

THE MIRACLE FOUNDATION

Empowering Orphans to Reach Their Full Potential

message from Caroline

Dear friends,

You are playing a bigger game than you might know! Millions of people have been lifted out of extreme poverty in the last 15 years, and you are a part of making poverty history! I'm sorry the media doesn't do a better job of telling us about the amazing transformation that is happening in the world, but the truth is we have less war, less poverty, more clean water and more support for the poor than in the history of the world. It's pretty exciting stuff and we have learned that when we focus on a goal and measure progress, we really can make a significant difference.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were released in 2000. Their 15-year aims were to reduce extreme poverty and hunger, decrease infant and maternal mortality rates, and offer education to the most vulnerable children, among other things. We have been incredibly successful. More than 200 million people were freed from hunger, infant and maternal mortality rates have been cut in half, and more children are going to school now than ever before.

The MDGs were the most successful anti-poverty movement in the history of the world. And we've been a part of it.

Now, the Global Goals are out, and they aim to be even more effective than the MDGs. There are 17 ambitious goals with 169 measurable indicators to let us know how we're doing. The Global Goals are inspirational and aspirational and The Miracle Foundation's work is reflected in 8 of them!



If you haven't had a chance to read the goals, I encourage you to. You can learn more about them at www.GlobalGoals.org. They are a vision of the world that we can have if we all lean in and do our part. Imagine a world with no hunger and poverty.

Isn't that the kind of world we all want? It's ours for the taking. We can do this!

If you want to keep playing this game with us in a big way (and give your friends & family a holiday gift they'll LOVE), make a donation to our Give a Miracle campaign. You can learn more at www.MiracleFoundation.org/Holiday.

Caroline Boudreau



Important Dates

Give a Miracle Holiday Campaign

Now through December 31, 2015

Holiday Open House

December 11, 2015

Stop by our office from 3-8 pm to
celebrate the holiday season with us

Sponsors, Check Your Mail

You'll get a holiday ornament made
by the kids in December 2015

Ambassador Trips

January 20-29, 2016

July 27-August 5, 2016



Photos by Lynne Dobson

Ambassador Reunion at G'Raj Mahal

Our Ambassadors are so important to the children. These 447 incredible people have traveled with us to India to meet and love the kids we support—many more than once!

We wanted to do something to honor our Ambassadors and thank them for taking two weeks out of their lives to make the kids feel really special. That's why in mid-October we hosted our first-ever Ambassador Reunion at G'Raj Mahal on Rainey Street in Austin.

The night was magical. Over 150 people were at the event, and while many attendees are local to Austin, people traveled in from New York, Costa Rica, Miami, New Orleans, Denver, Wichita, Houston and more!

Groups of Ambassadors from as far back as 2004 and as recent as October 2015 were there, and the Ambassadors loved the chance to reconnect with old friends and meet new friends who had been to "their" orphanage to meet "their" kids.

ORPHANAGE UPDATE

Annual Leadership Council



The amazing leadership of the 14 orphanages we support with our India team

Every year, our Miracle Foundation India team hosts a Leadership Council for the leaders at the orphanages we support. The attendees of the Leadership Council are the heroes who are working every single day on behalf of the children. Prior to our support, they were each working on their own. Now, we are bringing these leaders together to learn and exchange ideas and information. In many cases, the Leadership Council is the first time they are able to share their challenges with other people doing the same life-changing work.

Each year, the group grows larger and stronger as bonds and friendships form between these incredible people. This year, the Leadership Council had 41 attendees! At the conference, the leaders discussed how to strengthen their organization, growing into a better leader for their staff and children, and fundraising locally and internationally.



Ambassadors, thank you for your commitment to the children and for continuing to share their story after your trip. You are heroes for the children. A big thanks to Tito's Handmade Vodka, Infamous Brewing Company and Regal Wine Company for donating our adult beverages for the event.

Are you interested in traveling to India to meet the kids? You can learn more about our upcoming trips by contacting Heather Shaw at Heather@MiracleFoundation.org or (512) 329-8635. Our upcoming January 2016 trip is going to be so cool, and there is still a spot for YOU!





L to R: Happy children at Anbarasi; Ambassador Antonio Delgado with Vimala; two boys show off their Science in a Suitcase project.

Ambassador Journal: Antonio Delgado



Ambassador (n): A diplomat of the highest rank who has the authority to speak and act on someone else's behalf.

Antonio traveled to India in October 2015 to teach the children at Anbarasi orphanage about robotics. He is the co-founder of Science in a Suitcase, a nonprofit dedicated to fostering creativity and engineering through robotics.

“Welcome to Anbarasi” reads the beautiful hand-painted sign as you enter the dining hall. And just like the sign, the kids at Anbarasi are bright, jovial and excited!

In August, The Miracle Foundation — with funding from the Palmer Foundation — helped Anbarasi orphanage get 15 new computers.

Our Ambassador trip was like no other. In early October, The Miracle Foundation partnered with an organization I run called Science in a Suitcase. Together, we worked to create activities for both an interactive Lego robotics program and a science experiment extravaganza.

“Their amazement and delight was contagious. These kids worked hard and without inhibition to learn something new.”

The kids loved learning about robotics and conducting science experiments. Their amazement and delight was contagious. I wish you could see the way eyes would light up as their gliders would fly across the room. Oh, and the sound of the kids cheering each other on during the air-powered car competition. The room was alive.

The robotics students learned about programming, logic, loops, motors, gears and pulleys. And that’s a lot to cover in 2 and a half days. The kids were champs about it all!

On the final day, the robotics students grouped up into teams of 4. These teams created characters that had a motor and a motion sensor and were programmed. Later that afternoon, each of the teams showcased their robotic critters to the Anbarasi family.

It was a beautiful celebration. These kids worked hard and without inhibition to learn something new.

After the grand applause, we couldn’t think of a better way to end a party than dancing!

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GiveBuy generates donations for incredible causes through online shopping, and The Miracle Foundation will be GiveBuy's featured charity through the end of 2015.

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You can be a hero for orphans like Santo by becoming a sponsor. Just \$100/month provides a child clean water, nutritious (delicious!) meals, healthcare, and a life-changing education – all he or she needs to grow into an incredible leader for tomorrow!

Sign up at
Give.MiracleFoundation.org/YouRock
or email Heather at
Heather@MiracleFoundation.org
for more information.

Meet Santo

Santo is a sweet and spunky girl living at Chirag orphanage. Despite being only 13 years old, she has already grown into an incredible leader.

Chirag is an all-girls orphanage, and the 35 girls at the home share 4 bedrooms with 8-10 girls in each. Each of the rooms has a leader, and Santo is the fearless leader of her room.

As the room's leader, Santo is responsible for ensuring the room is kept tidy (a task more difficult than it may sound) and that the girls in her room are getting along. If any issues between the girls in her room come up, Santo acts as the peacekeeper and mediator.

Santo LOVES being the leader in her room. She is learning excellent leadership skills at a young age, and we can't wait to see her blossom even further over the next couple of years.

Keep it up, Santo!