



THE HOPE FOUNDATION
HOPE
25 YEARS



Celebrating **25 Years** of HOPE



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HOPE NEWS
2024 | ISSUE 21

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Contents

- 03 WELCOME MESSAGES**
Maureen Forrest, Founding President, The Hope Foundation
Dr. Dermot O'Mahoney, Chairman, The Hope Foundation.
- 04 OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS**
Discover what we have achieved in our 25 years
- 05 BRINGING HOPE FOR 25 YEARS**
How it all began
- 06 STORIES OF CHANGE**
Read 4 inspirational stories of people supported by HOPE's programmes
- 08 VOICES FOR HOPE - OUR AMBASSADORS**
- 10 GUARDIANS OF INNOCENCE**
Our Residential Childcare Centres are at the heart of what we've been doing for 25 years
- 12 PROJECT SPOTLIGHT - NAYA DAUR**

DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION IN ACTION →

The impact of HOPE's School Immersion Programme gets more powerful each year for students, teachers, parents and communities.

18 PRANIC HEALING FOR HOPE

20 CATHY O'SHAUGHNESSY CRECHE



- 22 **A COMMITMENT TO VISION**
- 24 **HOPE IRELAND NEWS & EVENTS**
- 28 **HOPE USA NEWS & EVENTS**
- 30 **HOPE UK NEWS & EVENTS**
- 34 **CHILD SPONSORSHIP**
- 35 **DONATION FORM**

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Our audited accounts are available on our website.

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www.hopefoundation.ie

HOPE NEWS

2024 | ISSUE 21

Welcome

Dear Friends of HOPE,

As we celebrate 25 years of HOPE, let me begin by expressing my heartfelt thanks to all of you for helping us on our journey. From small beginnings, starting with one residential childcare centre for girls, HOPE has grown to nearly 60 projects in healthcare, education, protection, livelihood and emergency response, impacting the lives of over 3.2 million people in West Bengal. This could not have been achieved without you, and I am forever grateful for your generosity and support, which has made such a huge difference in the lives of so many people in difficult circumstances.



Our incredible achievements are a testament to the dedication of our beloved Geeta Venkadakrishnan. Geeta helped us so much to make HOPE the organisation it is today, and we miss her dearly. Her legacy lives on through the life-changing work of our programmes, led by an incredible team in Kolkata.

To our staff, volunteers, students, teachers, patrons, board members and donors from Ireland, the UK, the USA, India, Germany, Italy and all over the world, your generosity never fails to astound us, and you are the reason we can keep HOPE alive.

Our mission towards a "world where it should never hurt to be a child" is at the heart of our work. HOPE is a source of light to thousands of children and their communities, enabling and empowering them to build a brighter future for themselves and their future generations. We hope you continue to support our work and vision, and look forward to engaging with you, our supporters, again this year.

Maureen Forrest - Founding President, The Hope Foundation

Chairman's Message



On behalf of the Board of The Hope Foundation and in our 25th Anniversary year, I am delighted to acknowledge and sincerely thank everyone who has supported the work of HOPE since our journey began in 1999. The commitment of HOPE's volunteers, supporters, donors, and board members over the past 25 years has been truly remarkable, ensuring the continuity and success of providing street-connected and slum-dwelling communities in Kolkata with a better future. We look forward to continuing this wonderful legacy of HOPE and celebrating the achievements of the past 25 years.

Dr. Dermot F O'Mahoney
Chairman, The Hope Foundation



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Our Impact in Numbers 1999 - March 2024

In our 25 years of bringing HOPE to where it is desperately needed, and with your incredible support, we have been able to positively impact the lives of millions of children, their families and communities. Thank you.

96,989

The number of children that have received educational support through HOPE crèches, Naboasha projects, special education projects, educational sponsorship, and our Holistic Education Programme.



15,435

The number of children and adults that have been protected from abuse and neglect by our 10 Residential Child Care Centres and our Child Watch Programme



33,935

The number of families that were supported by HOPE's emergency programmes in response to cyclones (Amphan, Yaas & Aila), an earthquake (in Gujarat), a tsunami (in Tamil Nadu) and COVID-19.



OVER 2.9 MILLION

Number of individuals across Kolkata, Howrah and other districts in West Bengal who received access to healthcare services through HOPE interventions, including over 150,000 treated in the inpatient and outpatient departments of HOPE Hospital.



Bringing HOPE for 25 Years



25 years ago this year, Maureen Forrest started an organisation that would go on to change the lives of over 3 million people.

The remarkable journey of Maureen Forrest, and The Hope Foundation, began after she witnessed the horrific suffering of the victims during the civil war in Mozambique. There and then, Maureen decided to make a life-long commitment to the poor.

Maureen first volunteered in war torn Somalia, where she risked her life to volunteer in a centre for 2,000 children. During the early 90s Maureen travelled to Rwanda and volunteered in a centre flooded with refugees from the genocide.

BEGINNINGS

Maureen pictured with Mother Teresa



“ The key to the success of slum children’s education was to involve the mothers in the education process ”

In 1993 Maureen experienced a life-changing meeting with Mother Teresa, which inspired her journeys to India. She was horrified by the scale of poverty in Calcutta (now Kolkata) and decided to volunteer with an Irish organisation based in the city. While there she helped set up schools in the slums and learned that the key to the success of slum children’s education was to involve the mothers in the education process, allowing them to be the real change makers.

And so, in 1999, Maureen decided to open a residential child care centre to protect 25 young girls, with a budget of €25,000. Today, The Hope Foundation operates 58 projects including 10 such child care centres, 4 creches and a hospital.

Stories of Change

With your help HOPE is changing lives every day. Here you can read 4 uplifting stories of people supported by HOPE's programmes.

From our Emergency Response Unit

In October, a 60-year-old woman was found lying on a footpath. People informed the police station and the duty officer responded to the call. After assessing the situation, the officer informed HIVE. The Emergency Response Unit and the police officer admitted the woman to a hospital. Her physical condition improved after a few days of treatment. The Emergency Response Unit visited her at the hospital to learn more about her and contact her family. However, she was unable to communicate.

After prolonged treatment, she partially recovered her voice, and she shared that her name is Gita, and she has an older brother. However, she did not remember the exact address. After an extensive search by the Police department and Emergency Response Unit, her brother was



located. Her brother informed them that Gita has a son and a husband who works as a travelling salesman in another state. Gita suffered from mental health issues and was reported missing one year ago. Her brother was happy to hear about her but was reluctant to bring her back to his house. Instead, he provided the contact information of Gita's husband and brother-in-law.

After 2 months at the hospital, Gita recovered and was accompanied to her home by the Emergency Response Unit and the police to be reunited with her husband.

The Emergency Response Unit is operated by our partner HIVE India and funded by the Law Society of Ireland's Calcutta Run

From our Naboasha Education Programme

Mina is a ten-year-old girl who was living with her grandmother and younger brother on the streets of Kolkata. Her father was an abusive alcoholic, and her mother left the family very early in her life. Mina and her little brother were often left hungry with no one to care for or protect them. Their grandmother brought the children to Kolkata but had to leave them alone while she went to work. Mina looked after her brother and did the chores. The Naboasha teacher identified Mina on the streets while she was cleaning utensils. First, the Naboasha team motivated her grandmother to allow Mina to enrol in the Naboasha centre and study.

