



**EMBRACE A VILLAGE**

transforming the lives of those affected by leprosy

Turning hurting into healing.



## Answering the call that Jesus started.

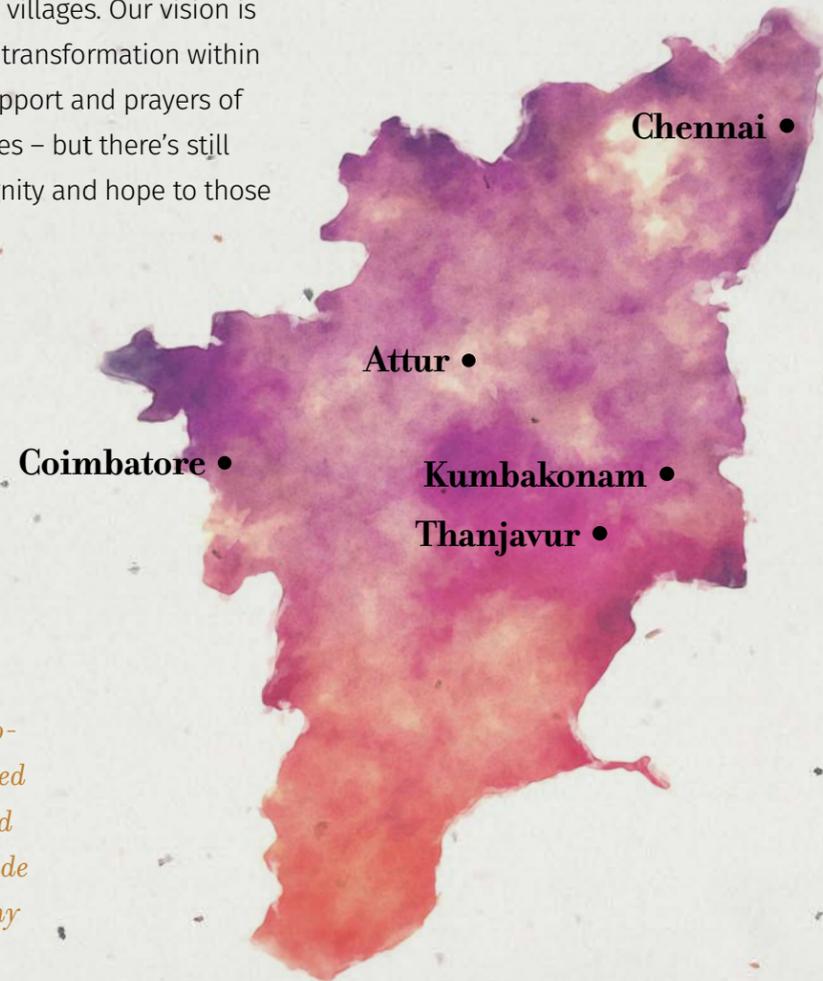
Leprosy. The very word conjures ancient misconceptions and stigmas even today. While most people associate it with biblical times, the truth is that leprosy still affects hundreds of thousands around the world, especially in India. Following Jesus' example, Embrace a Village provides relief, comfort, treatment, care, love and hope for many tragically afflicted.

*When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them and healed their sick.  
— Matthew 14:14*



## Leprosy destroys lives. With God's help, we bring hope and healing.

Despite advances in treatment and even the development of a multidrug therapy, leprosy still exists today. Nearly 60% of new cases are in India, where leprosy victims and their families are shamed and often ostracized from their villages. Our vision is to support physical, social and spiritual transformation within the lives of those impacted. With the support and prayers of partners like you, we're transforming lives – but there's still much to do. Will you help us restore dignity and hope to those affected by leprosy?



**E**mbrace a Village works across the state of Tamil Nadu in southern India. Our teams travel 2,400 miles weekly to provide essential medical services and much more. With a dedicated rehabilitation center and hospice care center in Coimbatore and bases in Chennai, Kumbakonam, Attur and Thanjavur, we provide medical, nutritional, educational and spiritual outreach to many remote villages – approximately 4,000 people in all.



**E**mbrace a Village was established in 2003 to provide food and medical care to those who have contracted leprosy and share with them Christ's message of hope and healing. 100% of funds serve those affected by leprosy in India.

Leprosy is a chronic, infectious disease. Consistent wound care is critical in containing infections and promoting healing. Our teams travel thousands of miles each week to provide the care and training that leprosy patients need – care that dramatically improves their quality of life.



