

# **CovKids Share Their Stories**



### India

My name is Jasoni. I am 17 years old. I live with my parents in Pune, the cultural capital of Maharashtra. We have a life full of difficulties and challenges. My mother is a housewife. My father works as a house servant for an elderly Persian lady who allows us to stay in one of her servant quarters.

There were times when my family struggled. I often thought about giving up my schooling to lessen the financial burden on my parents. But thankfully, the Hindustani Covenant Church considered the financial situation of my family. They offered to provide financial support for me and my younger brother's education.

Now, my brother is in 10th grade at school and I am in the 12th grade, focusing on science. My dream career is to be a psychologist, I am proud to be a member of the Hindustani Covenant Church. I am positive about pursuing further education.



## Make a difference

Your \$25 monthly donation provides scholarships for children, teenagers, and young adults, so they may participate in programs that meet their educational, social, physical, and spiritual needs. For more information and brochures or to start your monthly contribution, call (773) 784-3000 or email us at serveglobally@covchurch.org.

To give to CovKids visit CovChurch.org/covkids



### **South Sudan**

Thirteen-year-old Gatlaat lost both parents when he was only three years old. Placed in the care of a distant aunt, Gatlaat and his younger brother were brought up in an environment of hard child labor and extreme poverty.



Yet, hope was to be found in the joint efforts of the global Covenant community. When he was seven years old, Gatlaat became a beneficiary of the ECCSSE primary school in Gambella, Ethiopia. Like Gatlaat, most of the 3,111 students in attendance belong to families who cannot afford school fees. With your help, CovKids provides children like Gatlaat with school essentials such as shoes, uniforms, school bags, and learning materials.

The local Covenant congregation has also provided for the wellbeing of Gatlaat and his brother. The boys receive donations of food and other life necessities from local Covenant members.

Gatlaat is now in grade eight. Throughout the past seven years, he has never ranked less than second in his class. He teaches his younger brother what he learns in school and dreams of becoming a civil aviation pilot.





Twelve-year-old Merveille and her younger siblings were used to bathing and playing in the murky waters of their neighborhood brook in Gemena. Sadly, they were also frequently ill because they, like others in their community, used these same waters for drinking.

"Every morning my sisters and I went to the brook [nearly two miles] from our house to wash before going to school,"

said Merveille. "I usually came late to school and my teacher would punish me. I sometimes arrived without washing and I felt uncomfortable among my friends. I often was sick. I suffered bellyaches because of the bad water and this caused me to miss school."

Covenant Kids Congo was able to provide Merveille's community with improved access to clean water. Today, Merveille is strong and healthy and no longer experiences bellyaches from contaminated water. She is also able to fetch water for her morning wash and still arrive at school on time.

Merveille's grandparents were also elated by the gift of clean water. "Having safe water in my area is a relief for my family," said Merveille's grandmother, who is a farmer and the family caregiver. "Today, thanks to the water in our area. I'm able to wash my grandchildren as well as my kitchen utensils."

Covenant Kids supports programs through local partners that meet educational, social, physical, and spiritual needs of children around the world.

### **COLOMBIA**

Centro Integral Educacion del Pacto **FUSPA City Schools** Covenant Christian School Bethlehem Covenant Foundation Hope Covenant Foundation House of Peace

### **DR CONGO**

Covenant Kids Congo powered by World Vision

### **INDIA**

Child Development Centre Neighborhood Schools **Child Laborers** Ragpicker Children Children of Commercial Sex Workers English Medium School, Solapur St. John's School, Gulbarga **Industrial Training Institute Higher Education** 

Six elementary schools of the Evangelical Covenant Church of South Sudan

> 8303 West Higgins Road Chicago, Illinois 60631 Phone: (773) 784-3000 CovChurch.org/covkids serveglobally@covchurch.org

### **Colombia**

My name is Juan and I am 22 years old. I graduated from CEIP [Covenant Holistic Education Center] in 2008, where I began my schooling at the age of five. The greatest impact that CEIP had in my life was the formation of values. The focus on values has stuck with me and helped me as I seek to live them out. I am now getting ready to graduate college and in my workplace they say to me, "there are a lot of people with a lot of knowledge...



but the human factor is often overlooked, when for us it is what is really important..." I didn't know it at the time, but all those values we talked about with my teachers in CEIP—respect, responsibility, loyalty, solidarity—these are the base for me, and they continue to be what I build on.

## Thank you for walking alongside these children as their bright hopes come to life!