A child-friendly environment at the Naboasha centre, positive peer support, motivational sessions by the counsellor, and positive reinforcement by the teachers helped Mina feel welcome. Mina was enrolled as a non-formal student first. As her interest in learning and studies grew, the Naboasha teachers enrolled her in formal school. However, Mina used to panic at times and could not concentrate on her studies. Relaxation techniques, yoga and counselling helped her to reduce her anxiety and restlessness. After repeated counselling and continuous activity-based learning, Mina became more confident and regained her interest in studying. She is now studying in Class



V. She participates in many co-curricular activities at her school and the Naboasha centre. Mina socialises with the other students and helps them in studies when needed. Her younger brother has now also enrolled in the Naboasha centre.

From our Night Round

Mahmud, a 16-year-old boy from a street-connected community, was found by the Night Round Medical Unit with a broken leg. His father told the team that he had an accident 8 years ago and had fractured the same leg again. At that time, his leg was fixed with an implant that had not been removed. After the last accident, the family took Mahmud to the hospital for treatment. However, due to the long queue at the Orthopaedic department, Mahmud only received first aid, and the health workers did not attend to his previous implant.

The attending physician in the Night Round team advised for Mahmud's hospitalisation. However, his father feared Mahmud's leg might worsen after surgery. He was counselled about the support available at HOPE Hospital and then he accompanied Mahmud to HOPE Hospital.

At the Hospital, X-rays indicated that the implant was also badly bruised due to the recent accident and would need immediate intervention. He was referred for surgery, which was done successfully. After recovery, Mahmud was released from the hospital and is still under follow-up treatment. He is still gaining the strength to walk freely and feels no pain while doing the exercises.

From our Creches

Sohail is a 4-year-old boy living with his grandmother, mother and two sisters. His mother courageously left his drug-addicted father last year due to the daily physical violence and abuse. His mother works as a daily wage labourer, and Sohail's older sisters often engage in the hazardous job of sorting glass from medical waste for the recyclers to help the family.

When Sohail first came to the crèche, he was panic-stricken. He used to pick a corner in the crèche and did not interact with anyone. He feared loud noises as he related it to the violence at home. Due to the HOPE teacher's warm, loving and caring nature at the crèche, his anxiousness gradually reduced. The continuous efforts from the crèche teachers and joyous learning methodologies helped him immensely. He started participating in all the activities and bonded with the teachers and other children. He is an enthusiastic child who loves to sing and actively participates in rhyme classes. There are even times when he comes to the crèche after his session to talk with the teachers.

Voices for HOPE

Meet our 25th Anniversary Special Ambassadors

We are delighted to have some very powerful voices join our 25th Anniversary celebrations, helping to amplify our message of HOPE.



Jeremy Irons

Oscar winning actor and activist

I am honoured to serve as Special Ambassador for The Hope Foundation as they mark this significant milestone. The work they do in Kolkata is truly life-changing, providing hope and opportunity to those who need it most. For 25 years, they have been a beacon of light and compassion. But their work isn't finished. They remain dedicated to ensuring that every child remains healthy and has access to education. We all have our part to play because merely talking of change is not enough - please help them make this a reality and donate whatever you can. I look forward to supporting their efforts and shining a light on their remarkable achievements.

Olivia Colman CBE

Award winning English actress

For many children living on the streets and in the slums of Kolkata, life is an immense struggle. They lack access to the necessities of life such as food, clean water and access to healthcare. Many start work from a young age to provide for themselves or their families, and therefore don't enjoy a normal childhood or their right to education. This is why the work of The Hope Foundation is so necessary – the organisation is restoring basic human rights to some of India's most disadvantaged communities to create sustainable change. I am proud to support HOPE's 25th Anniversary Campaign, and I encourage you all to do so too.



Dame Judi Dench

World-renowned English film, stage and TV actress

As a proud patron of The Hope Foundation, I ask you all to give as much you can to their 25th Anniversary Campaign. Since 1999, their support has impacted the lives of over 3 million individuals who live in Kolkata's slums and throughout the city's streets. Your contribution, no matter the size, will play a crucial role in extending their reach and touching the lives of countless more people.



As we come together to give, we not only change lives but also collectively shape a world where HOPE and a better future is a universal right.

Introducing our New Ambassadors

HOPE is excited to welcome our new charity ambassadors, whose passion and dedication will undoubtedly help further our mission and positively impact our efforts in Kolkata



Jasmine Gerhardt

Current Miss Ireland and Law Graduate

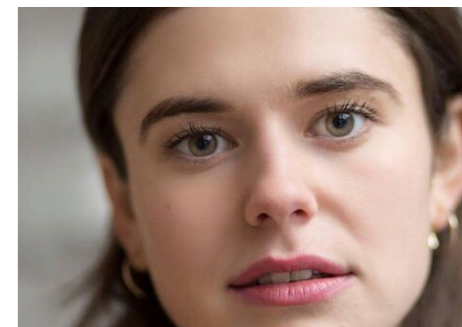
// I am deeply honoured to be appointed as an Ambassador for The Hope Foundation. I believe that every child deserves access to education, healthcare, and a safe environment to thrive. I am eager to work alongside The Hope Foundation in their vital mission of providing hope and opportunity to the children of Kolkata.



Alex Kendellen

Professional Rugby Player

// I'm delighted to be a part of The Hope Foundation and look forward to supporting HOPE's efforts in improving the lives of street-connected and slum-dwelling communities in Kolkata, India.



Alison Oliver

Irish Actress

// I'm honoured to have recently started working with The Hope Foundation, founded by the incredible Maureen Forrester. For their special anniversary year they aim to raise as much as they can and I ask you to give as much as you can as every little bit really does make a big difference.

Will you Answer their Call?

We would be incredibly grateful if you would consider making a donation to support HOPE's 25th Anniversary Campaign. Your generosity is the reason that we have been able to touch the lives of over 3 million people since 1999. But we have so much more to do.

You can make a one-off or a monthly donation, of any amount, easily and securely online. Alternatively you can make a donation over the phone.

☎ 021 4292990 📄 [HOPEFOUNDATION.IE/DONATE](https://www.hopefoundation.ie/donate)

SCAN TO DONATE
ON YOUR PHONE



Guardians of Innocence

Safeguarding Children for a Brighter Tomorrow

The Hope Foundation's primary objective is to protect children who live on the streets and in the slums of Kolkata. HOPE works to shield children from exploitation, abuse, starvation, and sickness and supports children to access their rights for a brighter and secure future.



25 years ago HOPE was founded with the aim of raising ₹25,000 to run one residential child care unit to protect 25 vulnerable girls. Today, amongst our 58 projects, we now run 10 such residential child care centres - 6 for girls and 4 for boys. These centers provide temporary protective shelter for children of 6-18 years who are identified as in need of care

and protection by the Child Welfare Committee of Kolkata.

These centres provide a home away from home, a loving, caring, and safe environment in which children can learn and grow into independent, successful and happy young adults. It has always been HOPE's priority to restore children to their families, where possible and appropriate. Children reunited with their family continue to be supported through our home-based education sponsorship programme.

There is no limit to our care - children supported by HOPE will have a family and support for life, not just until they turn 18. Our unwavering commitment to the vulnerable child of Kolkata remains as strong now as it was 25 years ago.

