

OLD AGE HOME, KOCHI

A chance meeting that changed her life

Seventy year old Savithriamma was found wandering aimlessly by two social workers and brought to our Old Age Home. During her stay with us, she told us her story of how she ended up on the street. She used to live with her married son but her stay was not a pleasant one. Her son would sometimes abuse her mentally and even physically. He swindled her of her land by making her sign some papers. He then made her leave his home. Just after few weeks of her stay with us she fell ill. Doctors found that she had a severe heart ailment and was in need of a pacemaker. We contacted the social workers and requested them to find a shelter for her where she could get better medical assistance. Savithriamma has been moved to a facility where she can get the needed help. She remembers her brief stay with us and is very grateful for the help that was provided to her.



GOOD NEWS

Mary is happy with her friends in Old Age Home. But she still longs to be united with her daughters especially the younger one. This daughter had cheated her and took possession of her land. Our staff decided to arrange a meeting between this daughter and Mary. We started to call her daughter every week and updated her about Mary. We invited her to meet Mary but she was hesitant. After much cajoling and encouragement, she decided to come to the Home and met her mother. We all waited with anticipation for the first meeting to go well. And it did go very well!!! Now her daughter visits Mary once in every two months and brings her gifts. Mary is very grateful to the staff that has made her wish come true.

STATISTICS

Particulars	Number of residents
Beginning of the July month	11
Admissions	1
Drop Outs	1
Reunited with family	0
Deaths	0
End of September month	11



Mission

Our mission, as a compassionate but non-sectarian international charity is to change lives by harnessing the compassion and commitment of dedicated staff and volunteers to deliver sustainable, high-impact, community-based services to the poor and needy.



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Onam Celebrations

Onam is the biggest festival in the state of Kerala. The Onam carnival lasts for ten days and brings out the best of the state's culture and tradition. Intricately decorated *Pookalam*, ambrosial *Onasadya*, breathtaking Snake Boat Race and exotic *Kaikottikali* dance are some of the most remarkable features of Onam.



This harvest festival was celebrated in a great way at our Old Age Home. Few kind hearted people came forward during this special occasion and made the residents feel very special. Some of them provided special food on different days for the resident. The main Onam *sadya* (traditional Onam lunch) was sponsored by the HDFC bank staff of Cochin. Another good friend of the Home, Mrs. Deepa brought new clothes for all the residents.

Prayers have been answered

From the inception of the Old Age Home, we have been searching for a doctor who can visit the residents and do free checkups. As most of the residents are above 70 years old, they often suffer with different illness and it is very necessary that we have a medical assistance a phone call away to handle such situations. Though few doctors willingly came for few visits they were not able to commit due to their busy schedule. But this year through one of our volunteer, a physician Dr. Susan visited our Home. She took up the commitment to visit the residents whenever needed and has been coming frequently to do regular checkups for all the residents. We are extremely grateful for her help.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Premna Narayanankutty,
Program Manager

Souparnika, 32/2156-A, P.J. Anthony Road, PJRA 179,
Mamangalam, Cochin - 682024, Kerala, INDIA.

Contact Number: +91-9388675253
Email: hope_foundation@hopeww.org

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worldwide
INDIA

