

Kinspire's Column

Not only a friend, but something much more; A guide and a role model is what we will strive for.

A Letter from our President

Kinspire is extremely excited to present its first monthly newsletter! We are starting off 2017 by diving into some exciting new projects and we want to be able to share these moments with our dedicated follower base. From revamping our curriculum to onboarding new orphanages, Kinspire is ready to jump into the new year. Some of the new projects we would like to introduce for the new year include Kinspire Emory Sigma Beta Rho's curriculum enhancements and Kinspire UW's online portal project. At Emory, Kinspire volunteers will be creating worksheets and adding to our resources so that children in India can have access to a wider range of material. At Kinspire UW, an online portal is being designed so that tutors and the children at the orphanage can remain connected even offline! Kinspire is also especially excited to announce that a Kinspire trust has been registered in India. We are putting together a board for that trust so that we can carry out even more operations in India! On behalf of Kinspire, I would like to thank you for all your continuous support. We are excited to see what the future has in store for us and for these lovely children.

KAVYA MAGHAM

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<http://kinspire.org>



Kinspire's Kid of the Month
Ashok Varchya



Meet Ashok Varchya! He's one of the children at the Gracious Paradise Orphanage in Kavya's tutoring classes. Ashok is currently in the 8th grade and aspires to become a journalist! He participates actively in class and puts in the maximum effort while completing homework assignments and practicing conversational skills. Every morning Ashok reads the newspaper to ensure that he knows the current events. He says that this will help improve his English skills and also teach him to be up-to-date on world affairs! Kinspire would like to wish Ashok the best of luck through all of his academic endeavors!

The Daunting Truth

Srikari Pasumarthy

So I go to the orphanage one day and notice something strange. Three little girls that I absolutely adore did not come rushing into my arms to greet me enthusiastically like they did every other time. I had been working for the orphanage for about one and a half years and there was never a time when they did not come to greet me at the door. I was told that they had been adopted by an institution and taken away. Although I was happy to learn this, I wanted to check for myself if they were in the right hands. I wrote down the institution's name and address and decided to follow up with them.

While narrating this incident to my friend's father, who is a police officer, he told me that there had been a few recent cases in which little girls from orphanages were being taken away and sold for prostitution. Although I was positive that this did not happen with my orphanage girls, I showed him the adopting institution's name and address just to be sure. To my disbelief and absolute horror, it was the same institution that was selling little children for prostitution from Hyderabad. I couldn't allow myself to give up on these girls, so I requested his help. He came up with a plan of going undercover and trying to find them in the "red light areas" (areas with brothels) in Hyderabad.

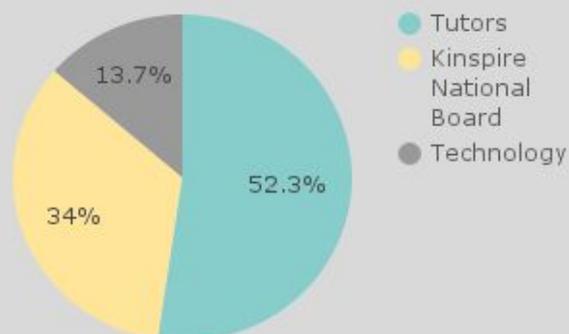
When I entered the area, I couldn't believe that it was a red light region. It could have easily passed as a common marketplace without suspicion. My friend's father took me to one of the grocery shops and while casually buying groceries, he inquired about the little children. The lady shopkeeper and head of the brothel did not reveal anything about the children and told me a story I can never forget.

The brothel was filled with women who were considered a burden by their parents. A few had been raped by their uncles and cousins, and due to the societal norms, thrown out of their houses. "We are all orphans in a certain way." She was proud of being the woman she was and she believed that she was doing good to women by bringing them into prostitution. "They earn a lot and are desired by everyone. Women can't expect to get more dignity than this," she said. I realized it would be impossible to change her mindset. After repeatedly asking about the children, she told me that they could have either been taken away to smaller villages or kept in the house till they came of age for marriage. I felt extremely helpless and was unable to gather more information about my three girls.

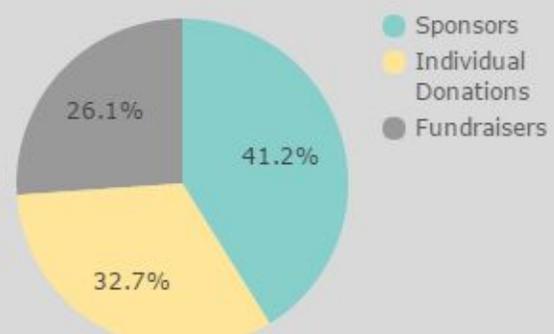
This is not the story of just my little girls. It is the story of thousands of orphans, male and female, who are unable to be independent and are being exploited by society. I joined Kinspire with the aim of providing them with everything that they had been deprived of by not having parents nor a stable life. They don't deserve any less success, self-satisfaction or happiness than any of us, and Kinspire strives to support them in achieving this and more.

Financial Report 2016

Total Expenses: \$1,454



Total Donations: \$4,691



#gokinspire