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## MARY M. DANSBY TRUST AWARDS \$25,000 GRANT TO SUPPORT CHRISTEL HOUSE INDIA

A generous grant made possible by the **Mary M. Dansby Trust**, will be utilized to support nutrition programs for the children of Christel House India it was announced by Barbara S. (Bobbi) Bosch, Vice President, Marketing and Development, Christel House International. "Children who are well-nourished learn better," says Bosch. "This grant from the Mary M. Dansby Trust will help provide critical nutritional support for 1,160 impoverished students at our Bangalore and Naya Raipur schools. We are grateful to the Mary M. Dansby Trust as they support Christel House and our mission of developing successful students, graduates and self-sufficient, contributing members of society."

More than 500 million people in India are hungry, and the average Christel House family in Naya Raipur survives on just \$1.50 a day. Among children in India, 42.5% under the age of five are underweight, making food insecurity a serious issue for many children..

Yachna Yadav is one of those. A few weeks after starting at Christel House – Naya Raipur, Yachna was found wrapping her lunch and putting it away in a bag. Her first grade teacher asked Yachna why she was doing this. The six year old replied, "I know I will get food at school tomorrow. My sister doesn't go to school and she doesn't have chapatti to eat so I am taking it for her."

Students at Christel House India receive two nutritious meals and a healthy snack each day, providing 80% of the child's daily nutrition.

The mission of Christel House is to transform the lives of impoverished children around the world—breaking the cycle of poverty and building self-sufficient, contributing members of society. A focus on academic excellence through a robust K–12 curriculum is combined with a strong character development program to give students the skills and competencies necessary to compete successfully in complex 21st Century society.

Much more than a school, Christel House was established in 1998 by Founder and CEO Christel DeHaan, and currently serves over 4,600 impoverished students through eight learning centers—located in India, Mexico, South Africa and the U.S.A. Christel House students maintain a 99% graduation exam pass rate, and the majority of its graduates go on to pursue higher education. They become productive citizens, and many secure employment with top multinational corporations. Christel House graduates are confident, hardworking, responsible and ethical, with a passion for giving back to their communities and caring for their families.

For more information, please visit <u>www.christelhouse.org</u> and follow us on social media: www.facebook.com/christelhouse; www.twitter.com/christelhouse