Alisha's Story

Read how a resilient and irrepressible young girl escaped a life of abuse and terror to forge a new life, with HOPE's help

Alisha and her sister used to live with their father on the streets of Kolkata. Alisha's mother had an addiction problem and had already abandoned the family. When Alisha was 6 years old, her father passed away. Alisha and her sister were now left defenceless on the streets. In the following days, they were often abused, and both sisters were deprived of nutritious food. Faced with these uncertainties, Alisha and her sister moved in with their mother, who had remarried. Alisha was exposed to frequent domestic violence. To ensure her protection, Alisha was placed in a state residential child care centre when she was only 8 years old.

After a couple of years, Alisha went back to her mother. However, she dropped out of school and started using substances.

She was identified by Kolkata's Childline service and was rescued by the police. Following the orders of the Child Welfare Committee, Alisha was placed in a HOPE Residential Childcare Centre in 2021 when she was 16 years old. Initially, Alisha wanted to return to living on the streets. Gradually, she started confiding in the staff during counselling. She shared that she had been abused by her stepfather. Alisha informed her mother about the abuse. However, her mother refused to intervene. To cope with sexual abuse and mental trauma of her mother's inaction, Alisha resorted to drug abuse.

Alisha consented to undertake legal action, and a complaint was lodged against her stepfather under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act of India. Following the legal route, the offender was arrested, and victim compensation was also claimed.

Though she was 16, Alisha's Aadhaar Card (Government ID) stated she was only 11 years old. An ossification test proved her age, and her Aadhaar card details were rectified accordingly. Moreover, Alisha's surname was changed from her stepfather's to her biological father's as

per her request. Alisha now possesses an Aadhaar Card with all the correct information. Other legal documents, such as a PAN card and birth certificate, were also procured, and a bank account was registered under her name.

At Ashar Alo Residential Child Care Centre, Alisha received much-needed legal assistance and it was here that she started her journey of recovery. With medical and psychological support, Alisha's dependence on substances reduced significantly. Most importantly, she started feeling safe and protected. She attended skill-enhancement courses, vocational training programmes, sports, and co-curricular activities. She also enrolled in the tailoring course at the Life Skills Unit and undertook soft skill training programmes in Spoken English and Computers.

Alisha has now completed the tailoring course and is eagerly awaiting her results and course certificates. Meanwhile, Alisha has already joined a design house as a trainee and earns a regular income. As Alisha takes the next steps into her new life we wish her the very best for the future.

"I became very anxious and depressed after experiencing abuse frequently. I had lost all motivation in life and had no dreams left.

"HOPE instilled in me the courage to go on. Since my childhood, I had been deprived of education. Even after I got the opportunity, I had denied it. I got another opportunity yet again, and this time through Vocational Training. Now, I can dream and make those dreams come true.

"I am indebted to The Hope Kolkata Foundation and its staff for all they have done for me. I am fortunate to have them."

- Alisha



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Naya Daur

Supporting homeless people with psychosocial disabilities, in partnership with Iswar Sankalpa



In Kolkata, about 10% of individuals living on the streets suffer from mental health issues, varying from depression to autism and schizophrenia. They often do not know/cannot remember their name or home address. The short supply of appropriate medicines and the stigma associated with mental health have further pushed these individuals into isolation and destitution.

Naya Daur is the flagship programme of our partner Iswar Sankalpa that provides mental healthcare and allied services to homeless people with psychosocial disabilities, without admitting them to institutions. A multidisciplinary team of counsellors, social workers, and doctors

assess and treat clients within their neighbourhood. This allows community members to observe the treatment process and break the barriers and stigma often attached to those suffering from mental health concerns. Most often, patients do not need hospitalisation but only regular medication and help caring for themselves. In such cases, the Naya Daur team mobilises people in the neighbourhood to function as voluntary caregivers, to give the patients their medicines regularly, take them for a haircut or a bath, and ensure they are protected from abuse and other crimes. Other community members are motivated to offer unskilled employment to the clients.



Naya Daur mobilises community resources such as pharmacies, NGOs, Community Based Organisations, local shopkeepers, pharmaceutical companies, corporates and concerned individuals as potential caregivers or employers. Using these resources, a wider support network is formed to create an integrated mental health service model.

After the client's psychosocial health improves, they are linked with various government social schemes and job opportunities.

Naya Daur was recognised by the WHO as a good practice community mental health service, and is published in its Guidance and Technical Packages on Community Mental Health Services: promoting rights-based and person-centered approaches.



LET YOUR LEGACY BE
A WORLD WHERE IT
SHOULD NEVER HURT
TO BE A CHILD



Leave a Legacy Gift

After family and friends are looked after, leaving a gift to charity in your will is a wonderful way to support a favourite cause into the future. As you consider your plans, we ask you to also consider including a gift to The Hope Foundation in your will.

Your gift will help to ensure that we can continue the work that we do in the long term and helps us to keep our commitment to the communities where we have implemented our life-changing programmes. Your gift will make a huge difference, for years to come.

Find out more:



www.hopefoundation.ie/legacy



021 4292990

//

I will be forever thankful for this life changing experience

School Immersion Programme



Dear Teachers, Parents and Students,

We are very proud that 36 schools and over 320 students, teachers and chaperones participated in HOPE's 2023/2024 School Immersion Programme.

Since 2003 HOPE has worked closely with Irish secondary schools to offer transition year and fifth year students the unique opportunity to travel to Kolkata and, through their fundraising efforts, making a real difference to the lives of street and slum children, their families and communities.

We would be delighted to hear from any school, teacher or student who is interested in finding out more about HOPE and our School Immersion Programme. Email schools@hopefoundation.ie or call us on 021 4292990.

Charlie, Maureen, Ashleigh, Emma
HOPE Schools Team

SUSAN KING - PRESENTATION SECONDARY SCHOOL THURLES

As a teacher in the Presentation Secondary School Thurles, I am so proud to have been a part of the Hope Immersion Program. It has profoundly impacted my own life and my students' lives. I live in my own safe environment, and I have never considered the world as a bigger place where people suffer and strive daily to survive. Personally, having the opportunity to travel to Kolkata is a privilege that I will always cherish. I have got so much from this experience, and I have come home with a new appreciation for my family and friends, with gratitude and appreciation for all that I have. This year I feel honored to have shared this experience with Ms. Neville and 11 of our students. My key observation from my trip to Kolkata was the astonishing work provided by The Hope Foundation in providing support to families to enable the education of their children. They are indeed living the mantra that education is indeed the key enabler to lift people out of the poverty trap. As a result, we visited two homework clubs where students were first generation learners.

Throughout the school year I work on a weekly basis with our students, keeping track on how they are doing with their fundraising, developing friendships and networking within our own group so when they travel, we know each other well and generally providing support throughout the WHOLE journey. By doing this, I get to know the students not just as the pupils I educate but as real people who have feelings and emotions, ambition and fears. It is foremost that our students reflect and learn from this experience, and to date I continue to be so proud to see former students from the school continue to return with The Hope Foundation in a volunteering capacity after their days at Presentation Thurles are over.

As a teacher I am so gratified that my students have relished every moment of this experience. Their reflections have provided me with confirmation that this is truly a unique experience, and one not to be missed.

Teacher Feedback 



Heartfelt appreciation to you all for all of your hard work, support and experience. Tiago had the most unforgettable experience, and it was enriching and life-affirming in all the best ways.

