



Dear Rebecca,

Welcome to the April 2013 edition of our newsletter. Things were busy over at [Operation Shanti](#), as our kids have just finished their end-of-term exams! April is the beginning of Summer vacation, which means attending summer camp (the kids really look forward to this!), a field trip, tutoring, drawing and dance classes plus lots of playtime on the playground. Please read on for more updates, and thank you again for your continued support.

KEITH MAILLARD (1959-2013)

It is with a heavy heart that Operation Shanti announces the passing of our Chairman and Head of Fundraising

Keith passed away suddenly at his home in Vermont on Saturday, February 2, 2013. A strong proponent for youth as keepers of the future, Keith was involved as an active volunteer with numerous not-for-profit organizations over the past 30 years, aiding countless at-risk and homeless youth. For Operation Shanti, Keith was more than willing and eager to provide his years of experience and knowledge to our grassroots efforts. Having been involved with Operation Shanti since the beginning, Keith was an integral part of our roots and played a key role in expanding our vision into what it is today. He will be deeply missed by the Operation Shanti family, who came to know Keith as just a really great guy and a good and sincere friend, and by all of those whose lives he touched.



WE HAVE A NEW OS KID!

Padmanabha is our newest boy at Karuyna Mane

Padmanabha is a cute little 12-year-old boy from Mangalore, which is about a 10-hour trip from Mysore. Padmanabha lost his dad and mom a few years ago, as well as his little sister Pallavi. Padmanabha then went to live with his grandpa. Then, grandpa passed away last year and his relatives put him into a residential school in the area.

For some reason, the school decided he wasn't "fit" to be in their institution and asked the boy to leave. The relatives, who were reluctant to keep Padmanabha with them, heard about our place in Mysore and asked if he could be admitted with us.



Padmanabha is adjusting well to life at Karuyna Mane, and sure does enjoy being with our 22 other boys. He's making fast friends with them, and started participating in our activities right away. The BEST news? Padmanabha already has a sponsor! Many of our OS Kids are still in need of sponsors. [Please click here to sponsor an Operation Shanti Kid](#)

Welcome to [Project Home](#) Padmanabha!

JEEVAN'S SCHOOL PERFORMANCE!

Check out those dance moves!

A few weeks ago little Jeevan, only three years old, had his annual "school day," an evening where everyone gathers at the school to enjoy dance performances the kids had been working so hard on. It was a great evening and Jeevan seemed to have a lot of fun. Check out the video clip of Jeevan practicing his moves on our [Facebook page](#). Enjoy!



OS GIRLS' KARATE DAY!

February 24 was Karate Grading Day

Congratulations to our OS girls for passing their karate gradings on February 24. The girls spent the entire day working on their exams, and their hard work and dedication paid off. We are happy to share that everyone passed and received their new belts!

We are very proud that the girls enjoy their twice-weekly karate lessons and are learning the value of self-defense, particularly in India where violence against females is a major issue faced by girls and women of all socioeconomic classes.

Go girls!



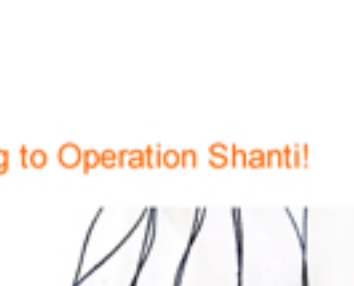
If you're interested in supporting our girls with karate lessons, their lessons cost approximately Rs.800 or US\$16 per week. Thank you! [Donate Now!](#)

A CHARM-ING OFFER!

Proceeds from lotus flower charms going to Operation Shanti!

Friend of Operation Shanti, Linda, is kindly donating the proceeds from her lovely charms to our cause! These little lotus flower charms are handmade from white stoneware and are available in five different colors. This is a purchase that truly is a gift.

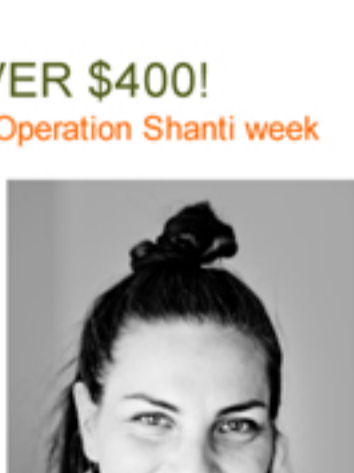
[Click here to get yours today!](#)



METTA YOGA RAISES OVER \$400!

Despina Psarra, of Metta Yoga, hosted Operation Shanti week

The week of February 25 - March 1 was Operation Shanti week in Gokulam! Despina Psarra, of Metta Yoga, is a very talented Ayurvedic masseuse who became inspired by Operation Shanti's work in the community. Despina kindly donated all proceeds from her Ayurvedic massages to Operation Shanti. The *massage drive* proved to be very successful, with many of her clients donating more than the amount asked. To learn more about Despina and Metta Yoga, [please click here](#).



If you would like to host your own fundraiser for Operation Shanti, please email info@operation-shanti.org.

A BIG thank-you to Despina and to all of those who kindly donated!

GOKULAM WOMEN SAY HANDS OFF!

Help us end the molestation and harassment of women!

The Gokulam community in Mysore is home base for many of those involved with Operation Shanti and is a popular destination for yoga students from abroad. Unfortunately, the western women have been targets of frequent harassment and molestation. If the harassment and molestation of the women in the area during all hours of the day continues, the environment will become even more unsafe for women, fewer people will come to Gokulam and India, and the reputation of the country and its culture will be damaged. Please take a moment to read more about this important cause and sign the petition. [Click here to read more](#)



DID YOU KNOW?

That according to UNICEF there are over 25 million orphans in India and that over 5,000 children under the age of five die in India from preventable causes? Your continued support helps us to make a difference. Thank you!

Our Mission

To directly improve the lives of exploited, at-risk, destitute children and the forgotten, suffering elderly, enabling them to become "beacons of light" and share the same gifts of peace, goodwill, and generosity with others for the rest of their lifetimes.

info@operation-shanti.org

www.operationshanti.org

Thank-you for reading our newsletter! Please send any questions, concerns or feedback to info@operation-shanti.org

Peace,
Operation Shanti

Sponsor an

Operation Shanti

Kid

Thank you for your support!

Your generous contribution goes a long way in supporting our work

Sponsoring a child is a great way to see your donation put to good use. To sponsor a kid to stay at Project Home costs \$400 a year. That comes out to \$33.33 a month for 12 months; or a little over \$1.00 (Rs. 40-50) a day. Your sponsorship pays for the child's educational needs, basic daily living, and medical expenses.

For more detail on how your donations are used, please click on the chart below.



GET INVOLVED!

[Click here to find out how!](#)