Medical Care

**We provide medical care and supplies that patients often cannot afford, but desperately need.**

For those with leprosy, receiving quality care – provided with love and compassion – makes all the difference. It's a disease that often leaves wounds and disfigurement in its wake, so our trained teams travel weekly to administer medical care and arrange for surgeries, all free of charge. We provide medications, bandages and other supplies and teach wound cleaning and self-care to help prevent further complications and make recovery and healing possible.

1,800+  
*self-care packets distributed monthly*



*He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him.*

– Luke 10:34

FIELD OUTREACH

## REHABILITATION AND HOSPICE

**Our facilities in Coimbatore provide a place to rest and sometimes even recover under the care of loving staff.**

### **Rehabilitation Center.**

Leprosy patients from Tamil Nadu are brought to our 100-bed rehabilitation center located on two acres outside of Coimbatore. They receive nutritious meals and quality care from a staff of 14, including two full-time nurses. With proper wound care and daily encouragement, our patients often make dramatic recoveries. Many eventually gain the strength to work on our farms to earn money to provide for their families. Their dignity and sense of self-worth are rehabilitated along with their bodies, and it's truly miraculous to watch.



### **Hospice Center.**

Often the most neglected leprosy population is the elderly. They are rejected by family and society and left to die alone in harsh conditions. We bring these precious people into our 100-bed, 8,000-square-foot hospice facility. Through the love and care of our staff, many live longer than we imagined possible. Some are even transferred to our rehab center! Finding comfort, peace and fulfillment in their final days, 100% of our hospice patients have come to know Jesus as their Savior. We believe this is the holiest part of our ministry.

*When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy.*  
— Psalm 94:19



Our on-staff shoemakers craft custom shoes for leprosy patients. Made from materials that help prevent infection from spreading, this custom footwear is vital in maintaining mobility and averting amputations. And with our new mobile shoe unit, patients can be fitted for and receive their custom shoes without leaving their doorstep. To date we've provided over 15,000 pairs of custom shoes.



**Custom shoes are a blessing to leprosy patients, whose feet are vulnerable to infections.**



Embrace a Village has a shoemaking unit for leprosy patients, who often have damaged and disfigured feet and are susceptible to further infections and debilitating ulcers. Custom shoes are critical in helping prevent further complications that also hinder mobility. The cost of custom shoes, however, is prohibitive, so we give each patient a minimum of two pairs each year, free of charge. We have provided thousands of custom, hand-made shoes to leprosy victims throughout Tamil Nadu, bringing comfort, restoring mobility and changing lives.

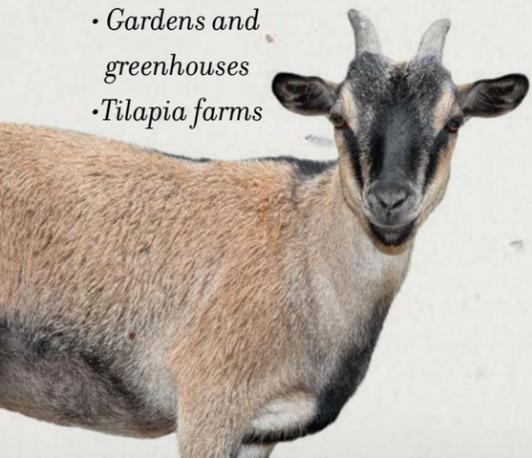
## SHOE PROGRAM



*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."  
— Jeremiah 29:11*

At Embrace a Village, we work hard to develop sustainable food sources and farming practices to support our ministry, and to empower those in leprosy colonies to support themselves. Today, these efforts help feed approximately 4,000 people. Current and coming initiatives include:

- A goat farm
- Chicken coops
- Gardens and greenhouses
- Tilapia farms



## Nourishment helps provide the strength needed to overcome adversity.

### **Leprosy and extreme poverty often go hand in hand.**

Those with leprosy are shunned from society, making it nearly impossible for them to provide for their families. With begging often the only option, it's no wonder nutrition is lacking in the colonies, not to mention dignity and hope.

*12,000+ pounds of rice distributed monthly*

### **Hunger relief is step one for community healing.**

Each month we offer a 22-pound bag of rice to each family along with nutrition and gardening education. In addition, children who participate in our after-school tutoring program receive a nourishing meal at our centers. These initiatives make a huge difference in quality of life, creating a foundation for hope and healing.