Tiago and I had spoken a lot about 'poverty tourism' -and about other perspectives and about privilege too -I am so wary of 'othering' but I'm so glad Tiago went - he has been so respectful of the people there, no doubt modelled by the team who organised the trip and the culture at HOPE and at Ballincollig Community School too - he hasn't shown us pictures of people but rather, of temples and street scenes and the beauty of the place.

So, I just wanted to send a massive thank to you all for EVERY single moment of kindness, insight and support for Tiago and for me. Tiago will never forget the experience - what a gift the opportunity was. I hope it will inform his future and the course of his life in some way and hope someday to make the trip myself.

You are doing an incredible job - and Tiago and I are very grateful in the wake of his experience, to have hope and HOPE in our lives!

SINÉAD DE BHÁILL, CORK

Parent Feedback 

Student Feedback

This has been the best week of my life - it was truly life changing. I will never forget the children I have met through this programme, they will stay with me through my entire life. This experience has made me realise that I can make a difference however big or small and I hope to do so. I will be forever thankful for this life changing experience. - Alex, Presentation Thurles

"It was one of the most rewarding experiences in my life. It opened my eyes to a whole different world."

NIAMH - BORRISOKANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CO. TIPPERARY

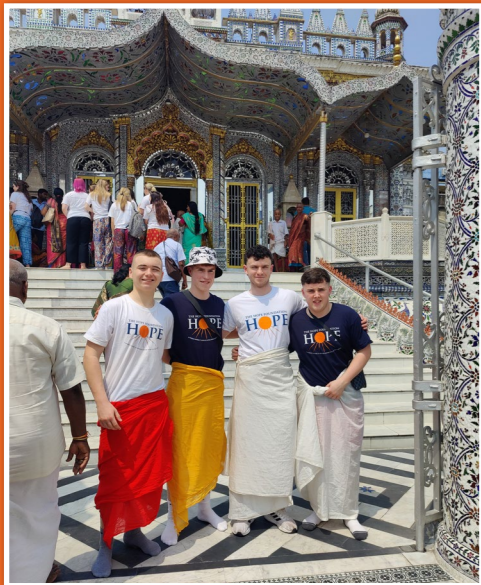
"This was the best trip I have been on. It combined fun and emotion and it makes you think about how other people across the globe live their lives. I would recommend this experience to everyone."

SIONA - LAUREL HILL SECONDARY SCHOOL, LIMERICK

"Words can't even describe this amazing experience. What you see, smell, hear, you can't explain it. It is such an eye opening experience. Everyone should experience it!!"

SIONA - LAUREL HILL SECONDARY SCHOOL, LIMERICK

Not only was the trip enjoyable and awe-inspiring, it also completely widened my world view and heightened my empathy for those around the world that don't get mentioned enough in the news and who suffer in silence. On top of this it gave me an appreciation for everything in my life including the education that it is illegal for me not to have and the future I have ahead of me because of it. All in all it was an unforgettable experience and the people I met and the things I learned there will stay with me forever. - Joni, Ashton School, Cork





Pranic Healing for HOPE

Since 2018, the wonderful Pranic Healing for HOPE supporters have been providing incredible funding for a variety of HOPE programmes in Kolkata.

HOPE cannot thank this special group enough – and wishes to extend very special thanks to Amanda Connell and Joan Hunt who have tirelessly spearheaded and driven this fundraising commitment for HOPE.

HOPE also wishes to give special mention to Stephen Dennehy, and to the fantastic group of Pranic Healers who visited HOPE in Kolkata in April this year and who raised significant funds for our programmes - to Keith Howell, Elaine Mangan, Sarah Kenny, Hazel Keogh, Alina Alekseyeva, Antoinette Kavanaugh and Roisin Cheshire.

Pranic Healing for HOPE are a wonderful example of sustained commitment, passion, support, and fundraising.

They have raised in excess of a phenomenal €240,000 since 2018 for HOPE.

Their commitment to HOPE's PBK Residential Care Centre, and Night Round programme is simply amazing. This group has also provided incredible support during Covid – paying for the costs of 5 cardiac monitors during this emergency period. Pranic Healing for HOPE is also responsible for identifying many child sponsors for HOPE – and continues to increase the number of children who are sponsored in Kolkata via this programme. They have always been innovative and exciting when it comes to fundraising activities and events and have provided items for auction and raffle over the years.

This tremendous group of supporters not only raises astonishing amounts of funding for HOPE, they also consistently raise awareness amongst the wider Pranic Healing community and beyond – and thus they are the voice of our street connected children and slum dwelling communities in Kolkata.



THE HOPE FOUNDATION
HOPE
25 YEARS

HOPE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Silver Gala Ball

Saturday, September 21st 2024
The 5 Star Intercontinental Hotel, Dublin 4

*Pre-dinner reception, 4 course dinner, special guests,
auction, raffle, & dancing
6.45pm until late*

Tickets: €200 - Available here: hopesilvergalaball.eventbrite.ie
€1800 for a table of 10 - contact Sheila Zebedee at sheilashopefoundation.ie

As part of HOPE's 25th Anniversary, we are launching a new "Rebel Run For HOPE" campaign throughout Cork City and County.

Athletic & Running clubs across Cork are kindly coming on board to support HOPE by organising a 5km & 10km run (or walk) at different dates and venues throughout 2024.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

REBEL RUN FOR HOPE

279

IF YOUR CLUB WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ELLE
086 8846366 ELLE@HOPEFOUNDATION.IE

THE HOPE FOUNDATION
HOPE
25 YEARS

GOLF CLASSIC

Kindly Sponsored by

FRIDAY 23 AUGUST

- 2024 -

LEE VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

€300 - 3 BALL (INCL. LUNCH)
€100 - TEE BOX SPONSORSHIP

GET A HOLE IN ONE ON THE 12TH HOLE AND WIN €1000 VOUCHER FROM DAWSON TRAVEL

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ELLE O'SULLIVAN MCCARTHY
086-8846366 ELLE@HOPEFOUNDATION.IE

Project Update

Cathy O' Shaughnessy HOPE Fund

The Cathy O' Shaughnessy HOPE Fund was founded in 2017 by Eddy O' Shaughnessy and his family, in memory of his late wife Cathy, whose untimely death occurred in 2015. The family felt that funding a crèche in Kolkata in her name was the most appropriate way to remember Cathy, who loved children. In March Eddy returned to the crèche and was delighted to meet the children again, and some families living in the area.

In the crèche the children are looked after by two fully qualified teachers and one assistant, who look after their nutrition, health issues, and give them their first introduction to education. Once they get to age 6 the children are enrolled in state school and from there they get the opportunity to get an education which will enable them to escape the cycle of poverty they were born into. These children will be

the first generation of their family to get an education – this is truly life changing .

All this is made possible by the donations of so many people who have supported the crèche from the start.

Eddy visited the crèche recently to see first-hand the work being done there and to meet the teachers, the children, and some of their parents.

He also met some children who had graduated from the crèche and were now in state school, where they are working hard at their studies. Some want to be teachers, others policewomen.

The parents he met said that they were very grateful that the children now had a way out of the slum, an opportunity that was never afforded to them.

You can sponsor a child in The Cathy O' Shaughnessy Crèche for just €20 a



Eddy at the Cathy O' Shaughnessy Crèche with Nessian Kavanagh, HOPE IRL

month. This covers their food, uniform, books, and helps pay the teachers and the upkeep of the crèche. Visit the website below to find out more.

