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QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

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Udai Continues to "Pay Forward" Your Support



In his childhood, Udai felt God's presence and love at Sweet Home from his mentors and peers. That love is what brought him back years later.

Editor's Note: Udai Valluri is one of ICC's grown children from the Sweet Home Children's Village in India. He is talented and caring. And though he could be making a much higher wage working elsewhere, Udai is serving as a key administrator and mentor to the children at Sweet Home. The following is an edited excerpt from a testimony that Udai wrote. May you enjoy it and realize the important role you have in transforming the lives of orphan and vulnerable children.

I was 7 years old when I was brought to the DEWS Sweet Home campus on May 1, 2002. When I arrived, they showed me the Sweet Home campus and took me to the Flaiz Adventist School auditorium where other Sweet Home

children were drawing pictures and singing songs. I was frightened to see a big group together. When I was placed in 2nd grade at school, I was a little nervous. Somehow, I managed to adjust to the atmosphere in the Sweet Home campus since we all lived together like a family.

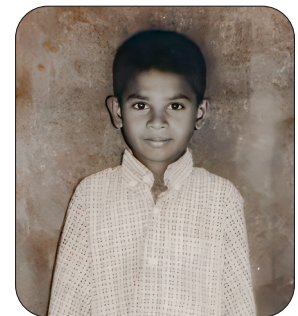
Sweet Home was a blessed place with lovely children and staff. We never felt like orphans. The campus was like the Garden of Eden with all kinds of fruit and big trees. We played together, we ate together, and we stayed together.

Years passed. I enjoyed participating in sports. I enjoyed playing with the rest of my brothers and sisters on campus. I also enjoyed church activities. I participated in Sabbath school programs, Adventist youth programs, and vespers, too. We would learn Bible chapters in our morning worships in Sweet Home. I was able to recite many chapters and verses from the Bible.

In evening worships Mrs. Lilly Kaligithi, Sweet Home founder, used to share stories. Every Thursday, each of our homes would recite what we learned during that week from the Bible. I enjoyed spiritual activities.

In 2010 while I was busy preparing for 10th level government exams, I was called to the office. Waiting for me was a cousin who was studying at Flaiz College. I was told that I needed to go with him to my native village. On the way, tears welled up in my eyes as I imagined what must have happened. Sadly, when I reached home, I saw my father's body that was prepared for burial. I had no words and I started crying along with my whole family.

My father had been paralyzed and bedridden from my childhood. I had never seen him walking on his own. My mother struggled to support three of us children. She had to take care of us and her husband and at the same time, bring in food for the family. She was uneducated and



Udai recalls Sweet Home to be like the Garden of Eden- a blessed place with all kinds of fruit and big trees! Thank you for giving children like Udai a safe place to grow, learn, and live.

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Udai Continues to “Pay Forward” Your Support

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could only work in the field, and those jobs were seasonal. We did not have enough food, and our home was built with coconut palm leaves.

When I came back to Sweet Home after my father’s funeral service all my brothers, sisters, and staff comforted me. I was able to do well and passed the 10th level government exams by the grace of God.

I graduated from 12th grade in 2013 and completed my degree in computers at Flaiz College in 2016. It was then that I came back to Sweet Home and started to work as an accountant, assistant, supervisor, and driver, too. In 2017, I became the Sweet Home business manager. And when Suzanne, Sweet Home director, became ill, I stepped in to be the co-director when she needed assistance.

In 2018, I married Kalyani at the Sweet Home campus. In 2021, Kalyani completed a degree in nursing. We enjoy the many celebrations on the campus. It’s a time for us to get

together and share our happiness with the Sweet Home family.

I am blessed to be at Sweet Home. I can never imagine my life without being here. As God promised in **Jeremiah 29:11** “**For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.**” Sweet home is a blessed place, and the Lord has been protecting us with His angels.

During the COVID pandemic, we experienced a huge loss in the world. Many people died around us, but the Lord blessed us and kept us safe under his wings. His promises are everlasting. I have many experiences in life where God has saved me.

I am always grateful for International Children's Care that has brought many souls to the Lord and provided food, clothing, and shelter for many unfortunate children like me. I’m grateful for sponsors who sacrificed their meals to provide for us. I am blessed to share my story, and I can never repay ICC. I will

work here at Sweet Home as long as God leads me and ICC.

I would like to thank all the sponsors and donors who helped to build many souls for Christ's Kingdom.

I have never imagined that my life would be like this, and what I am today is all because of God's blessing and International Children's Care and Sweet Home. I would like to thank all the sponsors and donors who helped to build many souls for Christ's Kingdom. Blessings to all.



Udai has enjoyed many celebrations on the Sweet Home campus- even his wedding!

*Faces blurred in online version to protect the identity of the children.



Thank you for contributing to Udai's lifelong testimony. The blessings overflow as he now mentors children at Sweet Home. Your support has made an incredible difference.

GOOD WORK You Have Done!

YOUR CONNECTION TO ORPHANS

Enrique's Story
ICC Mexico

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S CARE



Enrique's Tribute to Your Support!

