

Shaik Sameer's Story

Shaik Sameer is a student who studies at the Lower Kindergarten level at Soham for Kids HOPE School. He and his older sister were abandoned by his mother who dropped them off at their uncle's (father's younger brother) house and went away for good. He is currently taken care of by his grandmother and uncle.

When Shaik Sameer entered school he was finding it difficult to adjust amongst the other children but soon after some time, he became enthusiastic about school. Now he is very social and good natured child who is always willing to help his classmates with school and excels at studies himself. When he started school, Shaik Sameer used to stammer while speaking however now he has overcome his stutter.



Photo Details : Shaik Sameer along with his family.

Neha Kumari's Story

Neha Kumari is a member of the Upper Kindergarten Class at Soham for Kids HOPE School. She is one of five siblings and her mother doesn't work. Therefore, the only earning member of Neha's seven person family is her father who works as a watchman and earns less than \$50/month to support his large family. Because of this, they currently live in a shed in the factory where Sudharshan Singh, Neha's father, is working. Therefore taking care of a large family on such little income and providing Neha and her siblings' basic needs is a challenge Sudharshan.

Neha is a bright child who is very much interested in academics. Because Neha comes from an extremely impoverished background, when she started school she was extremely malnourished, and weak. The breakfast and lunch provided by Soham for Kids HOPE School has improved her health drastically and has improved her personality as well. Because her parents see such a positive change in Neha, they are very keen on getting their other children educated at Soham for Kids HOPE. This is great news because parental encouragement and cooperation facilitates the educational process. In fact, Neha's mother now has admitted Neha's younger brother so he can attend Soham for Kids HOPE next year.



Photo Details : Neha Kumari along with her father & brothers.

Gajanan's Story

Gajanan's father Kuntalwad Gopal is working as a watchman in a factory and earns less than \$80/month. Gajanan has a sister, but due to the lack of financial resources, Gajanan's sister was sent to live with her grandparents. They stay in the shed pictured below near the factory where Kuntalwad works. Kuntalwas says, "I never thought Gajanan will get such a good education in his life. We want to settle here because Gajanan is getting good education at Soham for Kids HOPE School."

Gajanan is an active boy who loves to draw. He wasn't able to understand the concept of school and follow classroom decorum initially however, now he is settling in school. Also, initially when he started school, he stayed very quiet and didn't socialize with his classmate. Now he is a playful boy who loves to play with his classmates.



Photo Details: Gajanan Gopal along with his father Kuntalwad Gopal.

Milkika's Story

Milkika is a student at Soham for Kids HOPE School and is currently studying at the Nursery Level and loves all things pink. Her father Ravi works as a watchman and earns less than \$90/month to support his family. Therefore, Milkika's mother works as a Maid and brings in extra income of \$45/month to support the family, which includes Ravi's old parents. The family stays together in a very basic hut that is on land that doesn't even belong to them. However, the landowner has permitted Ravi to stay there.

Milkika was born prematurely and is now only 3 years old, but is very prone to sickness so her parents have specified to the staff at Soham for Kids HOPE School to take extra special care of Milkika's health. At first, Milkika never wanted to leave her parents/grandparents to come to school, however, after 4 months, she is excited to attend school. She especially loves to take part in arts and crafts activities.



Photo Details : Milkika along with her mother Kavitha

Shalem's story

Gannepangu Yesu, Shalem's father, left his wife and 2 children. Therefore, Shalem's mother Nagamani is works as a maid earning less than \$35/month to support her young family. Shalem loves his breakfast at school and likes to drink milk with bread every day. We add Bournivita to the milk so he can get some additional vitamins. He loves drawing and singing nursery rhymes.



Photo Details : G. Shalem along with her mother Nagamani.