



MID-YEAR IMPACT REPORT
SPRING 2016





Ralph, Jane, and Ruhi Louise Borde

We have so much to be thankful for, and so much to share that has happened in the past few months.

With a family of 82 daughters and 28 boys it is hard to choose which stories to share; every day has a new one—some triumphs, some challenges, and lots of laughs too! I hope you'll enjoy hearing a few highlights of what God is doing in the As Our Own family. A few of my personal high notes from the past few months include:

- » Breaking ground for the Sparrows Nest campus on Good Friday
- » Launching the Child Development Institute at Hope College
- » Celebrating the college graduation of three daughters including our first master's degree graduate
- » Experiencing the miracle of birth when Ruhi Louise (which means "spirit-filled warrior") was born on December 27 to my wife and me

Thank you so much for your support, prayers, and encouragement! It is an honor to serve with you as we transform the way the world cares for vulnerable children so that they may reach their full God-given potential. You play a critical role as "aunties" and "uncles" to our daughters, giving them the opportunity to live an empowered life for His glory. From our daughters in India, and from me personally—thank you for all you do! We truly could not do this without you!

Many blessings!

Ralph Borde, CEO

P.S. *May I ask a favor?* Would you prayerfully consider if you know someone who could positively impact our ministry? This year our needs are great, and we need your help in identifying and meeting new potential donors.



Vision

Transform the way the world cares for vulnerable children.

Mission

Fulfill the sovereign purpose God has for vulnerable children in India, caring for them as our own, for life.



Training



Ryan North is the Executive Director of Tapestry, the adoption and foster care ministry of Irving Bible Church, as well

as a key contributor to Empowered to Connect. He leads courses for our Child Development Institute via video conference for key staffers in India. We interviewed him and below are a few highlights:

What is the focus of the curriculum at the Child Development Institute?

Ryan: The curriculum ensures that if caregivers are called to the journey, they're also equipped for the journey.

It helps the staff really grasp that God has chosen them to be the person to bring hope and healing to these children. We want the caregivers to be intentional parents. With this training they're equipped to know better so that they can do better.

If you had to describe what As Our Own is doing, how would you describe it?

Ryan: As Our Own is like a city on a hill. I tell people—"if you want to get involved in orphan care outside the U.S.—this is how to do it." It takes a holistic view of the child. Yes physical needs are met, yes spiritual needs are met, and I love the focus on a well

rounded education and good schools too. It's that holistic combination—spiritual, educational, and physical—that is so important and will serve them well in life.

What does the future hold as a result of this coursework?

Ryan: As Our Own is planting the seeds of a cultural revolution in India to value vulnerable children. Forty years from now the idea of valuing children will be spreading like wildfire.

We are so grateful for Ryan's partnership and the wisdom he shares to our caregiving staff in India!

The Child Development Institute at Hope College is the As Our Own Master's Degree program used to train our caregivers and leadership staff in Biblically-based and clinically-sound child development practices.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

KEY CHILD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2,760+
hours of training

4
teachers hired to lead courses

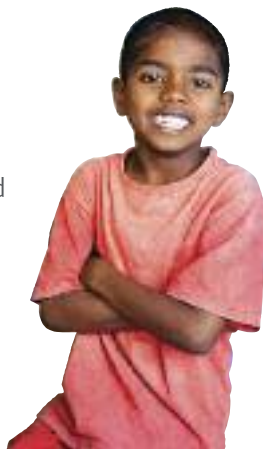
100%
of students completed semester 1 coursework



Replication

KEY REPLICATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

28
boys benefitting from our funding and strategic guidance



9,000+
meals funded by As Our Own for vulnerable boys

1ST
college graduate to pass CPA exam. After passing he was hired by Deloitte consulting in India.

Grace Home and Faith Home

Patala wins 9th grade science fair!

The night before the science fair Patala’s project wasn’t working—her balloon car wouldn’t move! She was discouraged and prayed that it would work the next day during the competition. After a bit more tinkering, and a little help from her sisters, she got it to work. Her teachers were so impressed that she received the most creative award!

Rima ranked #1 in computer class and wins 3 medals on sports day!

Academically Rima is excelling. She is ranked #1 in her computer class, scored a 94/100 on her semester computer exam, and is in the top

25% of her class overall. So of course we’re grateful for her God-given intellect and the strong school teaching she receives, but we really love her mindset of perseverance. On the day of the school-wide sports competition Rima woke up with a swollen hand from a bug bite. She was discouraged and feared she wouldn’t be able to participate, but with the okay from a nurse she went on not only to compete, but to win! She took home one gold and two bronze medals! When asked why she didn’t sit-out even though her hand was hurting she said, “Even though my hand was swollen, I wanted to win the prize!” We love seeing Rima’s determination to push through the difficult circumstance.

