



June 2012 Newsletter Review

2012 - A Great Start!

We hope that everyone has had a joyous start to 2012! We are pleased to report that Upakriti has begun the year on a very positive note. In December we received a flood of donations totaling over \$4,000. Your generosity continues to amaze and humble us year after year. This money has already been earmarked to support the students and staff of the CHES, SOCARE, AIM for SEVA- Model School, and AIM for SEVA – Student Home.

We were also the recipients of a monetary donation from Protiviti Risk & Business Consulting. One of our founders, Sundar Venkat, gave a stirring presentation extolling the efforts of Upakriti at their holiday party. The attendees were moved by the work and dedication of Upakriti in meeting our mission to ensure education continuity for underprivileged children in India. The \$1845 raised at this event will make a substantial impact!

SEVATHON 2012

Upakriti is partnering with our fellow community service organizations for Sevathon 2012. We hope to raise enough funds to support an additional 20 children at CHES for the 2012-2013 school year! Please join Team Upakriti on July 15th for a 5K, 10K, or half-marathon walk/jog/run.

To register as a runner or to sponsor an existing runner for Team Upakriti, go to our homepage www.upakriti.org or to www.konnectme.org for details.

From the konnectme.org website:

Runners should look for the India Community Center Sevathon -2012 icon and hit the register button. On the registration page, please make sure you select Upakriti under “Choose Your Cause”.

Sponsors should go to the Non-Profits tab and select Upakriti. You will be automatically directed to the Upakriti fundraising page. Select the team member you will be sponsoring, enter the amount of your donation, and complete your payment information. It's really that easy!



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Spotlight –Society’s Care for The Indigent (SOCARE)

We are pleased that once again we will be able to support SOCARE in 2012. As many of you know SOCARE has been a tireless champion for the education of children of convicts in the Karnataka state prison system. SOCARE believes that these children who would have been otherwise abandoned by society, deserve the opportunity to become productive citizens. Founded in 1999 by the honorable Mr. and Mrs. Mani, SOCARE has supported over 100 boys and girls –room, board, health, and education. In this caring and stable environment these young children have been able to make great progress. This last year 23 boys were promoted to the next grade level! One boy received 85% marks in PUC Science and another received 100% in Math –SSLC. These are remarkable achievements and truly are a testament to SOCARE’s motto “Together We Can Make a Difference”.

For the upcoming year we hope to assist SOCARE in the construction of their new building. In early April with blessings they held a beautiful ground breaking ceremony. The hope is that the building will be ready in a year’s time. To learn more about SOCARE, please visit their website at: www.socare.org.



Upakriti – Reading List

The Life You Can Save: How to Do Your Part to End World Poverty by Peter Singer comes highly recommended by one of our volunteers. Check out some of the glowing reviews on Amazon.com below:

“If you think you can’t afford to give money to the needy, I urge you to read this book. If you think you’re already giving enough, and to the right places, still I urge you to read this book. In *The Life You Can Save*, Peter Singer makes a strong case—logical and factual, but also emotional—for why each of us should be doing more for the world’s impoverished. This book will challenge you to be a better person.”
—Holden Karnofsky, co-founder, GiveWell



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**"In *The Life You Can Save*, Peter Singer challenges each of us to ask: Am I willing to make poverty history? Skillfully weaving together parable, philosophy, and hard statistics, he tackles the most familiar moral, ethical, and ideological obstacles to building a global culture of philanthropy, and sets the bar for how we as citizens might do our part to empower the world's poor."
—Raymond C. Offenheiser, president, Oxfam America**

What's Ahead ?

We've got an exciting plan for 2012. As mentioned previously, we will be actively supporting four key charities: SOCARE, AIM for SEVA- Model School, AIM for SEVA – Student Home, and CHES. We have reviewed the budgetary plans from each organization and have allocated our funds accordingly. This year we have a fundraising target of \$10,000 to meet their sum critical needs.

From an organizational standpoint, we continue to hear your feedback. We're in the process of updating our website to make it more user friendly and informative.

As always we thank you for all of your support! We hope to see soon!