



Annual Report

2020





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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 certainly been one I am sure our committee will remember for some time. The horrendous bushfires which affected some of our Asha team was followed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Here in Australia our main concern was sponsorship cancellations due to job losses, fortunately to date only two sponsors have cancelled their monthly sponsorships. Our sponsorship programme is the backbone of our work in Nepal and to retain many of our sponsors is extremely pleasing.

All our Asha children apart from one have been safe and well cared for during the pandemic. Sumina Gurung contracted Covid-19 and whilst initial quite unwell, she is now on the road to recovery. Schools in the Kathmandu Valley have been closed due to the pandemic consequently all our children have been home schooled. Unfortunately, Bishnu and Sumina have been unable to complete their final year of Applied Science Degree at this stage owing to tertiary institutions being closed due to the pandemic.

Our Asha children continue to do well at school with five of our older children enrolled in tertiary education courses. 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”*.

The highlight of the year was the birth of a baby girl to our Nepal Manager Satish and his wife Samjhana. Due to the lockdown in Kathmandu, this has been a difficult time for Satish, but he has managed to keep in contact with both Sai and CCRC children and their careers and send regular reports on their welfare.

I would like to acknowledge David at Capital Advisory in Canberra for once again carrying out the Asha Foundation audit at no charge.

In closing I would like to say a huge thank you to my hardworking Australian committee, quite simply Asha would not exist without your support, I am so grateful to you all.

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 has held the position of President since November 2010 with a brief break from that role for six months in 2018. She has travelled to Nepal regularly to visit our staff, Asha children and projects. A Rotarian, Pauline has been awarded the Paul Harris Fellow for her work in Nepal and has also been awarded the National Medal for services to the NSW Rural Fire Service.



Vice President & Sponsorship Coordinator

Bridie Young is our Vice President and Sponsorship Co-ordinator. Having joined Asha in 2014 as our Sponsorship Coordinator she has a solid knowledge of our children and their respective sponsors. Bridie holds 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.



Secretary

Jen Pearson is our Secretary having joined the team in late 2019. Jen has a background in counselling and management specialising in vocational rehabilitation. Jen is an active member of the NSW Rural Fire Service both as secretary and firefighter for her local Bingi Brigade as well as Senior Deputy Captian of the RFS Eurobodalla Catering Brigade.



Treasurer

Rohan Gleeson is Asha's Treasurer and has held that position since 2010. Rohan has a background in I.T. and accounting and is the principle owner of Southern Computer Company and Rainmaker I.T. Cloud Solutions. Rohan travels regularly to Nepal with his wife Pauline and along with Satish Tamang maintains the strict budgetting required for a transparent registered charity. Rohan is a very active Rotarian and Public Officer of the Moruya Business Chamber.



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.



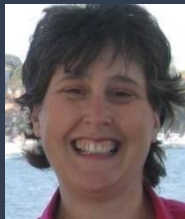
Fundraising Co-ordinator

Pat Reid is our Fundraising Co-ordinator and joined Asha after her first visit to Nepal in November 2014. Pat was the driving force in our Nepal Earthquake fundraising effort, a task she took on with incredible enthusiasm. In 2016 Pat was able to travel back to Nepal to see how our fundraising funds had been used in schools rebuild projects.

Valued Committee Members



Kelly Sullivan joined the Asha team in 2013 and has held the position of Vice President, President and Good Oil Project Co-ordinator. Kelly has travelled to Nepal on a number of occasions and has visited all our projects.



Karen Soresen was Asha's secretary for 9 years and is now taking a well earned break from that position but still an active member of our team. Karen has a background in nursing and counselling and is a much valued member.

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 and keeps in close contact with all our children and their carers.

OUR SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM



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 32 children.

All our children receive private school education which is preferable to the government schools where the teaching quality is not as high, and classrooms are overcrowded.

We now have five of our oldest children enrolled in tertiary colleges, one female and one male in their final year of Bachelor of Applied Science – Biology, one in her final year of Business Administration, one male in his first year of Bachelor of Computer Application and one male in his first year of Bachelor of Business Management. Prior to 2007 none of these children would have believed they would be able to go to college, but thanks to Asha and our wonderful sponsors and donors, we have made this dream a reality.

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

Transforming Lives Through Education



Bishnu 2009

Bishnu always aimed to have a career in the medical field, through his hard work and our sponsorship programme he is now in his final year of Applied Science - Microbiology



Bishnu 2019



Sumina 2009

Sumina like Bishnu always hoped of working in the field of medicine and she is also in her final year of Applied Science – Microbiology



Sumina 2019



Kriti 2009

Kriti is in her final year of Business Administration



Kriti 2019



Cham 2009

Cham is in his first year of a 4 year degree in Computer Application



Cham 2019



Sanam 2009

Sanam has just commenced his 4 year degree in Business Administration



Sanam 2019

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Asha Foundation

Income and Expense Statement for the period ended 30-Jun-2020

2019		2020
	Income	
16865.95	Donations	3499.28
	Earthquake Appeal	
	Earthquake Income	
26632.00	Sponsorships	24240.23
43497.95	Income	27739.51
	Other Income	
1361.04	Interest Received	1348.70
1361.04	Other Income	1348.70
44858.99	Total Income	29088.21
	Less Outgoings	
829.80	Bank Charges	683.74
40700.00	Funds Transferred to Nepal	31910.00
41529.80	Total Outgoings	32593.74
3329.19	Surplus (Defecit) for the Period	-3505.53

Balance Sheet as at 30-Jun-2020

2019		2020
	Assets	
38570.95	ASHA - Bendigo Bank	33805.63
97.01	DHARMIK - Bendigo Bank	516.20
25.00	Card Account - Bendigo Bank	25.00
30739.64	Safety Net No.1: 134053073	31446.65
27899.42	Safety Net No.3: 139974141	28541.11
240.15	PayPal - Dharmik	239.12
1291.59	PayPal - ASHA	784.52
98863.76	Total Assets	95358.23
	Less Liabilities	
	Total Liabilities	
98863.76	Net Assets	95358.23
	Equity	
95534.57	Retained Earnings	98863.76
3329.19	Surplus (Defecit) For the Year	-3505.53
98863.76	Total Equity	95358.23

AUDIT CERTIFICATE



FINANCIAL & BUSINESS ADVISORS

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 2020, 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 2020 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 2020 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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