@irefusa.org).



**New IREF Website is Live!** We invite you to browse the new IREF website. It's been updated with a new design, new features, and new content including videos, impactful data and the newest feature of online sponsorship! You can now sign up for sponsorship or stay in touch with your sponsor child/evangelist/teacher/CDC online. Visit us at [irefusa.org](http://irefusa.org) to see all the site has to offer.



**Giving a Life that Matters** Young adults that have been given the gift of Christian education through IREF start reaping the benefits of a better life almost immediately. The fears they had as a young girl or boy, growing up in Andhra Pradesh start to become replaced with experiences that they dreamed of: to have a family and use the skills they learned at IREF to provide for that family. Thoughts of forced child labor or prostitution only enter their mind when praying for other children now growing up in Andhra Pradesh. For many women at this young adult age, they realize they have broken the “curse” that their families perceived them to be when born. Also for many former students, they are no longer considered an “untouchable”, which is a common name given to low caste families.

Currently, the IREF graduation rate is above 95% for children that start a degree program and approximately 200 young adults attain a degree in a professional study each year. Educating young women has been a focus for IREF due to the harmful alternatives for uneducated women in Andhra Pradesh.

The IREF nursing program is dedicated to a 100% graduation rate of its students, who are mostly women. These students are trained in real-life skills, which are taken back to home villages and help in the progression of their communities. With the help of loyal sponsors like you, IREF is achieving its mission to break the cycle of poverty in Andhra Pradesh through Christian education.



*School is back in session and nursing students have begun their clinical training.*



*Children receive their school supplies as the 2018-19 academic year kicks off.*



*IREF students prepare their final presentations and displays for the launch of the Science Expo at IREF.*

**IREF Science Expo is Fun-Filled**

September 10-11 was the Science Expo at IREF. It has been two days of science fun! This huge celebration draws approximately 10,000 participants from Repalle and beyond. Students presented their science project, results in the form of a report, display board, and/or models that they have created. This event allowed students in IREF’s elementary, high school, junior college and college to compete in science and/or technology activities. The Science Expo showcased the diversity of scientific research on campus. Over 100+ booths were on display with hands on activities as well as lab tours, science challenges and more!



**September 2018 continued...**

**India Rural Evangelical Fellowship**

**Prayer Requests and Praise**

- Please pray for IREF teachers and staff as they work diligently each day to make a positive impact in the lives of the children at IREF.
- Please pray for the strength and prosperity of our supporting churches, businesses and sponsors.
- Praise God for His graciousness to this ministry and His sovereignty to provide for every need.
- Please pray as IREF is recruiting team members to join the 2018 missions team. If you are interested in traveling to IREF to serve particularly in a pastoral or medical role, please contact us at [info@irefusa.org](mailto:info@irefusa.org).