The O' Shaughnessy family would like to acknowledge the fantastic help of everyone at The Hope Foundation for all their help in making this possible.

To sponsor a child visit cathyshopefund.ie and click Donate. Enter €20 as the amount and check the box to make the donation monthly



HOPE Yoga Trip 2025

Share your passion for Yoga
& experience magical India.



DATES TBC
CONTACT AOIFE AT AOIFE@HOPEFOUNDATION.IE



Eddy with crèche staff and children during his recent visit



Specsavers Ireland & HOPE

A Commitment to Vision

With the help of Specsavers, The Hope Foundation run a Blindness Eradication Programme in Kolkata across street and slum communities and schools, through community based camps and special eye clinics in HOPE Hospital. Every year a team of Specsavers staff return to Kolkata to assist with this life-changing work.

The most recent mission saw a dedicated team of Specsavers staff return to Kolkata for a week in November 2023. Their efforts were instrumental in reaching a total of 2,424 individuals, offering vital eye care services. Of these, 1,900 people received free spectacles to correct refractive errors, while others were given primary eye check-ups and necessary treatments.

The impact of these services cannot be overstated. For many, access to proper eye care can be life-changing, significantly improving their quality of life and ability to engage in everyday activities. The provision of free spectacles helps to correct vision impairments that could otherwise limit educational and employment opportunities, fostering a more inclusive and empowered community.

During their visit, the team also had the honor of attending the graduation ceremony for the second batch of optometry students from the Specsavers Eyecare Programme at the College of Medicine and JNM Hospital (CIMST) in Kolkata. This event marked a significant milestone in the ongoing effort to build local capacity for eye care services. By supporting the education and training of local optometrists, Specsavers and HOPE are ensuring sustainable, long-term improvements in eye health within the community.

In addition to their hands-on work, Specsavers Ireland presented HOPE with a substantial donation of €135,000. These funds, raised by Specsavers and their generous customers across Ireland over the past year, will further support the Blindness Eradication Programme and allow us to reach even more people who desperately need our help.



This incredible partnership exemplifies the power of collaboration in addressing global health challenges. By combining resources, expertise, and a shared commitment to social good, we are making a real difference in the lives of ten of thousands of people.

As Specsavers continues to support the Blindness Eradication Programme, their work highlights the importance of accessible eye care and the profound impact it can have on communities. This initiative not only addresses immediate health needs but also contributes to the broader goals of poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

The success of this partnership serves as an inspiring example of how businesses and charities can work together to create positive change, and it reinforces the critical role of corporate social responsibility in building a better world for all.

We are incredibly grateful to Specsavers for their continued support as we work together to eradicate blindness – it is an amazing partnership which continues to make a profound impact.

Story of Success

Sahida is a housewife from the Sickline slum community in Kolkata. She is from a family who are struggling to make ends meet. HOPE Hospital conducts weekly clinics in that community and was aware that a number of local residents needed eye check-ups. Sahida went for an eye test and told the doctor that her vision was gradually deteriorating. She kept the problem to herself as she did not want to burden her family with the added expense of her eye treatment. At the eye camp, she was diagnosed with a cataract in her right eye and was asked to go to the HOPE Hospital outpatient department for further evaluation. As she was concerned about the cost of the treatment and further testing, she was reassured that all efforts would be made to ensure that it does not financially burden her family.

At the outpatient department, further tests were carried out before the cataract surgery. Sahida's surgery was successful and she was provided with suitable glasses after post-surgery evaluations. The entire cost of the preoperative testing, surgery, medication, post-surgery evaluation and the glasses were completely covered by the Blindness Eradication Programme.



NEWS & Events

Week of HOPE 2023

HOPE is so grateful to all the schools and students who participated in our Week of HOPE chocolate sales and other similar fundraising days across shopping centres and main streets in Dublin, Galway, Cork, Louth and Sligo.

Thanks to Dundrum, Liffey Valley, Nutgrove, Pavilions Swords, White Water Newbridge, Eyre Square, Scotch Hall, and Galway shopping centres management and shoppers.

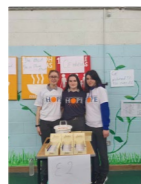
Thanks to the students from, including but not limited to, Kings Hospital, Columba's College, St Raphaela's, Muckross Park, Gonzaga College, Holy Child Killiney, Newbridge College, CBS Naas, Swords Community College, "The Bish "Galway, Summerhill Sligo, St. Angela's Cork, and St. Aloysius', Cork.



School Talk - Castleisland, Co. Kerry

Thank you Doreen Killington and Elaine Murphy, and everyone in Castleisland Community College who asked The Hope Foundation to talk to 2nd, 3rd, and 5th year geography classes about HOPE's vital projects in Kolkata. Over break time, the students sold our Butlers Chocolate and raised €483 for HOPE. We are so grateful for their enthusiasm and support. We look forward to making this an annual visit.

If you would like HOPE to visit your school please email schools@hopefoundation.ie



Easter Fundraiser

A huge thank you to Michael O'Donoghue and Mary & Tom Mullins who held their annual Easter fundraiser for HOPE in Kilmurray, Co. Cork, and raised an incredible €3,000. Their support for HOPE over the years has been phenomenal and we are so grateful.



Awards and Honours



We were very proud to be in attendance at the County Cork Benevolent, Patriotic & Protection Association of New York 23rd Biennial Reunion Banquet in August, at which our own Maureen Forrest was honoured, alongside Denis Mulcahy of Project Children.

Maureen was also the recipient of the "Humanitarian Heroine" award at the Hi Style Women of Vision Awards 2024.

Cork Lunch 2024

Our annual Cork Lunch, sponsored by Horner Automation Group and O'Flynn Group, took place on 19th April at the magnificent Maryborough Hotel & Spa and it was a resounding success! We were delighted to have our special 25th Anniversary special ambassador Jeremy Irons in attendance, as well as Miss Ireland Jasmine Gerhardt and celebrity chef Rachel Allen. Thank you to all of our sponsors, volunteers, suppliers, entertainers, vendors and donors who were incredibly generous and helped to make the day such a wonderful success. Special thanks to our MC and auctioneer Sean Buckley for keeping us all entertained, and conducting a very successful auction.



International Yoga Day 2023

Thanks to all the Yoga studios who supported, and who donated proceeds from classes to HOPE, as part of International Yoga Day, throughout June.



Women in Digital

We had a wonderful morning at our 'Women in Digital' Networking Breakfast in the River Lee Hotel Cork in celebration of International Women's Day on 8th March

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and to our two incredible speakers Muriel Foley, Digital Marketing Consultant, and Eimear Hallahan, Cork influencer and content creator. The proceeds from this event will be going directly to supporting the girls and women in our projects in Kolkata.



HOPE Mountain Challenge

We were delighted to launch our new HOPE Mountain Challenge Series last July, when an intrepid group of supporters tackled 4 peaks in the Galtee Mountains! The second expedition of the series saw another group tackle Mount Leinster in the Blackstairs Mountains.

Thank you to everyone that took part and be sure to watch out for more mountain challenges in the coming months!



Great Dublin Bike Ride (GDBR)

The GDBR took place on September 17th and HOPE were delighted to be one of 4 charities to benefit from cyclists' participation. Huge thanks to Siobhan Blackwell who spearheaded Team HOPE and raised in excess of €4,100.



