

Will you join us in prayer?

At present six young women are studying to become nurses or laboratory technicians in India. Pray that their study is successful and that they take their places as faithful members of our church.

Of course we also solicit your prayers for the 300+ orphan children under the care of Lutheran Mission of Salvation – India. Twenty homes are managed by loyal church workers.

Would you like to help?

1. The cost for tuition, books, room and board for nursing education is \$750 per year. The funds are provided through the Indian Orphan College Scholarship Fund.
2. The ELS Board for World Outreach provides funds to care for Indian orphans. Just \$15 per month provides shelter, food (one chicken portion, two eggs, rice and vegetable curry each week), clothing and school supplies. Cross-stitch, the network of ELS Women's Mission Societies, is a generous supporter.

To donate please use the attached envelope or visit els.org/donate.



Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Board for World Outreach

6 Browns Court Mankato, MN 56001
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MISSION NEWS & HELPING HANDS



Sharing the Gospel in South America and Asia

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Burn Victim Inspired to Become a Nurse

"In all things God works for the good of those who love him"
(Romans 8:28)

Indira was born in 1992 to a poor family of Chintala Namavaram village of East Godavari District in the state of Andhra Pradesh of South India. Like all the children in her neighborhood she had wonderful childhood dreams. But all those dreams were shattered when she lost her father in a road accident when she was only eight years old. Losing her father brought her great pain at an early age. But her pain did not stop there. Two years later in 2002, she met with a devastating fire accident when her blanket caught fire from a nearby kerosene lamp while she was sleeping. Although she survived the accident she suffered third-degree burns on her hands, chest and neck.



Nursing Student, Indira

The burns impaired her neck function and disfigured her body. One day, Indira's mother learned about the Lutheran Mission of Salvation – India (LMSI) and the Grace and Truth church and orphanage through an outreach program. She asked the Mission to help and to admit her daughter into the orphanage. The Mission made arrangements for plastic surgery and provided some financial aid to cover her

medical expenses. She eventually had several surgeries on her neck to improve her neck movement and function. The Mission received Indira into the orphanage and baptized her. In the orphanage she started learning about Christ's love and understood how God's Son Jesus had gone through even greater pain and agony in order to save all mankind.



Nursing Classmate and Indira

Because of her disfigurement she was shy and ashamed to go to school but with the comforting teachings at the orphanage she slowly gained confidence. After finishing high school and her vocational studies she wanted to become a nurse – not surprisingly, she had developed a zeal to help those who are suffering as she had. But she had no money to study nursing. She needed help. And God provided for her. In 2012 the LMSI granted her aid through the “Indian Orphan College Scholarship Fund” provided by the ELS Board for World Out-

reach. After completing her nursing program successfully she is now doing her apprenticeship in a private hospital. Soon she will become a fulltime nurse.

What a moment it will be when the girl who once suffered such severe burns becomes a nurse!

She gives thanks to the Lord for the new life He has given her. Also, she expresses her deep and heartfelt gratitude for receiving support from the “Indian Orphan College Scholarship Fund” which helped her to stand on her own feet. Now, she is a faithful member of our St. John's Lutheran Church in her village. On behalf of Indira the LMSI also thanks all of the Cross-stitch members, the ELS donors and the Scholarship providers for supporting orphans like Indira.

The “Indian Orphan College Scholarship Fund” supports children who grow up in LMSI orphanages as they finish high school and continue their studies. Orphans like Indira continue to benefit from this fund as they study to meet their dreams.

Contributors might not see personally what an impact their help is creating and what a blessing their support brings to the lives of many on the other side of this world, but many lost souls are being found, and many troubled hearts are consoled and comforted through the help and support you are providing through your prayers and offerings. Thank you so much!

*Rev. Kalyan Gollipalli
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Rajahmundry, India*



*Students at GBR School of Nursing,
Anaparti, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh, India*

Editor's note: When young Indian women are educated and employable, they have a chance to control their own lives. Otherwise their circumstances may lead to unfavorable arranged marriages or less than ideal employment.