



Yes, I want to donate for 2023-24.

My gift for 2023-24 is \$ _____

Suggested contribution:

- \$475 supports one Study Center or one Sewing Center
- \$325 supports one Mother-To-Be Group
- Donation of any size appreciated.

- +New donors who wish to support a specific program or village for a personal connection & photos, please inform Murray.
- +PADA's fiscal year runs April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
- +LINKAGE PADA is a registered 501c3 American non-profit, and PADA is a registered Indian non-profit.
- +100% of your donation goes to PADA.
- All administration & travel donated by Murray

Checks payable: Linkage PADA Inc.

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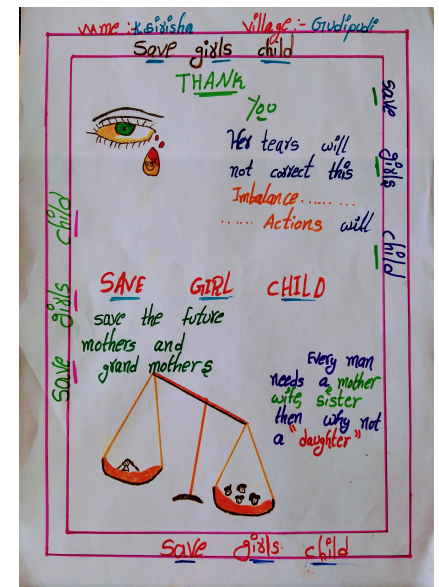
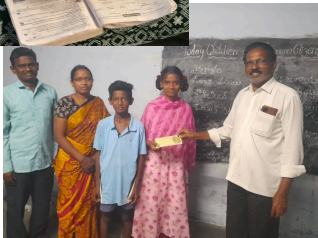
Your Program's Highlights for 2022/23

"Save Girl Child" Thank You Poster.



Here's Sirisha, (left) the 9th grader from the Village of Gudipudi, plus her family as she receives an award for the best donor thank you. She loves science, has a good comprehension of written English, and would love to become an engineer. Her brother is a 6th grader. Her parents are supportive of her academic pursuit.

For those who missed the earlier emailed story: We asked the Study Center students to create thank you posters to be given to donors (enclosed). But among the hundreds of "ho hum" pictures of peacocks, India's flag, stick families and homes was this gem: Save Girl Child by Sirisha. The message is piercing our world of gender inequality. Sirisha spoke because there's hope in the wind. We are her audience, and she spoke.



A school at last. The major visible programs of PADA are the sewing, tutoring, and the mothers prenatal program. Less visible but just as fantastic are the community organizing efforts of our administrator Yohan. After years of roadblocks, the parents of Ramajineyapuram are getting their promised school.

For those who missed the earlier emailed story: Parents in this community of 1600+ saw our erection of a Study Center shed at a nearby village in 2014 and requested one for their village. After surmounting numerous political and bureaucratic obstacles ground was broken last summer and the village of Ramajaneyapuram will get a study center and a public school which will open the upcoming new school year.

544 healthy babies and healthy mothers. The power and popularity of our Mother-To-Be program continues to expand. In a country where stunted children and maternal death is high, we are making a huge impact that will give returns far into the future. When we implemented the program in 2018 we did not anticipate the positive power of the “sister circle” or support group. Yes, we educate regarding nutrition and prenatal health, but the real power is the sharing, bonding, and support the young women give each other.



For those who missed the earlier emailed story: We had assumed that we needed to somehow educate the fathers-to-be. But, our village primary health workers and group facilitators informed us that the biggest obstacle to nutrition and health care were the mother-in-laws. Newlyweds come and live with their mother-in-laws till birth of the child. We are now in the process of expanding our program to regularly educate these women regarding nutrition and health care of their in-development grandchildren.



Ritual: mother-in-law blesses her grandchild to-be.



Six villages and 60+ students....sew, sew, sew. Currently it's the hot, dry, fallow season when there's no field work for our stakeholders. During this time our students are free to receive their 400 hour+ sewing instruction. There were 9 villages requesting the program; 6 were selected. There were nearly 100 women in these 6 villages seeking admission. Village elders and our Social Worker Sarah used a need-based criteria to select the program recipients.

The rest of this year's story. LINKAGE PADA INC. became incorporated and is now registered as a 501c3 non-profit organization. As Murray is a legal resident of Virginia we are incorporated there. Our legally required board is as follows: Murray Schmechel, chairperson; Kate Petranec, secretary, and Sherry Marshall, treasurer.

Forty-one donors contributed last fiscal year. Yes, we do so much with a tiny budget! Yes, we need to expand our donor base. If each of us would recruit another donor we could expand our goodness. We'd love to expand our Paralegal program into the area of conflict resolution. There are opportunities to expand our MTB program. We'd love to find sponsors for gifted youth like Sirisha who lack the financial means to advance academically beyond grade 10. Let Murray know and he can send additional brochures and past “field notes” to help your recruitment efforts.



Meet Our Treasurer Sherry. “I first met the good people tucked away in the small, hardscrabble villages around Guntur in 2012, as a volunteer with a US-based NGO that worked with PADA. The experience was so rewarding I returned in 2014, and am still hoping to make my way back again someday. The first project involved working with the people in the village to build latrines - until then, they had only the surrounding fields to use. On the second trip, the team worked with the people in another village to build a community center, desperately needed for the evening tutoring programs for the children. Murray Schmechel joined us on the second excursion, and - as you probably know - that was the beginning of Murray's passion to help PADA do bigger and better things.

Although I haven't yet achieved my wish to return to India, I am happy to use my business management experience, primarily with nonprofit organizations, to help LINKAGE PADA expand its vital mission. As the past owner of an association management business, I managed all of the administrative needs of small organizations, including budgeting & financial management, marketing and membership, and strategic planning. I have also served on the Board of Directors of three nonprofit organizations.” *Sherry*