



a place of nurture and safety for orphaned girls

The Hollinger Foundation

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We cannot save them all... but we can save some!

Greetings!

As I read a note of thanks from one of the girls in India last month, I had to think of a quote from the Hollinger Foundation's policy manual. The following words are given as a reminder and as instruction for our houseparents of each home.

"A vision we give to others of who and what they can become has power when it echoes what the Spirit has already spoken into their souls." -Author unknown

The thank you note was from Pavitra, now age 19 and living in Calcutta, doing mission work with Youth With A Mission. She is the first to graduate from our homes. She came to us when she was 12, and immediately we saw that she was a very obedient child. She always wanted to please and do the right thing. When other younger girls were not as obedient, she would encourage and prod them toward doing right. I saw teaching and leadership skills in Pavitra and encouraged her to follow her heart. She was faithful, even in the middle of several disappointing situations. At age 17 she began a junior staff position, where she worked and was trained in many areas of household responsibilities. She fulfilled those job requirements with eagerness and diligence.



While tradition would have expected her to stay in the job of helping in the household, I hoped it would not be permanent for her. When she turned 19, the housemother in charge of her at that time agreed that a mission opportunity would be a good step for Pavitra. We sent her on the train to Calcutta - a long distance from home where she is now flourishing and growing as a young woman and a leader.

I am very proud of Pavitra. Her life has been a direct testimony of what words and encouragement can do for a young child. I believe the words spoken to her - affirmation of her gifts, hope for a better future and opportunity for more growth - resonated with what was already in her heart. As a young child, she had little hope for such a future. As an older teenager, she was able to verbalize her heart's desire more and told us what she felt God had spoken in her spirit. Now Pavitra has taken a very brave step of being on her own, doing what she loves to do - to teach and be an example of obedience and love toward others.

The vision of the Hollinger Foundation remains strong to continue to give encouragement and affirmation to the 48 girls currently in our care. The houseparents in each home are doing a wonderful job as they parent and provide for each family.

Thank you for your interest and support of this endeavor. We appreciate you.

Debbie Hollinger

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His name is the Lord. ...a father to the fatherless, a defender of widows. God sets the lonely in families.

- Psalm 68:5,6