Caragh School Supporting HOPE

HOPE yet again extends huge thanks to the 2023 confirmation class in Caragh National School in Kildare, who donated funds to support the sponsorship of 3 children who are in HOPEs care in Kolkata. The children in Kolkata and the children in Kolkata returned cards and letters to Caragh. This is a beautiful example where there is engagement between children in Ireland and Kolkata, and where the children in Ireland are providing support to children who are very disadvantaged. Special thanks to Fr Joe, the teachers, the students and their families, and the wider community of Caragh.



HOPE is ever grateful to the I.N.T.O. (Irish National Teachers Organisation) for their generous and sustained funding for HOPE programmes - including currently funding our Bhagar creche programme. HOPE extends huge thanks to all involved in the I.N.T.O.

ASTI

The A.S.T.I. (Association of Secondary Teachers in Ireland) have been kindly funding HOPE education programmes in Kolkata, and currently are funding Nabo Asha education programmes. HOPE extends huge thanks to all involved in the A.S.T.I.

Private Donors

HOPE extends sincerest thanks to our numerous private donors including (but not limited to, as some wish to remain anonymous) Brian MacMahon, Dr. David Mulcahy, Kevin Phelan, Alan Cole, CAFÉ fundraising group, Eibhlin and Barry McCleary - all who are committed to the sustained funding of many of our programmes in Kolkata.

New HOPE Team Members

HOPE was delighted to welcome two new staff members to the team this year. Emma Moore has joined as the Schools Programme Coordinator for the Leinster region.

Ashleigh Roche Forde has joined HOPE as Administrator & Schools Programme Co-Ordinator. Emma and Ashleigh are both very welcome additions to the schools team and we are delighted to have them onboard.



November Kolkata Experience

Sheila Zebedee, Head of Fundraising and Corporate Engagement for HOPE Leinster, accompanied a group of 4 wonderful HOPE supporters on a week-long trip to Kolkata in November. The 4 trip participants visited HOPE's projects to witness our work first hand while also experiencing the cultural aspects of Kolkata. They engaged in fundraising for HOPE before their trip, raising in total €10,000, and they are now incredible supporters who raise awareness and funds for HOPE on a continuous basis.



Corporate Engagement with Microsoft

HOPE was delighted to partner with Microsoft on their Building Bridges for Brighter Futures Micro-Volunteering Event. Through Microsoft's GIVE initiative, they have demonstrated the power of collective action and the spirit of giving that defines #MicrosoftLife. HOPE is very grateful to benefit from this initiative and looks forward to future engagements with Microsoft.

In particular, HOPE wishes to express sincerest thanks to Phelim Commerford, Sonali Sethi and Ursula Beaumont, for giving HOPE the opportunity to speak with Microsoft employees across Europe, USA and India as part of this Microsoft Give campaign.



How You Can Continue to Support HOPE

- ✔ Donate online at hopefoundation.ie
- ✔ Sponsor a child (see page 34)
- ✔ Organise a fundraising event
- ✔ Participate in a HOPE fundraising event
- ✔ Become a corporate partner
- ✔ Get your school or college involved
- ✔ Give a Gift of HOPE at hopeshop.ie
- ✔ Leave a legacy



Law Society of Ireland Calcutta Run

HOPE are so grateful and delighted to again be one of the charity partners of the Calcutta Run, taking place on 25th and 26th May. Huge thanks to The Law Society and organising committee who make this wonderful event happen. HOPE received €155,000 in 2023/2024 from funds raised by the participating law firms and their supporters. HOPE is delighted to provide our trusted volunteers to help out on the day.



HOPE Events 2024/2025

| EVENT | DATE |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Yoga for HOPE | During June 2024 |
| Mountain Challenge | TBC July 2024 |
| HOPE Golf Classic | 23 August 2024 |
| HOPE Silver Gala Ball | 21 Sept 2024 |
| Great Dublin Bike Ride | 22 Sept 2024 |
| Week of HOPE | 11-18 Oct 2024 |
| HOPE Himalayan Walk | 6-17 Nov 2024 |
| HOPE Kolkata Experience | November 24 |
| Christmas Appeal | Nov/Dec 2024 |
| Immersion Programme | Jan-March 2024 |
| HOPE Fashion Show | 28 Feb 2024 |
| Cork Lunch | 4 April 2025 |
| Calcutta Run | May 2025 |



HOPE Fashion Show

The HOPE Fashion Show was held in Lawlor's Hotel Naas on March 1st. Hosted by Celia Holman Lee, and supported by local boutiques and over 160 ladies who attended. A fantastic afternoon was enjoyed by all, with the welcome attendance of HOPE Ambassador the current Miss Ireland, Jasmine Gerhardt. HOPE was delighted to raise €18,500 from this event.



If you would like to get involved with the work of HOPE, we'd love to talk to you!

☎ 021 429 2990
✉ office@hopefoundation.ie

Thank you for your support!

Please keep an eye on our website and social media to keep updated on all HOPE events

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to donate quickly and securely



HOPE USA extends heartfelt thanks to all our supporters and donors for their unwavering commitment and support to the children of Kolkata.

This past year has been remarkable, filled with successful fundraising events and incredible support from local communities. We are deeply grateful to everyone who showed support to HOPE USA.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Currently, HOPE USA sponsors 36 children through our child sponsorship program. Over the past year, HOPE USA distributed quarterly newsletters to all our child sponsors - providing updates on the Child Sponsorship program. The fourth update was sent via mail, along with a handmade Christmas card and the sponsored child's annual school report. The children in Kolkata are always very excited to write to their sponsor.

WELCOME TO HOPE USA NEWLY APPOINTED FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS OFFICER - BRIDGET O'BRIEN

In August 2023, Bridget O'Brien joined the HOPE USA team as the Fundraising and Events Officer.



SENIOR LUNCHEON - OCTOBER 2023

Bridget presented HOPE's activities and programs to the Senior Citizens who were attending the October luncheon at the New York Irish Center in Long Island City, New York. Those in attendance warmly welcomed HOPE USA and are keen to continue to support HOPE in any way that they can.



HOPE USA BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The HOPE USA Board met several times during the year. These meetings provided valuable opportunities for our Board members to collaborate, share insights, and make informed decisions regarding the direction and initiatives of HOPE USA.

HOPE USA Board members reunited in person at the Inaugural 25th Anniversary Reception held on January 31 in New York City.

HOPE USA is delighted to announce two new Board members to HOPE USA, Malynda Vigliotti and Greg Zlevor. Huge welcome to Malynda and Greg - we look forward to your enthusiastic engagement with, and support for HOPE.

HOPE CEO Int. Ops. Maura Lennon, Board Members Sheila Geraghty, Mei Mei Fox, Gloria Starr Kins, and Shane McCarthy



HOPE GALA EVENT 31 JAN 2024

HOPE USA were delighted to host the inaugural 25th anniversary celebrations for HOPE on 31 Jan in the beautiful surroundings of the Irish American Historical Society in NYC.



This was a wonderful occasion where HOPE supporters came together to honor HOPE USA Board Members Sheila Geraghty and MeiMei Fox for their longstanding and outstanding contributions to HOPE. HOPE were thrilled to raise \$10,000 from this event - huge thanks to all who donated prizes for the raffle and auction, to those who donated their services and especially to those who attended.



