

August 2025 Odisha Report

Forty-four children continue to reside at the AGPV compound. There are also two children who are attending the local college and residing at the school. Two girls who were unsuccessful earlier in the year to pass the board examination have taken it again and now are waiting for the results. This brings the total number of children that AGPV is supporting to forty-eight. Six additional children are attending trade school; three of them are girls and all three are studying electrical trade. As always, Behera continues to stretch the funds and take care of the needs of all of the children.

Summer vacation was enjoyed by the children, which included sports, outings and gardening. They did continue to have teachers engage them in learning activities. Library was also used extensively by children who enjoy reading a wide range of books.

Now that summer is over, children are back in school. All of them were successfully promoted (except for the two children who took the board exam.) We have five children going into tenth standard and five going into ninth standard. This number fluctuates because of the government moving children or relatives coming forward to take care of their family member. Behera reports that during this reporting period four siblings were admitted. We are not seeking sponsorship for them at this time because it is uncertain if they will continue to stay or not.

Before the school started, all children received school supplies, new clothes and sandals. As the monsoon season is here, they also got umbrellas and netting for the beds to prevent mosquito bites and malaria. New blankets and bed sheets were also distributed.

Children continue to enjoy working with computers; there are six computers at the school. The tutor helps them learn new skills. At some point, we would like to replace them with newer ones as these are quite obsolete and procured because they were cheap. Behera reports that they have also hired a part-time teacher who teaches arts and crafts to the children. They enjoy creating art projects. Behera sent us photos of two thank you cards that the children created; he says they wish to thank all at Shared Blessings for the continued support.

The two sewing machines are regularly used by the girls who are learning to sew and design simple tops and dresses.

Library continues to be popular. Younger children are engaging in working with coloring books that teaches them English words as well as new ideas, and the librarian helps them as they identify words in the books.

Children continue to be healthy and active. Given the season, a few have been sick and received medical care. One child was sick enough to be admitted at the hospital in

Koraput. She has since recovered and back to her everyday activities. As usual, the children receive monthly medical checkups onsite. Behera reports that extra attention is given to promote sanitation, cleanliness and good hygiene habits. The children are also engaging in daily exercises.

Meals are provided three times a day. The children are eating rice, daal, green vegetables, seasonal fruits (mangoes are in season now!!) and ragi (type of millet.) They also receive eggs and chicken four times a week. The newly painted kitchen is bright and colorful, and children partake in helping prepare meals.

The chicken coop construction picked up the pace last month. Most of the outside work is done, and they are now working on getting the inside ready for the fowl. Behera reports that it should be ready soon. Once in place, it is hoped that children can have eggs and chicken more frequently.

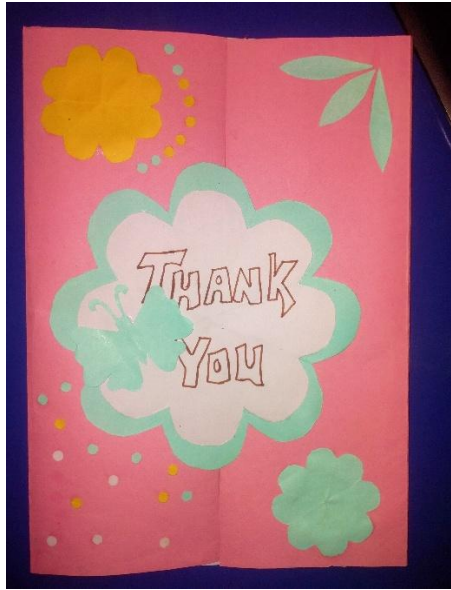
Plan is still on for the January visit to the school. Looks like board member, Kathy Masters, will be joining me this trip. If anyone else is interested, they would be most welcome. Children look forward to visitors and it would be nice to have more people visit them on behalf of Shared Blessings.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Shaila Rao

Odisha Program Manager

June – July 2025 Highlights



Children created this card to thank supporters at Shared Blessings



Mealtime



Playtime



Schoolltime



School year started with new clothes..



and sandals.



Just in time for the monsoon season, all children received umbrellas



and netting for bed to keep mosquitos out



Morning exercise



Planting Trees project



Chicken coop is almost ready.. The building needs to be secure from foxes, snakes and wild dogs!



Wall painting with message



Message from a budding artist