Nutritional Initiatives



Jack and Sandy Kennedy and their team provide the "Happy Bar," a high-protein nutrition snack to Embrace a Village. Children receive this snack during after-school tutoring, and it's also available to those in hospice care.



Our Little Lights tutoring program was established by Embrace a Village co-founder, Joe Clendenny's wife, Pat. She recognized that many children who lived in the leprosy villages were treated like outcasts, even though they didn't have leprosy. Pat encouraged Embrace a Village to provide educational assistance to help them escape poverty and the stigma associated with leprosy.



170  
children in educational programs

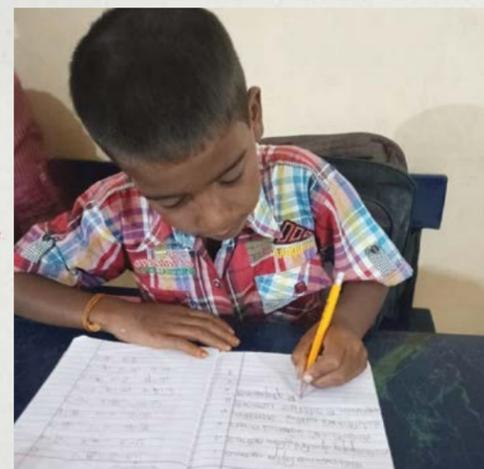
**Every lesson is a step toward a better future.**

**Education offers a pathway out of poverty.**

When families are ostracized, it's no surprise that children's education and their prospects for the future suffer. Without a good education, they often continue living in the colonies and raising families of their own there. Our hope is that more success in school will lead to better opportunities to integrate into mainstream society and break the cycle of poverty.

**After-school tutoring through our Little Lights program.**

Embrace a Village provides after-school tutoring two hours a day, five days a week in the colonies. We help 170 students improve their grades and future academic prospects, and teach them about their self-worth. They hear Bible stories about how God loves all his children equally – a powerful message, especially for these children. Students also receive a nutritious meal before they head home, often the most filling meal of their day.



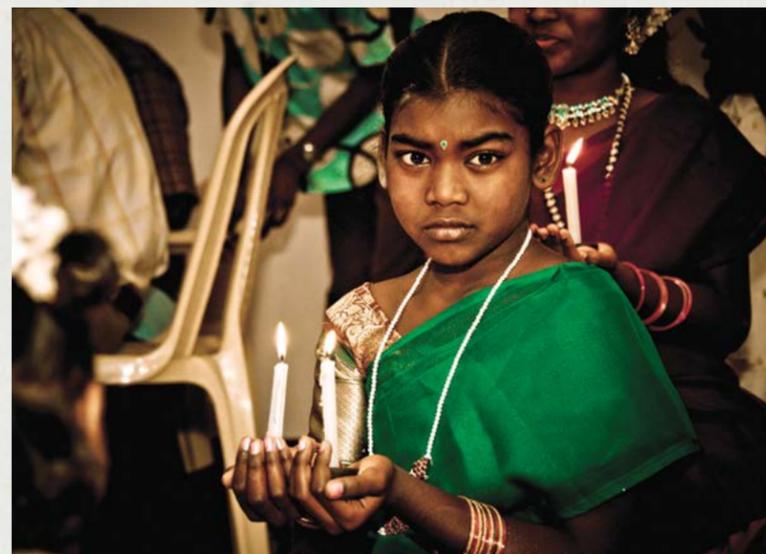
*There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.*  
– Proverbs 23:18

**Discovering God's love is especially powerful for those who know true suffering.**

The stigma associated with leprosy often prevents those affected from receiving biblical teachings. Each week, colony residents can experience Christ's love through our Bible study and praise and worship services. While these activities are completely voluntary, many meet Jesus and some have even said they are thankful for their leprosy because it led them to the Lord!

*But those who suffer he delivers in their suffering; he speaks to them in their affliction.*  
— Job 36:15

*Church Attendees Weekly*



Spiritual Outreach

Embrace a Village has been truly blessed by the strong support of Joyce Meyer Ministries, based in St. Louis, Missouri. Their generous financial contributions, along with providing spiritual literature, awareness initiatives and much more, have been invaluable to our mission.

## Embracing a calling a world away.

When St. Louis businessman Joe Clendenny's successful business ventures collapsed in 1995, it seemed like a tragedy. In fact, it was a blessing because it led him to Christ and transformed his life. He learned firsthand that God truly does work in mysterious ways. Years later, when he felt in his heart a calling to serve leprosy colonies in India – he was open to the idea.