SUPPORT FOR BRIAN'S WAY PROGRAM

HOPE USA is delighted to acknowledge the incredible support received from the Sorenson Family for Brian's Way Program in Kolkata. This financial support ensures the sustainability of this vital program which caters to the needs of children (and their families), who have special physical and other challenges.



SIP AND SHOP EVENT - NOVEMBER 2023

On November 9, 2023, HOPE USA hosted a Sip and Shop event at the New York Irish Center.

Many vendors, crafters and small businesses displayed their wares for sale as a kickoff to the Holiday Season.

The event was attended by festive shoppers who learned about HOPE USA while shopping, and sipping cocktails.



BOOM BOOM BROW BAR PARTNERSHIP WITH HOPE USA

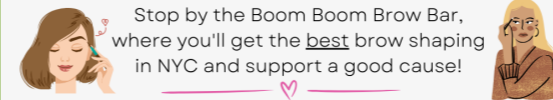
Malynda Vigliotti is an amazing supporter of HOPE USA. Her generous donation of \$10,000 has aided in the funding of the Beauty Education programs in Kolkata. Malynda is the owner of Boom Boom Brow Bar in NYC and throughout 2024, she will be donating \$1 from every eyebrow service the salon does. That is definitely an eyebrow raising pledge! Thanks to Malynda.

Boom Boom Brow Bar in partnership with The Hope Foundation USA!



@boomboomrowbar.nyc @thehopefoundationusa

Boom Boom Brow Bar will be donating \$1 to The Hope Foundation USA for every brow service in 2024.



Stop by the Boom Boom Brow Bar, where you'll get the best brow shaping in NYC and support a good cause!

The Hope Foundation USA (HOPE) is a registered 501(c)(3) charity working with street and slum children in Kolkata, India. HOPE works to free children and poor families from lives of pain, abuse, poverty and darkness. HOPE's vision is of "a world where it should never hurt to be a child". EIN 27-3073426

Boom Boom Brow Bar is located at 30 Greenwich Ave, New York, NY 10011

KICKOFF EVENT TO ST PATRICK'S DAY SEASON

On February 23, HOPE USA hosted a Kickoff event to the St. Patrick's season at Ginny's Bar and Grill in Cornwall, New York. Restaurant owners Andrew and Barbara Rich donated generously to HOPE, and live Irish music was provided by the popular group The Parting Glass. There were generous Irish gifts donated for raffle prizes by Martina Lavin, owner of Anna's Attic Irish Gift Shop in Yonkers, NY. This will be a bi-annual event as part of Ginny's ongoing partnership with HOPE USA.

In excess of \$800 was raised by the generosity of those who attended.

The Parting Glass, who provided free entertainment on the evening

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE STREET CHILD EVENT

On April 12, HOPE USA hosted an event to celebrate The International Day of the Street Child to raise awareness about the plight of street children globally. The event was kindly sponsored by Alice O'Brien Bermejo and her husband Valentino Bermejo at their beautiful new restaurant, The Beer Garden in Yonkers NY.

The guests were entertained by the music of Susan and Gerard Corbett (pictured right). The generous attendees supported HOPE by their attendance and by purchasing raffle tickets.



USA SCHOOLS PRESENTATIONS

In February, CEO International Operations Maura Lennon and Bridget O'Brien visited Maria Regina High School in Westchester County. The young women at the school were very excited to learn about the efforts of HOPE and will continue to engage with HOPE over the coming months.

Maura and Bridget also brought the message of HOPE to the children in Religious Education at St Barnabas in the Bronx, NY. Thank you to Kerri Ann and Kiera O'Connor for welcoming us to the church and helping us to raise awareness about the work of HOPE to the students and their wider community.



HOPE USA Events for 2024

- Yoga for HOPE - various yoga studios NYC - June 2024
- HOPE USA representation at Irish Dancing Feis Rockland County NY - June 2024
- HOPE USA representation at Irish Store Catskills NY - July 2024
- HOPE USA event in Art Gallery Hamptons - August 2024
- HOPE USA representation at Great Irish Fair, Brooklyn - Sept. 2024
- HOPE USA 25th Anniversary Gala Event, Yonkers, NY - 18 Oct 2024
- HOPE USA Sip n' Shop event NYC - Nov 2024
- HOPE USA End of Year Giving Campaign - Dec 2024
- HOPE Makers Collective trip to Kolkata - Jan 2025



UK NEWS & Events



Attendees at the Bedford Diwali Cultural event

TOGETHER FOR HOPE

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary

Thank you to our long-standing supporters, including our Patrons and Ambassadors, Trustees, the Bedford fundraising group and community, the Yoga community, the Indian Diaspora in the UK, and contributors to our campaigns: The Big Give and Footsteps for HOPE. As HOPE celebrates its 25th Anniversary, our UK's supporters continue to be committed to raising funds and awareness for the programmes in Kolkata.

HOPE UK CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

The child sponsorship programme continues to grow, despite ongoing economic challenges. As of 31 March 2024, 593 children in Kolkata were sponsored by 473 UK sponsors.

To sponsor a child or to find out more about the programme please scan the QR code or visit thehopefoundation.org.uk/sponsor.



UK CAMPAIGNS

Footsteps for HOPE 2023

The annual Footsteps For HOPE challenge raised funds for education projects by encouraging supporters to fundraise and walk 10,000 steps a day for 30 days. Jane Armour (pictured below) took on the challenge, raising £1800.

Footsteps For HOPE launches on International Day for Street Children – an important day that raises awareness about the plight of street children globally and gives a voice to these often-invisible children, to ensure their basic rights are acknowledged.



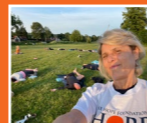
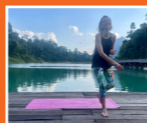
Big Give Campaign 2023

In December, HOPE once again participated in the Big Give – the UK's largest match funding campaign. HOPE's Big Give 2023 raised **£36,057** for girls' education and vocational training programmes. We are grateful to everyone who supported the campaign; especially our champion funder Coles-Medlock Foundation, our donors, and HOPE Ambassadors Christopher Biggins, Jeremy Irons and Dame Judi Dench; who all endorsed the campaign by providing video messages and Jeremy kindly narrated the main Big Give campaign video.



Yoga for HOPE

In June, Yoga teachers Lille Sommerschild, Jo Torode, Ulla Vogl and Linda Sykes held classes for HOPE and together raised £1000. Lille's class was held in a Norwegian forest and Ulla's on the riverside at Henley-on-Thames. Lille Sommerschild also organised a birthday fundraiser, raising £1,700 for HOPE's programmes.



SPECIAL EVENTS

There were several special events held over the year in the UK to raise funds.

These included an **exclusive dinner and interview with Indian politician and author, Shashi Tharoor, and broadcaster and HOPE Ambassador, Andrea Catherwood**. This special event for 60 guests was held at the Royal Overseas League Club in London and raised £7,000.



Filmmaker and supporter, Jane Richter, screened her film Cameron, Coffee and Calcutta: A Traveller's Tales, about pioneer Victorian photographer Julia Margaret Cameron and the city of Kolkata.

The screening in aid of HOPE was held at The Nehru Centre (the cultural arm of the Indian High Commission). The team were delighted to meet Amish Tripathi, Minister (Culture and Education), High Commission of India and Director of The Nehru Centre, and Julia Margaret Cameron's descendent and namesake, Jules Cameron.



