



An all-volunteer, non-profit, charitable, U.S. 501.c-3 foundation.  
*...rescuing the forgotten children of Nepal...*

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## PURPOSE IN LIFE...*From Orphanage to Nursing University*

VCN has seen remarkable success amongst the orphaned Nepali children under its care. Almost all the children are survivors of horrendous beginnings, extreme deprivation, family tragedies, injuries, abandonment and abuse. The orphanage that VCN constructed for 25 girls has been our greatest pride. This year, two girls demonstrated tremendous academic success - Sarala and Sara have joined Nursing University.



### SARALA NEPAL

Sarala is an incredibly bright 17-year-old girl. Her wisdom has been recognized, as she received a full scholarship from a nursing university. "I enjoy helping people. Nursing is hard, but an honorable job." Sarala is aiming to earn an advance degree in Nursing.

She once considered becoming a journalist, but she heard her calling. She is also a talented singer.

### SARA NEPAL

Sara is a 17-year-old girl who has proven herself to be an excellent student. She has joined a nursing university, just like her orphanage sister, Sarala. "I am inspired by poor and sick on the street [to pursue a Nursing degree]".

After graduation, she wants to move to a remote village, where she can help care for the poor.



## UNIVERSITY GRADUATES...*Blind Children See the Future*

From grade school through college, blind students in Nepal never take for granted the importance of education. When these children are also orphaned or are from impoverished backgrounds, their motivation to succeed becomes an even stronger force in their lives. With the energized determination that our blind children exhibit in their studies, we champion their futures, and the rewards have been astonishing. Congratulations to our graduates - Sunita Ghimire, Gautam, Pokharel, Hari Puri, Manoj Nepali, Sanjiv Nepali, Kabita Gurung, and Jit Bahadur Lama. We also thank our donors for their generosity and help in providing these students with a brighter future.

### Sunita Ghimire - Blind



B.A. degree in Education. She lives in Chitwan,

and recently got married. Sunita is planning to work as a teacher in her hometown school.

### Gautam Pokharel - Blind



B.A. degree in Political Science. He lives in

Kathmandu and works at Nepal Telecom. He is happy with his life and enjoys his job.

### Hari Puri - Disabled



B.A. degree in Communications. He suffered from polio and is physically challenged. He

lives in Kathmandu and works as a Marketing Manager at a brick factory. He is married and his wife owns a small store.

### Kabita Gurung



B.A. degree in Business Management. She lives

in Kathmandu, has a part time job at a cosmetic store to self-finance her master's degree.

## PROGRAM UPDATES

VCN continues to carry on the late Allan Aistrop's (VCN founder) lifelong dedication to the least fortunate and most vulnerable children of Nepal. We will continue to strive toward improving the lives of Nepali children through the numerous programs we monitor and nurture toward self-reliance. VCN wants every child to have the right to survival, stability and education, as well as a happy, healthy and safe childhood. We ask for your continued support of VCN. All tax-deductible donations will be managed and distributed virtually 100 percent to our beneficiaries in Nepal.

### PAROPAKAR GIRLS' ORPHANAGE

The Paropakar Girls' Orphanage is a remarkable home for 25 sensational, young girls who are achieving scholastic prominence in school, as well as living together in an inspirational bond of sisterhood. We serve and support these



*Warren Storkman sharing his wisdom with girls at Paropakar girls' orphanage*

children with close attention to all their needs and to assure their continued welfare and progress. Even a few minutes spent in the company of these children dramatically underlines the success of our work in Nepal.

Mamata, a bright student, motivated to become a medical doctor, continues to prepare for her medical school entrance exam. "The most important thing I have learnt is that [to be a great person], we have to do something good that will help others" says Mamata.

Our 12th grade girls - Anusha, Jenni and Bindu - are looking forward to joining a university next year. Anusha and Jenni are interested in pursuing a career in the medical profession as well; Bindu would like to study hotel management.

Supervisors and assistants give full, loving attention to these children and ensure their well-being with daily reminders of how important they have become to everyone involved with their lives.



*Volleyball championship – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams. Paropakar Girls' Orphanage team (in blue v-neck, 2<sup>nd</sup> row) the winner!*

### PAROPAKAR BOYS' ORPHANAGE

By far, the most essential provision from VCN has been continuing college scholarships for orphaned boys who excel academically and have the drive and desire for higher education. Without further study, these bright young men would have little opportunity, and their great minds will be shattered for life.

The Paropakar Boys' Orphanage has 17 boys. The time has come for four boys - Sangam, Ganesh, Bikaram, and Bishal - to leave the orphanage and venture out into the world outside the orphanage. VCN, with support from our donors, has been able to add these boys to our scholarship program. Madan Nepali, another recent graduate, has received a full scholarship to attend medical school in Pokhara.

This year, VCN Board members organized a picnic for



*The picnic for Boys' and Girls' orphanage children*

boys and girls. It was a special event for these youngsters, many thanks to Warren Storkman, William

Weinstein, Kathleen Hassen, Gosia Nepali and Rubin Nepali for making the event memorable for the children.

### Volleyball Champions!

Girls from the Paropakar Girls' Orphanage won the volleyball championship at the state level competition - they defeated last year's champion, British Academy, to claim first place.

## MANANG CHILDREN HOME

The nine girls living in a family-style group home are girls that come from the mountain village of Manang or other remote, rural locations. They attend excellent schools and excel in their studies. They are amazing!