There's nothing quite like the powerful testimonies of orphan children's lives being transformed. Testimonies from Udai and others are examples of the **Good Work** you have done on their behalf. We are pleased to bring stories like this to you as part of a quarterly video series. Use the QR code or visit <https://vimeo.com/957417407> to view the latest video that shares the testimony of Enrique who grew up at the El Oasis Children's Village in Mexico. You'll be inspired by his story, and we encourage you to share this video with your church, family, and friends.



ICC Children in El Salvador have Grown Up!

In 2005, operation of the Hogar Escuela Adventista Children's Village (HEA) in El Salvador was transferred from Maranatha to ICC. The children in this village became part of the ICC family.

And through your loving support, an entire generation of children have grown up and are now living independently. In recent years, under the leadership of President Nayib Bukele, crime and gang activity in the country has been drastically reduced. He is turning his attention to improving the economy. Currently, there is not the same need for orphan care programs as there once was. In addition, the Adventist church owns the property where HEA is located and has asked ICC to return it to them. Therefore, it is with mixed feelings that we announce that our collective mission on behalf of orphan children in El Salvador is coming to an end. **You have done so much Good Work for the children, and they are grateful. And now we bid farewell and look forward to that day when we'll have a great ICC family reunion in Heaven.**



A generation of children have grown up, learned about Jesus, been educated, and are now living on their own thanks to your support. As they move down the pathway of life, they are grateful for the loving support of ICC family members like you. Thank you!

You Met and Surpassed the Matching Challenge!

A heartfelt expression of thanks goes to ICC family members who participated in the "Summer of Care Matching Challenge." Because of your generous gifts, the challenge was matched and surpassed. These funds go to help provide for the care the children need, especially during this time of year. **On behalf of the children, thank you for this Good Work you have done for them!**

Even though the matching challenge was successful, the children



continue to need your loving support. Please make your gift today using the response insert, QR Code, or

visit ForHisKids.org/donate. Or you can call 800-422-7729. Thank you for your continued **Good Work!**



THANK YOU!

August is Make-A-Will-Month: Is Yours Up To Date?



When Hal and Jackie retired and sold their business, they discovered they could set up a trust and direct it to a charitable cause. Major life events can cause you to make changes to your will. Is yours up to date?

Years ago, ICC supporters, Hal and Jackie Williams, made the noble decision to allocate part of their estate to help ICC orphans.

At retirement, they sold their physical therapy business after building it for 30 years and were shocked to find out the government would take 47% of the selling price. When they discovered they could set up a trust from the proceeds and direct it towards a charitable cause, it was an easy decision.

As we relish the final moments of summer and begin gearing up for fall, this is a perfect time to give thought to a critical and often-overlooked subject: the creation or updating of a will or trust.

In honor of 'Make a Will Month' this August, ICC highlights the importance of estate planning through our partnership with FreeWill, an online will-making platform. With this tool, you can create your personal will or trust in as little as 20 minutes.

Shockingly, about two-thirds of

adults have yet to create a will. Amid our busy lives, it is easy to procrastinate on this task that generates the kind of peace of mind a well-planned will affords. Such a document ensures your legacy to your kin and cherished causes extends beyond your lifetime.

You may ask: "Why do I need a will? I don't have a lot of money or property." Besides distributing assets, wills can designate a guardian for minor children, name someone to care for your pets, give instructions for digital assets and write funeral wishes.

Some may think their family already knows their wishes so a will is unnecessary. However, without a will, your beneficiaries will usually have to wait months or even years for the courts to determine how your assets are distributed. This can be costly and stressful for your loved ones.

Major life events such as the arrival of new family members, marriages, retirement, and inheritances can necessitate amendments to your will. This August, let us inspire you to seize this opportunity to ensure your legacy aligns with your life's goals and philanthropic intentions.

When Hal and Jackie set up their trust, they said, "It has given us great satisfaction to support ICC through our trust. When we are no longer here, God's children will still be cared for."

The Williams' story underscores the profound satisfaction derived from future planning. Despite Hal's passing, his foresight continues to support ICC's mission.

"The trust [or will] you establish now leaves a legacy no amount of money could ever buy . . . tiny souls for the kingdom," Hal had shared.

Today, his wife, Jackie, carries on their legacy, uplifting the young lives of ICC orphans.

So, this 'Make a Will Month', take time to revise or create your will at FreeWill.com/ICCWA or from the QR code below, considering the transformative impact of your decisions, especially on the lives of countless children globally. Enjoy the serenity that accompanies the assurance of a well-devised plan.

For more information on using the FreeWill tool or including ICC in your Will or trust, reach out to *Wendy Clark, Communications Coordinator*.

Email: wendy@forhiskids.org or call 800-422-7729.

To use the QR code, open the built-in camera app on your phone. Point it at the QR code. Then tap the banner that appears on your device.



August						
2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Make-A-Will Month				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FREEWILL

When soliciting funds for a specific need, we occasionally receive more in donations than requested. In those instances when we do receive more money than solicited, those extra funds are placed in "Alcyon's Angel Fund." To protect the privacy of our children, ICC uses fictitious names in the Que Pasa when referring to minor children.