

## Abi Siddharth's Story



Although Abi Siddharth is 19 years old, he doesn't look his age. His small stature and delightfully impish smile give him an irresistibly boyish look. For someone suffering as much as he does, he has one of the sweetest dispositions among the boys at our home.

**Abandoned in December 2005 near a subway at Central Railway Station, Chennai,** Abi was spotted by the Police who contacted Don Bosco ChildLine who rescued him and handed him over to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Chennai. Since he was intellectually challenged the CWC eventually sent him to us.

**Abi lives with Cerebral Palsy and spastic quadriplegia.** He developed renal complications and osteogenesis, which makes him prone to fractures as his bones have become brittle. He often has fits and is totally dependent on the caregivers for all his personal needs, but he is able to indicate what he wants.

Not choosing to focus on all the negatives, his teacher looked for ways to tap his hidden potential. She realized that he is quite capable of using his feet to express himself. She taught him to draw, color and even write his

name and address with his feet!

Abi loves music and enjoys eating biriyani but he is happiest when someone gives him a pair of sun glasses!

*Children are a priceless gift. They aren't given to us because we are special or entitled, but because they can make our lives special as we choose to receive and love them. If you are interested in making a difference in the life of a child like Abi, please call our office. There are 114 children like him whose lives can be transformed with a little help!*

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*Sri Arunodayam is a secular organization with zero tolerance for discrimination against children, whether on the basis of caste, creed, religion, color or gender orientation.*

*This child is the ward of the Government of India and his identity is recognized and protected. Using his picture without permission from Sri Arunodayam Charitable Trust is a punishable offence.*