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Udayan Care USA Newsletter

1 message

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Udayan Care USA's quarterly newsletter.

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With the approach of Diwali and the rest of the holiday season, we dedicate this newsletter to our generous donors and volunteers.

We hope that you will think of us as you open your hearts to the spirit of the season. Make your tax deductible donation [here](#) and read on to learn about more ways you can help the disadvantaged young women and children supported by Udayan Care USA. And in this time let us always remember the immortal words of the great Mahatma Gandhi: "Love never claims, it ever gives."

The Udayan Care USA Board: Rakhi Agarwal, Jesse George-Nichol, Shraddha Gupta, Anitha Kosanam, Dr. Kiran Modi, Netoo Sethi, Deepak Sharma, and Minnie Singh



Meet Vijay Patel

An UCUSA Donor Making a Difference

Vijay Patel first stumbled across the Udayan Shalini Fellowship in an online search. Mr. Patel emigrated to the United States in 1983, and since then he has enjoyed a successful career as an engineer and manager--working for the last two decades at HP. Yet Mr. Patel has always maintained a strong connection to his native India. He has also nurtured an abiding interest in education; both his father and grandfather were teachers, and he credits them with teaching him the transcendent value of education. Together, these interests led him to his fateful discovery of the Udayan Shalini Fellowship.

It was the holistic approach to girls' education that drew Mr. Patel to the program. The USF does not merely provide funding, he explains; it provides all the necessary support for young women to succeed--from mentorship and skills workshops to leadership training and confidence-building. Excited by the opportunities that the USF offered disadvantaged young women in India, Mr. Patel threw his support behind the program.

He did not merely make a donation, however. Launching a virtual 6,000 kilometer bicycle trip across India, Mr. Patel exhorted his friends, family, and coworkers to support the Shalini program, spreading awareness as well as raising funds for the organization. He also enlisted the help of his company, capitalizing upon HP's generous matching program and its strong commitment to philanthropy. Moreover he directed much of this energy and support to opening a new Udayan Shalini chapter in Ahmedabad in the western state of Gujarat. He has been involved in every step of that process, from inception and fundraising all the way down to fellowship interviews and Shalini workshops. And Mr. Patel's dream is now a reality, and the Udayan Shalini Fellowship is transforming the lives of girls in Ahmedabad.

Mr. Patel is a shining example of the difference donors like you can make to the lives of disadvantaged women and children in India--and that donors can make an impact far beyond their financial contributions. Want to find out how you can be more involved with Udayan Care USA and do more to transform young Indians' lives? Learn about volunteer opportunities [here](#) or check out our website to see you you can [get more involved](#).

Youth Helping Youth



Meet Avani Akerkar, an amazing 13-year old 8th grader from Bellevue, Washington!

Avani has fond memories of her time visiting the girls at the Udayan Ghar in Manglapuri, and in October Avani hosted a free throw fundraiser with her basketball team to benefit Udayan Care USA. Friends and family pledged money for each free throw she made. Sinking 60 out of 100 shots, Avani raised nearly \$1,000.

Last December we featured a story about Avani's sister, Sejal, who published a poetry collection--all benefits from which were donated to UCUSA. These remarkable young women are an inspiration to us all, not merely giving back but enlisting their dazzling talents to do so!

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Giving to Udayan Care USA is easier than ever this year with the Amazon Smile program. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase amount to the charity of your choice. Simply log on to smile.amazon.com, and when prompted, type "Udayan Care USA" into the charitable organization search. Click "Select" to make it your designated charity, and then all of your purchases will automatically generate donations to UCUSA. Just remember to do

your Amazon shopping on the Amazon Smile website! Or, if you are using the Amazon app, select "Amazon Smile" under "Settings" in the main menu.

Udayan Care USA's Mission

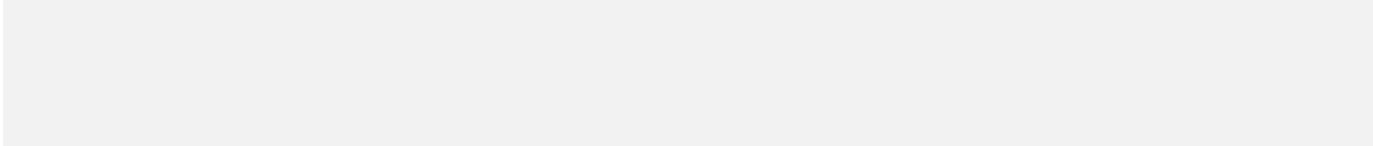
To provide a nurturing home for every orphaned child; an opportunity for higher education for every girl; and for every adult, the dignity of self-reliance and the desire to give back to society. To learn more about the Udayan Ghar (Home) and the Udayan Shalini Fellowship Programs, please go to www.udayancareusa.org

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