

January 2024



## What a Year it has been...

As 2023 comes to a close, we reflect and praise God for His faithfulness.

Standing steady in God's mission in India, we witnessed over 100 baptisms this year, we've had the highest enrollment of elementary and high school students in recent years, and we hosted 10 pastoral-training conferences with over 400 church leaders in attendance at each gathering. We are seeing the Holy Spirit moving each day and witnessing more lost souls coming into the Kingdom of Christ.

As a ministry, we look forward to serving the Lord faithfully through education, evangelism, and community engagement in this upcoming year. We aim to provide education to the poorest of the poor so that they can break the cycle of poverty. We want to deliver the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who have not heard the Gospel. We also want to be difference-makers in highly impoverished rural India through community development programs. Please continue to pray for us as we enter 2024 with the annual Youth Conference and Gospel Meetings, and as pastoral and medical missions teams come to Repalle to serve the people here.

We want to thank you for your continued support and prayer for God's work. We cannot do the work that God has called us to do without you.

God's blessings to you in this new year!

Sincerely,

Emmanuel & Dee Rebba  
On behalf of IREF India



## India Rural Evangelical Fellowship

PO Box 1332  
Park Ridge, IL  
60068-7332

IREF Info Line:  
p 847.220.IREF (4733)  
f 847.680.4270

Visit us on the web:  
[www.irefusa.org](http://www.irefusa.org)

Send us an email:  
[info@irefusa.org](mailto:info@irefusa.org)

## Four Years and Eternal Impact



We'd like to take a moment to honor and thank IREF's Assistant Director, Shara Atkinson. Shara is getting married this March, and she feels it is time to step into a new chapter of life. Her final day on staff with IREF was last Friday, December 29. During Shara's four years with IREF, she led the IREF child sponsorship program, brought teams to India, and introduced the Florida panhandle to IREF. So many have been impacted by Shara's ministry!

Shara Atkinson, thank you for your passion to see the gospel spread to unreached regions and to see vulnerable children cared for. We bless your upcoming marriage and this new chapter in your journey. You will be missed!





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## You helped make Christmas special

Remember the feeling of being a child on Christmas morning? Maybe your house was filled with this kind of joy, giddiness, and anticipation this Christmas. As children, we could hardly wait to open a gift that was all our own, and at IREF, our students experience this same excitement. Thanks to the donations of so many IREF partners, each child got to unwrap their very own Christmas present!

Of course, Christmas is so much more than gifts, and on IREF's campus, we celebrated with a special program, Christmas service, caroling, and more. In everything, we sought to plant seeds of the gospel in the lives of students who are far from Jesus. By giving gifts to each child, we demonstrated Jesus' love in such a tangible way!

Thank you to everyone who gave financially to provide a gift for our nearly 1,000 students! The students are already proudly wearing their IREF backpacks around campus, reveling in a gift that is just for them!



## Message from India

Scan the QR code to watch a special message from John Rebba and the rest of the IREF India team.



## Sending Teams to IREF

Over the next month, two teams will serve at IREF. That means 33 people will step onto campus, most for the first time. The first team left on January 7 and will host medical clinics and serve at the youth conference. The second team will leave January 28 and will serve at the gospel meeting and teach at the nursing school. Visiting IREF is the best way to encounter what the Lord is doing in and through this ministry, so as our teams serve, would you cover them in prayer? Pray specifically for:

- Seeds of the gospel to be planted through both teams
- Team unity
- Our medical clinics, youth conference, and gospel meetings
- Health for the team as they travel



## Stay Connected

Do you struggle to find us on social media? Due to persecution in India, our Facebook and Instagram pages are private. Join our group or follow us for updates and ways you can pray for the ministry and events occurring in India. Scan the QR code to the right to stay connected.



January 2024  
Continued

India Rural  
Evangelical  
Fellowship