She got to experience 1 Corinthians 9:24 in real-life, “many would run, but only one would get the prize!”

Serena recovers from surgery!

When a daughter gets sick, it can really worry a parent. This winter we were really worried when Serena was having chest pain. After a few doctor visits, bloodwork, and scans the doctors advised it was necessary to do surgery. Our staff did just what any mom would do—they stayed with her day and night when she was at the hospital. We arranged visits from her sisters to cheer her up. By God’s grace the operation was successful and Serena is fully recovered—praise God!



Patala with her winning balloon car

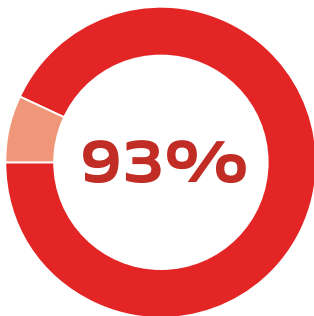


Rima and her 3 medals



Serena with house mom Bela Tai

KEY GRACE & FAITH HOME ACCOMPLISHMENTS



of daughters passing all courses

4,200+

hours of security guard protection

30,000+

healthy meals served



5 school-wide academic achievement awards received by our k-6 daughters

College Connection



We celebrated three college graduates in May!

(Left to Right):

Aliya

Master's Degree in Divinity (our first master's program graduate) who is joining our staff to care for her younger sisters

Jharna

Diploma in Theology graduate now pursuing her bachelor's degree

Reena

Bachelor's in Theology graduate moving on to pursue her master's in Missions

Sapna ranked #3 in her college class

Last year was a tough one for Sapna at college. She wasn't focused on her studies and her grades suffered. Our staff spent extra time connecting with her this summer to understand what was going on. After some great heart-to-heart talks she started to turn things around. She refocused this year and it is paying off—she's currently ranked #3 in her class! Reflecting on the past 2 years Sapna said, "I'm sorry and sad that I didn't study hard last year. . . . I am so thankful to God for everything and thankful to my family also for loving me and helping me in all situations!"



KEY COLLEGE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

22

DAUGHTERS
attended college,
exceeding
our goal of 20!



3

college graduations
celebrated in March!

8

college daughters
placed in internships

Sparrows Nest

We Broke Ground!

We have been on a journey of faith since the vision of Sparrows Nest was put on Ralph's heart in 2010. By God's grace and through your faithful support we are thrilled to share that we officially broke ground on Good Friday! It gave new and evermore touching meaning to the sacrifice and the gift Christ gave us on Easter weekend, and the gift that He will provide to our daughters through Sparrows Nest.

We've raised \$2.6 million and will complete the site infrastructure, roads, playground, k-6 school, leadership center, and two girls homes.



