



# THE VIEW

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# Point



**Kathy Almond is Trying to Feed  
the Children of the World.**

*Hers and Many Other SailView  
Stories and Photos Inside...*





# Making a **DIFFERENCE** *Kathy Almond and Operation Feed the Children*

*By Hannah Bain...*

We never know how far our actions will reach or how important our words will be. This is the lesson that Kathy Almond learned while sitting in church one Sunday morning. She learned about an organization called Operation Feed the Children, which supports an orphanage in India. The message was delivered by Jamey Green, the leader of the organization, and by the end, Kathy knew she had to do something to help. The main challenge that OFTC faces is lack of funding and awareness, so Kathy threw herself in to raising both. Her experience in organizing and hosting benefit dinners for the Pregnancy Care Center, where she volunteers, was the first way she could help. This experience met the deep needs of OFTC and the organization's first benefit dinner came to life. The highlight of the evening was the speech from Jyothi Reddi, the founder of the orphanage in Kakinada, India.

Reddi was a friend of Green's in the late 80's and was able to attend college in the U.S. thanks to a generous donation. On his return home, Reddi felt God calling him to help someone else since someone had so selflessly helped him. He spent time evangelizing in India preaching to thousands of people. One particular little boy caught his attention on the dirt floor of a crowded church in 1997. He was sitting in the front row completely naked and, throughout the entire message he never took his eyes off of Reddi. When the message ended and everyone had filtered out, Reddi noticed that the little boy was still around and asked him why he didn't go home with the rest of the people. The boy told him that he lived with a sick elderly grandfather who was unable to provide for either one of them. Moved by the story, Reddi met with the grandfather. He felt called to take the little boy home, care for him, and give him an education. The opportunity for his grandson to have a better life was more than enough to convince the man to let him go. As soon



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as it was decided, the boy ran out of the room and came back a couple minutes later fully dressed in his only pair of clothes, which had been drying back at his home. Before they left, Jyothi noticed two other boys crying. They were upset that their friend was leaving and, after more discussions, Reddi ended up bringing the three boys home. This was the beginning of the orphanage, originally a home for three little boys, but now a home for over 500 children.

The orphanage provides food, shelter, and education for the children while also supplying Biblical teachings. Green, who has visited the orphanage twice, says that the name Operation Feed the Children refers to both the physical and spiritual needs. "We are not just giving them food," Green says, "We're also feeding them the word of God; the bread of life." One day each year, Reddi opens the doors of the orphanage for new children, and every year he has to turn more than 300 children away. In the Hindu religion, helping orphans is discouraged. They strongly believe in karma, and they avoid tampering with the karma of another at all costs. Reddi and his family live month to month through the generous donations of strangers, but before Green, it was difficult to raise and transfer the funds. OFTC began as a simple banking account that made the transfer of donations to India easier and less expensive. It has now grown to a full blown non-profit and has raised over \$75,000 in its first year, 2013, alone.

Green says that Reddi's next goal is to set up another orphanage so he can take in more children. He also wants to start a scholarship program, which would pay for a child's higher education in the U.S. and allow them to return home and give back to their communities. Right now, Reddi spends about \$15,000 a month keeping the orphanage running. For \$30 a month, one child can be fed and completely cared for. Other ways to help include the annual golf tournament at Glen Oaks in May and the second benefit dinner in the summer of 2015.

It all started with the opportunity given to one man who in turn gave it to three children and was inspired to serve countless more. The children, in Green's words, are "precious, grateful, and humble." They have absolutely no sense of entitlement and are thankful for the smallest opportunity that comes their way. They have a heart for the Bible and a passion to serve. We never know what the extent of one simple kindness is. We never know what it will lead to. One small act on this side of the world can change a life over 8000 miles away, and that life can go on to change many more. Kathy Almond felt this calling to change the lives of these children and wants to spread the word to her community and bring awareness to this great cause. Visit OFTC's Facebook page or [operationfeedthechildren.org](http://operationfeedthechildren.org) for more info.

## Want to Meet New Neighbors?

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When was the last time you were able to get together with your neighbors for dinner? Several times a year, residents from the neighborhood will be gathering at a different restaurant in town. The food is FREE; all you pay is \$15 per couple for tip and any (adult) beverages are ala carte! This is a great time to catch up with old friends and make some new ones! If you'd like to participate email [lnconcierge@n2pub.com](mailto:lnconcierge@n2pub.com) to be added to our restaurant contact list & receive monthly updates about our next dinner!

She is learning more than just the *fundamentals* of the game.

**CANNON  
SCHOOL**  
JrK – Grade 12  
Est. 1969

**Grades 5-12 Information Session**  
Tuesday, February 17, at 11:00 a.m.  
**Walk-In Wednesdays**  
Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
**Come to Cannon. Go Beyond.**

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