Pema Lama and Choten Lama have joined university this year. They are both majoring in Fashion Design; their dream is to own their own line of fashion products.

Lynn Lama, a smart and capable girl, is in 6th grade, and first in her class. She received first place in a calligraphy competition.



Lynn Lama

The other children are also doing well; they are in grades four to



Sandup Lama, MNCO Director, with MNCO children

ten. We have witnessed an amazing success with these children.

## EARLY REHABILITATION CENTER

Almost ten years ago, with generous support from committed partner Francisco Hernandez, we began the FELT (stuffed animal) project to help deaf women in Nepal. These days, Mr.



Mohit and Nihit Lama

Hernandez is also supporting and educating six blind children. Mohit and Nihit (pictured), are two blind twins. We added four new blind children to our care this year.

## BAL SARATHI SCHOOL

The challenges of social work in the slums of Kathmandu are innumerable, but volunteers from the Bal Sarathi organization continue to provide services and opportunities essential to improving the lives of the most downtrodden, neglected children in Nepal. Supported in part by VCN, Bal Sarathi



provides free education and nutritious meals to over 100 children from communities around the Pashupatinath temple complex.

Rabina Nepali, a bright student, is in 10th grade. She lives in a slum area with poor parents and a brother.



Rabina

Despite many challenges, she has managed to continue to attend school.

Mukesh Parajuli is an orphan who lives and studies at the boarding school. He is in the 7th grade and is an excellent and dedicated student.



Mukesh

VCN places these students in public and private schools, and covers their school expenses as well as general living support, but we need sponsors to make this happen.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships for blind, physically impaired and orphaned children continue to be a top VCN challenge in our efforts to secure decent life opportunities for outstanding students. Our students immediately recognize the rare lifeline they are given and struggle to achieve the highest honors in their schools. To make our support possible, we continue to seek sponsors for all the children we support. Scholarship costs vary according to the situations, but on average cost about \$300 - \$1000 per year. Scholarships cover all living and school expenses.

Please consider joining us in this most important provision to some of the most disadvantaged children on earth. Contact us for specific information on children needing your support and any arrangement that would suit your preference.

We support 24 students attending university. We also provide scholarships to 12 young children ranging from primary to high school. We welcome you to become a "Sustaining Donor," committing to sponsoring a student's long-term educational needs through graduation from class 12. We also welcome sponsorships on a year to year basis.

## POKHARA LEPROSY ASHRAM

This was a program of deep love for VCN founder Allan Aistrophe. VCN had been providing tea, powdered milk, sugar, spices, fruits, lungi, blouses, shirts, bed and pillow covers. It was a small contribution for us, but Allan's presence and compassion were tremendous comfort to them, as Nepali society had treated them as outcasts. Because of its location outside of Pokhara, and the difficulty of maintaining regular contact, we are pausing our support for this program.

## PATH OF LIGHT

Through the support of donor Tessai Sakai, VCN started the Path of Light project to provide free schooling and a nutritious lunch program for the children of workers living and working in brick factory compounds of the Kathmandu Valley. The donor has fulfilled his commitment of support to the Path of Light program. We welcome new donors.

## WE WORK AS VOLUNTEERS TO DIRECTLY RESCUE AND SUPPORT THE MOST DESTITUTE AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN OF NEPAL

- ❖ We help provide shelter, food, clothing, school supplies, tutoring and scholarships for 25 girls and 17 boys at Paropakar Girls' and Boys' orphanages in Kathmandu.
- ❖ We support the Manang Children's Home, where nine girls live in a supportive family-style group home on the outskirts of Kathmandu.
- ❖ We support the Bal Sarathi school, which provides free education and a daily meal to the children of beggars and untouchable castes around the Pashupatinath temple complex.
- ❖ We provide scholarships to 24 Nepalese children to attend university and to 12 young children attending primary and secondary school.

### A NON-PROFIT, ALL-VOLUNTEER, CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Virtue's Children Nepal is a U.S. 501 (c)(3), charitable foundation. Donations to our organization are tax-deductible and acknowledgement letters are provided for donations received. We operate without U.S. salaries, office rent or benefits, but always with special affection and parental concerns for the children in our care. We directly manage all expenses and payments in Nepal from our U.S. office, assuring our supporters of responsible management and that we are making every effort to reach and serve the most children possible.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RUBIN NEPALI  
Director  
Engineer

RAJEESH SHRESTHA  
Treasurer  
Jewelry Importer

WENDY BREWER LAMA  
Secretary  
Ecotourism Business Owner

KATHLEEN HASSEN  
Girls' College Fund Director  
Retired

In memoriam  
ALLAN AISTROPE  
Founder (1937-2018)

### CHANGES IN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VCN Board Members are very proud to welcome a new member to our Board.

#### KATHLEEN HASSEN

Kathleen, daughter of VCN supporter Warren and Dixie Storkman, has joined VCN Board. Kathleen will oversee the college scholarships given to 25 girls from the Girls' Orphanage. Funding for these scholarships will be provided by William Weinstein.

We thank Board members Penelope Rose and John Flinn for their service to VCN. Penelope and John remain close friends of VCN. We miss them.

#### PENELOPE ROSE

Penelope has been with VCN since the inception of the organization in 2003. Penelope served as VCN Secretary during her tenure on the Board.

#### JOHN FLINN

John Flinn served as travel editor for the San Francisco Chronicle for years and continued with his talents as a travel writer, especially in adventure and wilderness stories. John edited the VCN newsletter for several years.

### CONTACT

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