Ralph's mother breaking ground for Sparrows Nest

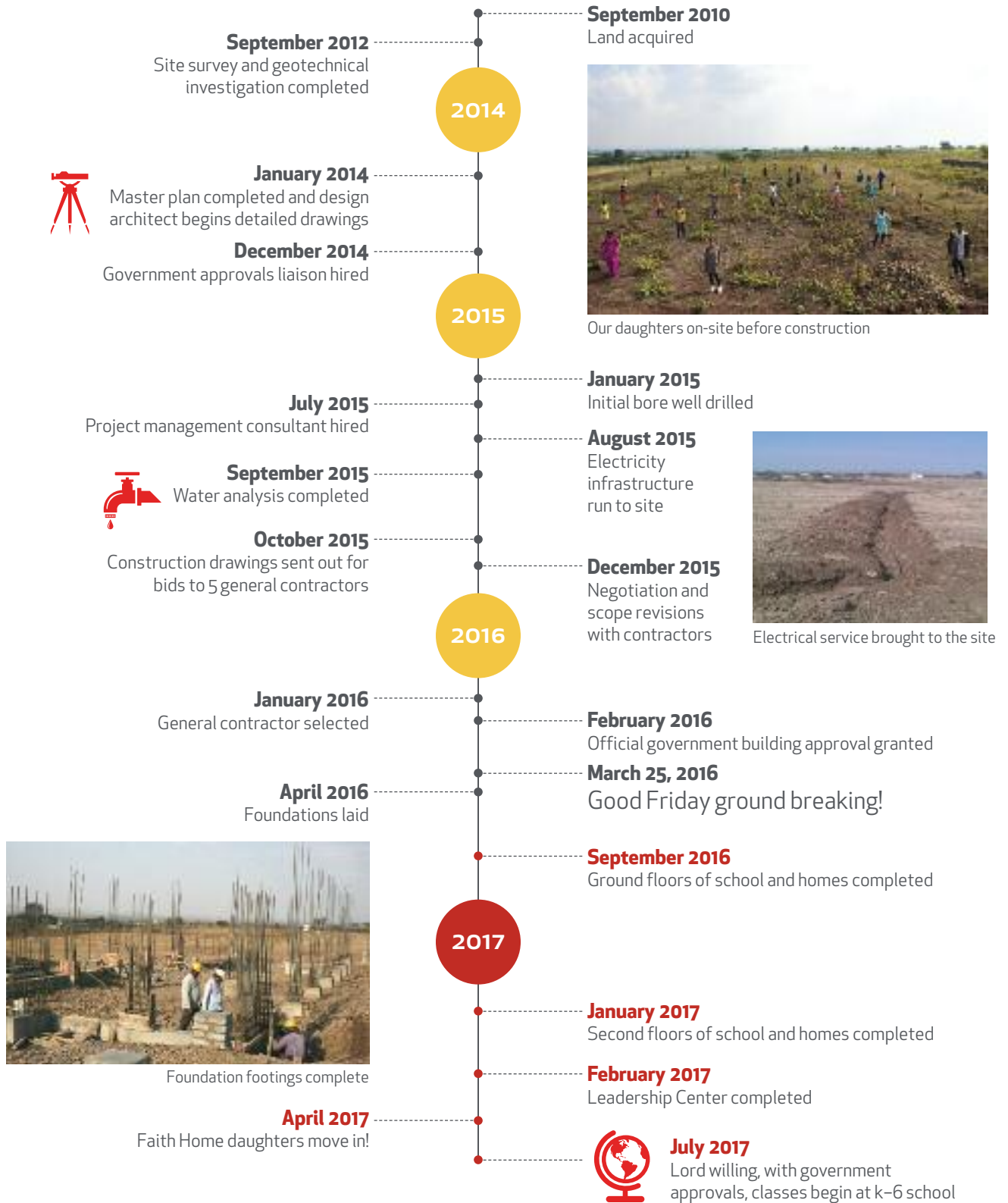


Site surveyor double-checking the dig site



School footings poured

SPARROWS NEST MILESTONES



Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. **PSALM 127:1**

Awareness and Fundraising

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND BLESSINGS

\$207,929

raised by Bayou City Fellowship Christmas giving partnership!

\$250,000

matching gift donated by Moody National in December

+36% increase in gifts above \$1,000 in December which helped increase total giving in our top giving month by +5%

SPARROWS NEST

- >> **\$2,624,561** raised through March 31
- >> **\$325,000** raised this fiscal year through March 31
- >> **\$40,309** remaining to raise this fiscal year (by September 30)



Upcoming Opportunities

First Baptist Academy in Houston has signed up for a 2-year fundraising partnership

2nd Baptist Church in Houston—VBSs (all campuses) are supporting As Our Own this summer

Ralph speaking at Princeton University to Manna Christian Fellowship—a group of Christian student leaders who want to use their talents to impact the kingdom

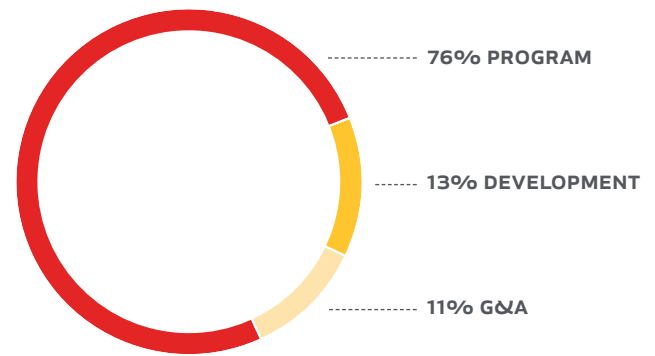
Ralph traveling to visit with potential donors and church partners—if you have any connections that we should consider meeting with, please let us know

Annual Plan Budget & Financials

FY 2015-16 Budget

	Total Need	Remaining Need
Care	\$491,040	\$144,248
Training	\$241,670	\$70,993
Replication	\$171,864	\$50,487
Sparrows Nest	\$1,193,309	\$40,309
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$2,097,883	\$306,037
Development	\$375,901	\$110,425
G&A	\$304,168	\$89,353
TOTAL OVERHEAD	\$680,069	\$199,778
TOTAL BUDGET	\$2,777,952	\$505,815

Projected Efficiency for FY 2015-16



Please join us in prayer:

- >> That Sparrows Nest construction would go smoothly and we would receive final government approvals for the school to open in July 2017.
- >> That our staff would not only learn but also apply their Child Development Institute training to form even stronger relationships and connections with our daughters so they may guide them through life as mothers and fathers.
- >> For financial needs to be met for the year and that we receive introductions to additional donors. *Would you prayerfully consider if you can host a dinner or introduce us to a peer?*