HOPE UK SUPPORTERS' VISITS TO KOLKATA

The HOPE Kolkata team welcomed visitors from the UK to visit projects, including supporters Dr Piyal Sen, Jon & Anna Prosser, Louise Waldron, Aarti Bhogaita, and HOPE UK Trustees Seema Grantham and Shiuli Davis, and Head of Fundraising (HOPE UK) Juliette Whittaker.

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ALL HOPE UK NEWS BY VISITING OUR BLOG:

THEHOPEFOUNDATION.ORG.UK/NEWS

CORPORATE SUPPORT

Thank you to Britannia Tea Ltd, who sponsored HOPE's team at the Street Child Cricket World Cup in the autumn. Forming Team India Panthers, the children played against youngsters from across the world in Chennai.



TEAM HOPE CHALLENGE EVENTS

London Landmarks Half Marathon - 3 April

HOPE runners, Cameron Mackinney, Ravi Parekh, Tracey Cowell and Georgina Bowden took on the London Landmarks Half Marathon and together raised £7,000. We are immensely grateful to them and their 132 supporters who donated. The HOPE runners were cheered on by volunteers at our cheer station, located near St Paul's Cathedral in London.



Ride London-Essex - 28 May

In May, Philip Smith and Philip Kirkpatrick completed the Ford Ride London-Essex 60 cycle race in aid of HOPE and raised £2,000.



Land's End to John O'Groats Cycle Challenge - September

An epic challenge was taken on by supporter and child sponsor, Tom Frost, who cycled from Land's End to John O'Groats. Tom raised £3,000 for HOPE's healthcare programmes and covered 995 miles in around 72 hours over 10 days of cycling.



Royal Parks Half Marathon - 7 October

Over 16,000 runners took on the Royal Parks Half in October, among them were Kiran Moorthy, Lorenzo Thomai, Molly O'Shea and Louisa Vesterdal who ran for HOPE and together raised £1,500.



TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

HOPE UK continues to secure funds via UK based Trusts and Foundations. This year, funds have been received from the Dorfred Charitable Trust, Porta Pia, Coles-Medlock Foundation, The Mercers Company and Souter Charitable Trust - these funds are gratefully received.

BEDFORD FUNDRAISING GROUP

The Bedford Fundraising Group continues to be a very special group of supporters for HOPE UK. The current group Poonam Chand, Seema Grantham, Karen Crofts-Hotston, Sati Judge and Alison Hodgkiss raise a high level of awareness and funds for HOPE within their local community. We are forever grateful for their unwavering support.

Jagtar Singh OBE held the annual Pavenham Golf Day in Bedfordshire and raised £1000 for HOPE.



DIWALI CELEBRATIONS - A trio of special Diwali celebrations were enjoyed in November

The HOPE team attended a celebration of Diwali at the Dell offices in London, as its Asians in Action group support HOPE.

It was a wonderful opportunity to meet members of the group and enjoy cultural performances and recitations delivered by the talented team.



On 18 November, HOPE supporters gathered in Henley-on-Thames for a vibrant Diwali Dinner Dance. The highlight of the evening was an auction hosted by HOPE ambassador, Christopher Biggins. Thanks to the amazing generosity of the 60 guests, an incredible £21,500 was raised on the night, with a further £20,000 received after the event.



Thank you to Poonam and Bali Chand at 3 St Peters in Bedford and the Bedford HOPE Fundraising team for organising a dazzling Festival of Lights cultural evening in aid of our projects in Kolkata.

Special thanks to the amazing performers, generous sponsors, and everyone who attended, raising £3,500!



HOPE UK - CELEBRATING HOPE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY Dates for your Diary 2024

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Online Yoga & Somatics Class with Simon Low | Saturday 1 June |
| Online Feminine Embodiment Yoga Class with Christina Gill | Saturday 8 June |
| Online Yoga for Gratitude and HOPE Class with Caroline Biddle | Monday 10 June |
| Online Mindful Yoga with Jo Torode | Tuesday 11 June |
| Online Nourishing Yoga Restoration Class with Fiona Agombar | Sunday 16 June |
| Film screening in aid of HOPE at The Quarry Theatre, Bedford | Sunday 6 October |
| HOPE in th City of Joy - Cultural Trip to Kolkata | 2-10 November |
| Stargazing for HOPE, Bedford | Sunday 17 November |
| Big Give Campaign | 3-10 December |



HOPE Himalayan Walk '24

6-17 November TBC

Enquire Now
aoife@hopefoundation.ie



Give the Gift of Education - Change a Child's Life Today

By sponsoring a child's education with HOPE, you can make a lasting difference to the future of a child and their family. Through the Educational Sponsorship Programme, we support children from pre-school age right through to third level. Education Sponsorship covers cost of schoolbooks, uniforms, fees and after school coaching if needed. Nutrition and healthcare are also provided. Sponsorship costs only €23 per month, or €265 for a full year. That works out at just over €5 per week. If you decide child sponsorship is right for you, then we will assign a particular child to you.

- ✓ Each child has only one sponsor (unless you want to include family member/friend as a co-sponsor).
- ✓ Case history with your sponsored child's photo, personal details and child's family information.
- ✓ Once a year you will receive an annual progress report, in the lead up to Christmas, detailing the educational status of the child and their achievements; and a Christmas card from the child with their photograph and a short letter or drawing.

Scan this QR code with your phone's camera to sponsor and change a child's life today.



Alternatively, you can complete and return the Standing Order form on the opposite page



Online Banking Option

You can set up your own automatic Standing Order via your online banking app or website using the information below. Please put your name as the "Receiver/Payee Reference" for the payment.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HOPE IBAN | IE11 AIBK 9363 8350 6770 89 |
| BIC | AIBKIE2D |
| Receiver/Payee Ref | Sponsor's Name or Account Name |

Once you have set up your payment, please email fionah@hopefoundation.ie with the information below and she will allocate your sponsored child to you.

- Your full name, address, mobile number, and email address.
- The date your payment will start and option you chose, €265 yearly or €23 monthly.
- The "Receiver or Payee Reference" you used.

To find out more about sponsoring a child please contact Fiona:

☎ 021 4292990

✉ fionah@hopefoundation.ie

BANKERS' STANDING ORDER



I, _____ (full name) wish to make a standing order payable to:
HOPE, AIB 66 South Mall, Cork. Acc. No: 50677089, Sort Code: 93-63-83, BIC: AIBKIE2D, IBAN: IE11 AIBK 9363 8350 6770 89

Child Education Sponsorship Programme: Annually €265 Monthly €23

Donations: Amount Annually € _____ Amount Monthly € _____

Preferred Start Date: Day _____ Month _____ Year _____

MY DETAILS

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

MY BANK DETAILS

Bank Name: _____

Bank Address: _____

Account No: _____

Sort Code: _____

IBAN: _____

BIC: _____

Please debit my/our account and pay on the date(s) specified and the amount specified above to HOPE, until you receive further notice from me/us in writing.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

When completed this form should be sent, **not to your bank, but to:**
The Hope Foundation, Silverdale Grove, Ballinlough, Cork.



HOPE's Mission Statement

The Hope Foundation is dedicated to promoting the protection of street and slum children in Kolkata and the most underprivileged in India. HOPE works to effect immediate and lasting change in their lives.

IRELAND

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Revenue No. CHY 13237
Company Number 303111

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