

CAROLINE BOUDREAUX



Founder of *Compassion in Action* **The Miracle Foundation**

Caroline Boudreaux is the Founder and Executive Director of The Miracle Foundation, which was born as a labor of love after she visited India for the first time in 2000. She was taking a one-year sabbatical from her job in television advertising; although she had enjoyed career success, it lacked meaning and purpose to Caroline. India was one stop on an around-the-world journey she was taking with a friend.

For five years prior, Boudreaux's friend Chris Monheim had sponsored, through the Christian Children's Fund (CCF), a little boy in India named Manus. Monheim wanted to meet him in order to find out if he was receiving her support. The two women arrived in India in May and were able to locate Manus. He was exactly as his letters had described and he had, indeed, received the sponsorship money and letters from Monheim. She was thrilled to meet him and pleased that her money was helping.

During their visit, the director of CCF invited the women to his home for dinner. When they arrived, they found that he was caring for 100 beautiful, smiling, parentless children in his home. Boudreaux had never thought about orphans before, much less held them, and she was not prepared for what she was about to experience.

Later that evening, a little girl named Sheebani came and put her head on Boudreaux's knee. The orphan was so tired that Boudreaux picked her up, and the girl literally pushed her body into Boudreaux's arms. Boudreaux sang a lullaby and rocked her to sleep. Upon carrying the little girl to bed, Boudreaux discovered that the children's room contained thirty wooden-slatted beds. No pillows, no mattresses, no blankets, just wooden slats similar to those on a picnic table. When Boudreaux heard Sheebani's bones hit that wooden bed, she was broken-

hearted. It was incomprehensible to Boudreaux that children were living this way. She knew she had to do something to help and that she had to act soon. The Miracle Foundation was established that day, May 14, 2000, Mother's Day in the U.S. Over the next few years, Boudreaux began recruiting donors, volunteers and sponsors to give these orphans, and others like them, a childhood and a future. Today, The Miracle Foundation operates three orphanages and a home for single mothers, all located in eastern India, one of the most impoverished regions of that country.

Caroline was born and raised in Lake Charles, Louisiana and attended LSU where she earned a B.A. in Psychology. Before The Miracle Foundation, Boudreaux worked as an Account Executive for Fox Television and was in charge of new business development for Tocquiny Advertising. Throughout her career, she has created long-lasting partnerships with such companies as Freescale, AMD, and Trilogy. Boudreaux was the recipient of the Hope Award, 2005; Impact Award, 2008; Membership in the World Economic Forum's Young Global Leaders, 2009. She has also been featured as a thought leader in books, magazines, films, and news media, including CNN and "One Peace at a Time," a 2009 film by Turk Pipkin.



THE MIRACLE FOUNDATION



TRANSFORMING CHILDREN'S LIVES. ONE ORPHAN AT A TIME.

The Miracle Foundation was founded in the year 2000 on Mother's Day by Caroline Boudreaux. Unable to bear the poverty she had witnessed among Indian orphans, she returned from a trip to India and started The Miracle Foundation.

The Crisis

There are 25 million orphaned children in India and the number is growing. It is estimated that one million orphans enter the system each year. All of these children share a similar story. A life of poverty, with no family to care for them, nurture them or nourish them. Many live on the streets and the "lucky" ones live in overcrowded, under-funded orphanages. The state of orphaned children in India is heart-breaking.

- An estimated **31%** of the babies surviving past the age of one will **die before the age of five**
- Approximately **18%** of children under five in India are moderately to **severely underweight**
- The rapid spread of the HIV/AIDS epidemic has resulted in India possessing the **largest number of AIDS orphans** in the world
- UNICEF reports that **25 million orphans** are living in India—a number equivalent to the population of the entire state of Texas

Most orphans live in overcrowded, under-funded, government orphanages. The rest live on the streets.

The conditions in the orphanages in India are far below the standards we have in the United States. Dilapidated, well-worn, and filled to over capacity, orphanages are no better than the conditions on the streets.

It is from these devastating conditions that The Miracle Foundation wants to break the cycle of poverty and birth a new miracle in the country of India. There are many ways you can get involved with this worthy cause, [click here](#) to learn more about how you can help.

What We Do

The Miracle Foundation is an organization dedicated to empowering children to reach their full potential, one orphan at a time. We are making a significant impact on the lives of orphaned children in India by:

- Raising the standard of living for the children in orphanages
- Reducing the number of non-orphaned children living in orphanages

The Miracle Foundation renovates existing orphanages, builds new ones, raises money for construction and finds sponsors for our children. Because the effort is so focused, there is little overhead. In India, our money goes a long way towards healthy food, tuition, better living conditions, clothing, and medical care. Love, affection, and hope for a bright future come from our incredible staff, ambassadors, and sponsors. The Miracle Foundation currently operates [four Children's Homes and one home for unwed mothers](#).

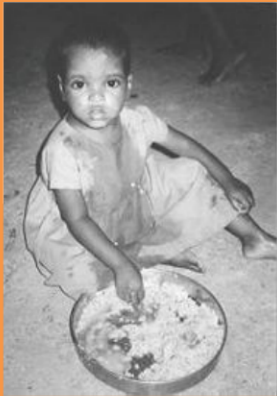
Our Accomplishments

In the past six years that The Miracle Foundation has been renovating and building new orphanages for the children of India, we have significantly impacted the lives of hundreds of children. Our standards and practices for operation in our network have:

- Increased the percentage of school-aged orphans attending school from 2% or 100%
- Increased significantly the number of bathrooms in each facility from 1 per 100 to 1 per 10-20 children
- Increased caretakers from 1 per 30 to 1 per 10 children
- Renovated sleeping arrangements from wooden beds to comfortable bunk beds.



Before



After



The Miracle Foundation's homes are located in the states of Jharkhand and Orissa. Tribal people make up about 25% of the population in each state and their children make up a sizable portion of the children in **The Miracle Foundation's** homes.