

India Education Fund Of the Dallas Foundation

PROVIDING THE SEEDS FOR GROWTH



CHAIRMAN'S
UPDATE

Famous author wrote---"Where there is great love, there are always miracles".

The last three months has been an incredible period for India Education Fund (IEF) as we successfully concluded our 2015 Gala Fund Raising event thanks to Helping Hand Ladies and raised about \$50,000 dollars. We also formed a new board whose members are off and running visiting orphanages in India and providing leadership and guidance for new educational and economic empowerment projects. We are still looking for more board members if any one of you would like to serve.

Like all good organizations, IEF is always evaluating how we can do better? How can we improve the quality of life of needy children's and youths? That question led us to an in-depth analysis of what was happening to youths currently in high schools, or have finished high schools with no future. We found that most of them had no English language or computer skills, vocational skills or means to go to the next level of education or economic empowerment.

The recent launch of IEF Vocational Scholarship Program in Mumbai is designed to address this challenge. We now have five girls enrolled in a highly acclaimed beauty school program and here is story of one of them:

Sonal is a young girl from Lalpur, a small town near Jamnagar Gujarat. She came to Mumbai about a month ago when she was granted the IEF Vocational Scholarship at Emerald Institute of Hair and Beauty. The petite frail Sonal is away from her family for the first time and is bravely battling the harsh conditions Mumbai has to offer to fulfill her dream of becoming a professional salon artist. Sonal comes from a very poor and humble background. Her father has a chai shop in the small village. Home is a one room kitchen apartment where she lived with her parents, brother and her grandma. As she was growing up she always dreamt of helping her family. Coming from 3 generations of chai stall owners, she and her brother are the first to have the privilege to attend any kind of school or college.

She grew up lacking a lot of things including clean water and no hospital in the village. Jamnagar is the closest town that offers medical facilities for them. 70 Ismaili families live this life and are waiting for the miracle that happened to Sonal with your donations. She is excited and hopeful that this vocational training will enable her to land a career and get her family out of generational poverty. Sonal says a big thanks to all of you who have contributed towards her scholarship. You are all amazing people. You truly care about people in poverty.



Sonal at Emerald Institute of Hair and Beauty

We not only need funds to help students like Sonal but many others who are struggling their way to finish high school and seek new sustainable careers.

For example your contribution of \$ 150 each and every month contributed to 1 year of education for 3 students in 11th and 12th grade (\$ 600 per scholarship to secondary school students in India). Typically, students' parents, guardians earn an average of \$2 a day.

Similarly a contribution for 12 months at the \$1800/ year will support one scholarship for a young lady to attend a high quality beauty school in Mumbai area for 6 month training. Upon graduation, she would be employed earning \$ 250+ a month. With this income she can support herself and also her family while saving some money for her continuing education or starting her own business.

Eliminating generation poverty is difficult but doable. Each dollar makes a big difference as India has unlimited needs and limited resources. Our approach is not to give handouts but to give a hand-up. With assistance from donors and supporters like you, our mission becomes easier. So, thank you for all your support.

"Happiness doesn't result from what we get but from what we give"

To give online, please visit the following site.

<https://www.dallasfoundation.org/tabid/171/default.aspx?tp=1000&fn=india%20education%20fund>

To send a check, please make the check payable to India Education Fund of The Dallas Foundation and send it to following address:

3963 Maple Avenue, suite 390.
Dallas, TX 75219.