During a mission trip in September 2002, Joe was moved by the suffering he witnessed among those affected by leprosy in Chennai in Tamil Nadu, India. These people and their families had been shunned by society, completely outcast with nowhere to turn. Joe was overcome with the feeling that God was calling him and his wife, Pat, to help.

In Chennai, husband and wife team, Anil and Rose Kumar, started Chennai Leprosy Relief in 2000 to help the same population. Combining their efforts, these four founded Embrace a Village in 2003. Embrace a Village became a 501(c)(3) organization in 2004 and has been able to commit 100% of donations to programs for those affected by leprosy.

Embrace a Village has grown to serve 35 villages, home to nearly 4,000 people, in Tamil Nadu, southern India. Anil and Rose reside in Coimbatore, India, inspiring and overseeing our staff of over 50 dedicated workers, who provide loving care and spiritual guidance to those affected by leprosy.

Embrace a Village shows what can be accomplished when we seek to align our lives with God's calling.



*Dear friends,  
since God so  
loved us, we  
also ought  
to love one  
another.*

— 1 John 4:11



## Every Day

- At our 2-acre rehabilitation center, recovering leprosy patients rest and heal under the care of our nurses and loving staff.
- At our 8,000-square-foot hospice center, aged and dying leprosy patients are cared for physically and emotionally by our staff along with regular doctor visits as needed.

## Every Week

We travel 2,400 miles to serve 35 colonies throughout Tamil Nadu, India. Weekly care is provided through:

- Medical Care
- After-school tutoring
- Bible Study
- Sharing of the Gospel in the colonies



## Every dollar helps us relieve suffering, spread hope and healing, and expand our mission.

### **\$5 – Bible**

A Bible in the Tamil language is treasured by patients who are able to read as they grow in their walk with God. For children and teens, receiving their Bible gift is always a celebration.

### **\$10 – Medical Kits**

Bandages are essential for wound cleaning and protection. We provide clean bandages and give patients extras to care for their wounds between weekly clinics. Kits include ointments, antibiotics and other medicines.

### **\$10 – 22 lb. Bag of Rice**

We strive to eliminate begging and give aid to families who are directly impacted by leprosy. Each month we provide a supply of rice to each family via our food pantry and encourage gardening and nutrition education.

### **\$15 – Aids and Equipment**

Mobility aids and hospice equipment include crutches, hospital beds and wheelchairs. Hospital beds, especially in our hospice center, are needed to replace sleeping mats on a concrete floor.

*Learn more and make a contribution at [EmbraceAVillage.org](http://EmbraceAVillage.org)*

### **\$150 – Support a Team Member**

We have many young adults volunteering to spend a significant portion of their lives in service caring for and ministering to leprosy patients and their families. Many have been spending 8-10 hours per day working with patients and their children for years.

### **\$300 – Support a Leprosy Patient**

Each leprosy patient and their family have special needs for ongoing care. Support can be for weekly clinical care or for specific needs like surgeries, children's school tuition or mobility aids. Our services have greatly reduced the need for begging and restored hope to these families.

### **\$4,000 – Support a Village**

You can support the whole range of services we provide to a village. This includes the rice pantry, weekly medical services, after-school children's tutoring program, social services, weekly church services and Bible study groups.

**M***ake the kind of difference that transforms lives through our Embrace Hope monthly giving program. Learn more at [embraceavillage.org](http://embraceavillage.org).*

## Embrace a Village Goals.

**1** Share God's love, healing and salvation with patients and their families.

**2** Equip children through educational opportunities.

**3** Promote self-care among patients and their caretakers.

**4** Respond to the growing population of older patients with leprosy.

**5** Develop systems to reach more people with leprosy outside the colonies.

*I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.*

— Romans 8:18



## Every Month

- 12,000 pounds of rice is distributed to leprosy colonies.
- Custom footwear is provided to prevent further infection and trauma.
- 1,800 self-care packets are distributed.

Please prayerfully consider supporting us to have an immediate and eternal impact on the lives of those affected by leprosy, whom the Lord has given us to serve. When you give, 100% of your donations go to programs for those affected by this devastating disease in Tamil Nadu in southern India.

You can also help us by sharing about Embrace a Village on your social platforms and those in your life. Thank you.



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