



## **HISTORY:**

**India Kids** Program was started in 2006 and was birthed out of a desire to help the neediest children in India and to spread the gospel to the children and families that the Program came in contact with. There are many areas in India where Foursquare churches operate, and this provided the foundation where the program could begin to help.

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the **India Kids** Program is to assist poor children in getting an education and to receive the resources needed to attend schooling. As well, another goal is to provide nourishment through meals, instruction in basic hygiene and assistance to the children's families in areas that would be useful and help them become more self-sufficient. The ultimate goal is to introduce children and families to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## **HOW DOES INDIA KIDS PROGRAM WORK?**

In India all children who attend school, whether public or private, must wear a uniform. This creates a financial burden for many families, whose children then cannot attend school.

**India Kids** operates in two different ways presently. The first is by having children sponsored to attend their school, buy their uniform and have the child attend an after school program at the local Foursquare church two or three times per week. During this time children are given assistance with their homework and a meal. There is also time given to singing, praying and learning about the gospel. Facilities vary from location to location, so some programs may not provide a meal. Others may host meals for families or provide basic life education and hygiene to families. Currently there are 210 children being sponsored in this part of the program. During the summer period **India Kids** puts on a 10-day VBS activity program where children learn scriptures and songs and are encouraged to bring friends. This VBS program is important as it helps the parents and families to learn more about God. Children are also encouraged to attend the Sunday School of the local Foursquare church that hosts the **India Kids** Program.

The second way **India Kids** operates is a direct sponsorship with a school that the program has become affiliated with. This school operates out of Delhi, and is run by solid Christian leaders who have ties to Foursquare. The children who attend this school are from the "dalit" class, or the untouchables. The school raises their own support for all the children to attend and **India Kids** partnered with this school to send \$15 per month per child. This covers the uniform and tuition for that child to attend school. The children also receive meals and books. There are currently 131 children being sponsored in Delhi.

### **HOW ARE CHILDREN CHOSEN?**

In India we coordinate with Thomas Kutty, who is the President of Foursquare India, as well as Subodh John, who runs the Slum School in Delhi. Thomas has **India Kids** Programs running in various areas around India, through the local Foursquare churches. The leaders interview and choose those children who have the greatest financial needs. Records are kept by leaders at each location and coordinated through Thomas Kutty. Pictures are taken of each child, and sent to Canada with some basic information for each child. Students at the Slum School are accepted to the school based on financial and family need; i.e. many children may not have parents. Pictures and information from each child are also sent back to Canada to the coordinators of the **India Kids** Program (Roy and Julie Beugelink).

### **HOW DOES THE SPONSORSHIP WORK?**

People in Canada have been quick and generous in seeing the great need and opportunity to help the children of India. The sponsorship works by sponsors sending \$15 per month (or \$180 per year) per child to the Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada. FGCC has funding agreements set up with Foursquare India and the Slum School in Delhi to be able to transfer the funds needed to India. All funds sponsored are used directly for the children. Any administrative costs associated with the Program or traveling are paid by FGCC or by donations to these costs. Sponsors are given the option to directly sponsor a child, or to give to the program in general, thereby assisting any of the children who are in the program. In Canada all sponsorship and financial records are kept by the coordinators, Roy and Julie Beugelink, who work directly with the Foursquare National Office, as well as Steve Falkiner, Missions Representative for Asia.

**India Kids** Program strives to keep sponsors informed, but because the administrative costs are kept to a minimum, these kinds of mailings are only sent out once a year. We are trying to use the FGCC website as an informational tool for sponsors as well. It is currently being updated to give more information on the various children's programs that Foursquare Canada is involved with.

### **HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION OR CONTACT SOMEONE?**

The FGCC website is [www.foursquare.ca](http://www.foursquare.ca).

The email address to contact Roy and Julie Beugelink regarding India Kids is [indiakids@foursquare.ca](mailto:indiakids@foursquare.ca).

The mailing address to FGCC is B307 - 2099 Lougheed Hwy, Port Coquitlam, BC. V3B 1A8.