

Annual Report

2018 - 2019





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FACTS ABOUT NEPAL



Nepal is a small landlocked country sandwiched between China to the north and India to the south. It is one of the poorest countries in Asia with a population of just over 30 million, a life expectancy of 67 years and a literacy rate of 57%. The main religion is Hindu (83%) followed by Buddhist (9%), Muslim (4%), then Christian and others.

The capital is Kathmandu situated in the Kathmandu Valley and home to many UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Nepal is home to 8 of the 10 highest mountains in the world, Mt Everest being the highest. These mountains are a magnet to climbers and adventurers making tourism one of Nepal's main incomes.

Nepal is truly a 3rd world country with a large percentage of the population without direct access to water, electricity and medical services.

PRESIDENTS REPORT



The past twelve months has seen the completion of the new Sai Home on the outskirts of Kathmandu. The home is now under the ownership of our Nepal partner – Dharmik Nepal and the Sai Home committee. After years of paying rent and leases not being renewed, the children and their carers now have a house of their own.

The official opening of the Shree Radha Krishna School, one and half hours drive east of Kathmandu was held in October 2018, with myself, Treasurer Rohan and our eldest son Nicholas in attendance. This is the third school The Asha Foundation has constructed since the devastating earthquake of 2015. When travelling to Nepal, no Asha Foundation funds are used for travel, accommodation, meals etc. We at Asha pride ourselves in allocating all donor and sponsorship funds to our work in Nepal.

Our Asha children continue to do well at school with three of our older children now enrolled in tertiary education degrees. For Asha to be able to financially support their chosen career paths certainly puts weight behind our Mission Statement *“Improving the lives of underprivileged children in Nepal through education”*.

Our sponsorship programme is the backbone of our work in Nepal and I am happy to say that during the past financial year we have gained new sponsors and more importantly retained our loyal sponsors many of whom have been with us since our conception back in 2007.

In closing I would like to say a huge thank you to my hardworking Australian committee, our Nepal Manager Satish Tamang, Nepal President & Cultural Advisor Narayan Shrestha, office assistant Sumali Shrestha and our wonderful sponsors and donors. None of our work in Nepal would be possible without you.

Lastly a huge thank you to David Harvey at Capital Advisory Canberra for his pro-bono audit.

Pauline Gleeson

President

OUR COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION



*“A child without an education, is like a bird
without wings”*

Tibetan proverb

OUR MISSION

**To improve the lives of disadvantaged children in
Nepal through education**

ABOUT US

The Asha Foundation is a not for profit, non-political and non-religious Australian registered charity.

We are dedicated to helping disadvantaged Nepalese children improve their life through quality education and safe environments in which to live.

All our Australian committee members volunteer their time and expertise. Committee members travel to Nepal at their own expense. We pride ourselves on sending 100% of donor funds to Nepal.

OUR VALUES

- Operating with honesty & integrity
- Highest standards of governance, management, financial reporting
- Reporting in accordance to Department of Fair Trading, Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing and the Australian Charities & Not for Profit Commission
- Working alongside local Nepal NGOs so they are continuously improving governance processes
- Fostering social responsibility, equality and independence
- Ensuring female voices are heard
- Helping disadvantaged children and women by creating genuine links between our generous donor community and cost effective programs in Nepal
- Zero tolerance approach to child abuse and child pornography in accordance with our protection policy

THE ASHA TEAM IN AUSTRALIA



President

Pauline Gleeson joined the Asha team in April 2008 after visiting Nepal for the first time with co-founder Mary-Louise Parkinson. Pauline became President in November 2010 and has held that position ever since. She travels to Nepal regularly to visit our staff, Asha children and projects. A Rotarian, Pauline has been awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship for her work in Nepal.



Secretary

Karen Soresen is Asha's secretary and has been part of the team since 2010. Karen has a background in nursing and counselling and is a much valued member.



Treasurer

Rohan Gleeson is Asha's Treasurer and like Karen has held that position since 2010. Rohan has a background in I.T. and accounting. He travels regularly to Nepal with his wife Pauline and along with Satish Tamang maintains the strict budgeting required. Like Pauline, Rohan is a proud Rotarian.



Public Officer

Ken McLeod is our Public Officer and has held that role since 2011. Ken is a retired Air Traffic Control, Search & Rescue Manager and was the Australian delegate to 2 United Nations committees. Ken's knowledge of good governance and transparency is a huge benefit to our organisation.



Sponsorship Coordinator

Bridie Young is our Sponsorship Co-ordinator and joined Asha in 2014. She has a Bachelor of Arts majoring in French and Anthropology as well as a Bachelor of Graphic Design. Bridie has a strong interest in social justice.



Fundraising Co-ordinator

Pat Reid is our Fundraising Co-ordinator and joined Asha after her first visit to Nepal in November 2014. Her role has been a baptism of fire after the devastating earthquakes and Pat has stepped up to the mark with incredible enthusiasm.



Web Developer

Phil Gleeson is Asha's web developer and hosts our website free of charge. Phil has been part of Asha since 2011 and has travelled to Nepal and visited our projects. He was the first member of Asha to travel to our Good Oil Village project and the first westerner to go to the school.

THE NEPAL TEAM



Narayan Shrestha is our Nepal President & Cultural Advisor and has been with Asha since the organisation began in 2007. Narayan gives his time and advice freely and guides us in all aspects of Nepali life. His association with The Asha Foundation is invaluable.



Nepal Manager

Satish Tamang is The Asha Foundation's Nepal Manager and Finance & Project Manager and has been with our organisation since 2010. He is responsible for strict budgeting and financial reporting each month.



