



RAWCS BAL MANDIR PROJECT 19-2009/10
KATHMANDU – NEPAL

PROGRESS REPORT

ROTARY CLUB OF SUSSEX INLET
ROTARY CLUB OF DILLIBAZAAR – KATHMANDU

PROJECT PARTNER

THE ASHA FOUNDATION Inc

Previously known as Dharmik Australia





BRIEF HISTORY

The Bal Mandir Project 19- 2009/10 was officially approved as a RAWCS project in October 2009.

The scope of work for this project is to renovate the top floor of the Shiphall Home in Kathmandu Nepal. This home currently provides care to around 100 children including babies and toddlers. The home is set in series of old buildings and the top floor of one of those buildings is currently not used due to structural damage of the ceiling and roof as well as overall disrepair of the rooms. The renovation will convert this unused space into 5 volunteer carer rooms. The idea of establishing a live in volunteer accommodation floor is to provide volunteers with a more rounded experience and to enable them to provide a greater number of hours of care to the children.

The added bonus of providing accommodation on- site is that it will produce an income for the children's home which can be fed straight back into care and support of the children thus giving the home a regular stream of income.

The project will be overseen by The Asha Foundation (formerly Dharmik Australia). The Asha Foundation has a working relationship with the Nepal Children's Organisation – Nepal's largest provider of children's homes and owner of the Shiphall Home, The Asha Foundation also has an excellent reputation within the Nepalese community. The Asha Foundation is also responsible for the scoping of the project and determining the costs. They have a clear understanding of the cultural customs and sensitivities as well as reliable and trustworthy staff manning their operations in Kathmandu.

STAGE 1

Stage 1 of this project commenced in early December 2010, but many months of sourcing engineering quotes, plans being drawn up and acceptance of costings preceded the actual commencement date. The Asha Foundation staff in Kathmandu under the excellent guidance of its Nepal Director – Mark McIntyre managed to source a reliable and trustworthy construction company – Ranjeetkar Constructions.

This first stage involved the total removal of the roof and ceilings which were in disrepair and replacing with new 22 gauge iron and plywood ceilings. The ceilings have been primed and painted.

All work carried out on Stage 1 of this project was done by local Nepali tradesmen and labourers, thus providing a vital source of income in a country that has massive unemployment.

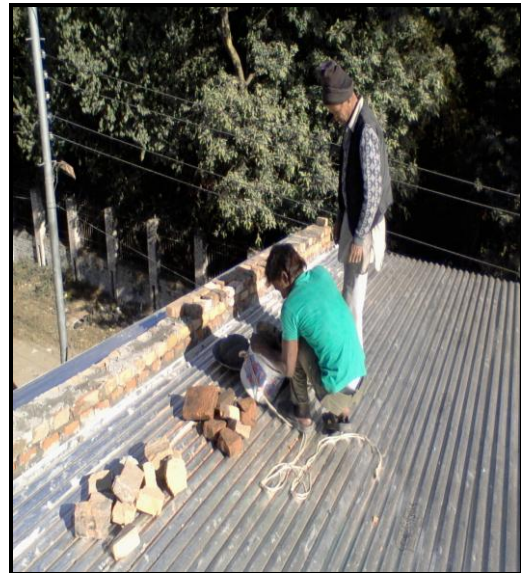
Stage 1 has now been completed and an overall assessment on the quality of workmanship has been undertaken by The Asha Foundation.

PHOTO GALLERY

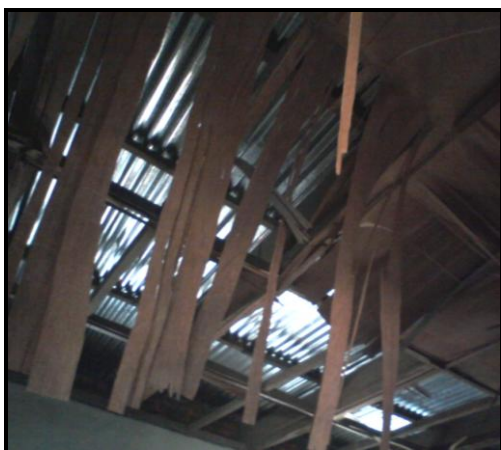
Removal of roof & ceiling



New roofing iron



Old ceiling



New ceiling





PROJECTS FUTURE

Stage 2

Depending on the costing and available funds, this stage will involve the addition of a bathroom and kitchen in one of the rooms which has already been identified as an ideal 1st volunteer room. This room will be painted and broken glass window panes replaced. The entry door will be maintained along with the electrical wiring. The Asha Foundation will provide bedding, curtains & hot water supply from their own funds. It is hoped that this room will be ready for the first intake of volunteers by April 2011. Similar to Stage 1, this stage will involve local workers. In addition, a steel moveable safety door will be constructed to secure the volunteer area overnight. Once this stage is complete, the Bal Mandir management will be able to commence their volunteer program and generate revenue to assist the children's welfare needs.

Stage 3

Once again depending on costings and funding it is hoped a team of RAWCS volunteers can fully complete this project late September 2011. This stage will involve painting of rooms and hallway, establishing a monkey proof vegetable garden enclosure and revitalising the children's playground area.

Pauline Gleeson who is the President of The Asha Foundation and member of the Rotary Club of Moruya will be the RAWCS team leader. Pauline has travelled to Nepal on 3 occasions since 2009 and is very familiar with the Project. Mark McIntyre the Asha Foundation's Nepal Director will also be on hand to help oversee this projects completion. 8 enthusiastic people will be making up the RAWCS volunteer team.

Report compiled by:

Pauline Gleeson – President The Asha Foundation Inc

With assistance from:

Mark McIntryre – Nepal Director – The Asha Foundation

Satish Theengh – The Asha Foundation - Kathmandu