Office Assistant

Sarmila Shrestha is the newest member of the Asha Nepal team and is a great asset to both our partner organisation Dharmik Nepal and The Asha Foundation.

OUR PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

Sponsorship



The welfare of our children is of the utmost importance to The Asha Foundation. In 2007 we were supporting 16 children in a small dwelling in the northern area of Kathmandu, today our sponsorship programme supports over 30 children in two children's homes.

All our children receive private school education which is preferable to the government schooling where teaching quality is poor and classrooms overcrowded. We are incredibly proud of the children's achievements, whether it be academic, sporting or community involvement. The carers and management teams at both the Sai Home and CCRC are to be complimented in steering the children in the right direction and preparing them for life outside their home.

We now have 3 older children enrolled in tertiary colleges, two completing a four year degree in Applied Science – Microbiology and another completing a four year degree in Business Management. Prior to 2007 none of these children could imagine they would be able to go to college, but thanks to Asha and our wonderful sponsors and donors, we have made this a reality.

Transparency to our sponsors and donors is of utmost importance and we can proudly say that 100% of sponsorship funds go towards our sponsorship programmes.

Figure 1: CCRC Home girls in Nepal national dress



Senior girls from the CCRC Home in national Nepali dress

Transforming Lives Through Tertiary Education



Bishnu always aimed to have a career in medicine and through his hard work and our sponsorship programme he is now in his 4th year of Applied Science – Microbiology.



Like Bishnu, Sumina is also enrolled in Applied Science – Microbiology.



Kriti is currently enrolled in Bachelor of Business Administration.

It is only due to our wonderful sponsors and donors that these young people can obtain their degrees and a brighter future.

NEW SAI HOME



The construction of the new Sai Home has finally been completed.

Large bedrooms for both the girls and boys, along with carers bedroom and communal room make the main building. To the back of the home are separate male and female toilets and washing area. The kitchen and storeroom are situated in a separate building.

Funding for the construction was provided by The Asha Foundation through our generous donors and supporters.

The home is now under the ownership of our partner organisation Dharmik Nepal and the Sai Home Committee.



View from the New Sai Home towards Kathmandu



President Pauline, Treasurer Rohan, Nepal Manager Satish, Mr Narayan Shrestha, Principal of National United School Mr JB Hamel and Nicholas Gleeson at new Sai Home



New bedding presented to Sai Home managers

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Asha Foundation

Income and Expense Statement for the period ended 30-Jun-2019

2018		2019
	Income	
6707.59	Donations	16865.95
5000.00	Donations - Good Oil Project	
	Earthquake Appeal	
	Earthquake Income	
25397.41	Sponsorships	26632.00
37105.00	<i>Income</i>	43497.95
	Other Income	
1444.25	Interest Received	1361.04
1444.25	<i>Other Income</i>	1361.04
38549.25	Total Income	44858.99
	Less Outgoings	
939.11	Bank Charges	829.80
53934.00	Funds Transferred to Nepal	40700.00
54873.11	<i>Total Outgoings</i>	41529.80
-16323.86	Surplus (Defecit) for the Period	3329.19

Balance Sheet as at 30-Jun-2019

2018		2019
	Assets	
36119.83	ASHA - Bendigo Bank	38570.95
1841.01	DHARMIK - Bendigo Bank	97.01
25.00	Card Account - Bendigo Bank	25.00
30019.18	Safety Net No.1: 134053073	30739.64
27258.84	Safety Net No.3: 139974141	27899.42
0.43	PayPal - Dharmik	240.15
270.28	PayPal - ASHA	1291.59
95534.57	<i>Total Assets</i>	98863.76
	Less Liabilities	
	<i>Total Liabilities</i>	
95534.57	Net Assets	98863.76
	Equity	
111858.43	Retained Earnings	95534.57
-16323.86	Surplus (Defecit) For the Year	3329.19
95534.57	Total Equity	98863.76



CAPITAL ADVISORY

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASHA FOUNDATION INCORPORATED

We have audited the accompanying financial statements, being special purpose financial statements, of The Asha Foundation Incorporated (the Association), which comprise of the balance sheet as at 30 June 2019, the statement of income and expenditure for the year ended on that date and a summary of significant accounting policies.

The Responsibility of the Committee for the Financial Statements

The Committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial statements, are consistent with the reporting requirements of the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 and are appropriate to meet their needs. The Committee is also responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER SUBSECTION 60-40 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS
COMMISSION ACT 2012 TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE ASHA FOUNDATION INCORPORATED**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2019 there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

**Capital Advisory
David Harvey CA
Director**

**CAANZ Membership No. 360587
Canberra ACT**

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Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion:

- a) the financial statements of the Association are prepared in accordance with the Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission Act 2012*, Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Regulation 2013* and the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991*, including:
 - i) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2019 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
 - ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2013*,
- b) we have been given all information, explanation and assistance necessary for the conduct of the audit:
- c) the Association has kept financial records in accordance with the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission Act 2012*, sufficient to enable a financial report to be prepared and audited:
- d) the Association has kept other records as required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission Act 2012*;
- e) Money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted during the year has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991*; and
- f) At the date of this report there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements have been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting requirements under the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission Act 2012*. The financial statements may not be suitable

Capital Advisory
David Harvey CA
Director

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Thank You!

David Harvey - Capital Advisory

Thank you so very much for coming onboard to work with The Asha Foundation. Your contribution will help us to continue providing education and safety to children and young adults in Nepal.



THANK YOU!



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