



The ASHA Foundation

**Annual Report
2011/12**



The Asha Foundation Inc
ABN 19235956280
Registered Charity CFN20547

Children's images are taken in accordance
with our photographic policy

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Our Mission

THE ASHA FOUNDATION is a not-for-profit charitable organisation run in Australia by volunteers dedicated to helping the people of Nepal



Our Vision

Our vision is to help Nepalese people climb out of poverty into a life of sustainable human dignity. We aim to this by providing

- loving, safe homes for our children
- Access to quality education
- Health & dental services
- Sustainable projects

Our Values

- Our organisation is run by volunteers in Australia who are totally committed to our work in Nepal. We are transparent, accountable, non denominational and non political. We are very mindful of gender equity and this is taken into account with all of our programmes and projects.

Helping the people of Nepal



Nepal is amongst the poorest and least developed countries in the world with almost one-third of its population living below the poverty line. There are no government funded programs for unemployment, disability, work injury, medical costs. In extreme cases of hardship, children are abandoned.

President's Report

The past 12 months have certainly had their ups and downs financially and like many organisations we have not been immune to the Global Financial Crisis. Child sponsorships have suffered the most with only 3 new sponsors for the year. Fortunately our strict budgeting and financial reporting has meant that we are able to meet our budgeting requirements each month, thanks for this must go to Mark & Rohan who keep a keen eye on the financial situation.

Our two Children's Homes – Sai Home & CCRC are the back bone of our organisation with all the children benefiting from quality education, dental & medical care and of course the caring environments that our staff provides. School reports from all the children have been excellent and we were thrilled to hear that Sumina from the Sai Home is Vice School Captain of the National United School.

In February we were shocked to hear of the death of Sandesh Rai from the Sai Home who died from the complications of tuberculosis. This has prompted the Asha Committee to put into place a vaccination program for all our children and this program will be in memory of Sandesh.

The Good Oil Project is into its' 2nd year with school attendance increasing, particularly with the girls. Before this project started, Asha along with the village and school council addressed the reasons why girls were more likely to drop out early or not attend at all. Because of the success of this project we believe those issues have now been addressed. Like all our programs we work closely with the stakeholders and we are very aware of cultural differences.

A teacher training program was established between the Special Education & Rehabilitation Centre (SERC) in Kathmandu and The Asha Foundation. The program was based at the Kalidevi Disabled School at Kuntabesi, 3 hours east of the capital.

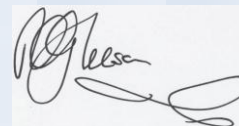
Through our Project Partner, Rotary International we have been able to help over 200 children at the Kalidevi Primary & Disabled School in the village of Kuntabesi. Stage 1 of this project

involved the rendering and painting of all the classrooms and the construction of a new disabled toilet. Stage 2 will provide direct access to water to the Primary & Disabled School and will commence late in 2012.

It was with great pleasure that I led a team of 7 volunteers to Nepal in September to work on this project and showcase The Asha Foundation's work in Nepal.

In September we funded a dental clinic in the village of Kuntabesi east of Kathmandu. This village has no dental services and a very basic medical outpost. This project was hugely successful with over 200 children and adults receiving treatment.

Of course our achievements are only possible because of our hardworking committee here in Australia, our staff in Nepal and the wonderful support we received from our members, sponsors and donors – my sincere thanks to you all.



Pauline Gleeson
President

In Memory of Sandesh Rai



Our Children



Through our sponsorship program over 50 children receive nutritious food, clean water, quality education, medical and dental care

Providing quality education





Manisha's story truly reflects Manisha's story truly reflects our motto of **Providing Hope, Changing Lives.**

This young spina bifida sufferer's life has been transformed from a village girl living in poverty, without a wheelchair and minimal education to the fine young lady we see today. She was identified as extremely intelligent when we first met her and now her school results are testimony to that fact. Her social skills which were lacking are improving constantly thanks to the teachers and therapists at SERC in Kathmandu.



We support 8 children who live with either their mother or relatives in Kathmandu. Life in Nepal for a woman on her own without financial support is very hard. We would rather support a child to live in a family environment than see that child end up in a group home. The support given to these children is similar to that within a group home, such as education, medical and dental assistance. These children are very much thought of as part of the Asha family.



Our Projects

Teacher Training

For a number of years The Asha Foundation has been supporting the Kalidevi Disabled School in the village of Kuntabesi.

In 2011 we provided funding for the training of a teacher at this school along with her assistant. In the past, the teachers have not been qualified to teach the disabled children and it is quite difficult to find a suitable teacher who is willing to stay at the village. We felt the best possible solution to this problem was to improve the qualification of the teacher who works there permanently as one of her children attends the school. This would mean her new teaching skills would stay within the village as she was unlikely to leave.

The objective of the training was to give both these women a clear understanding of the basic concepts and theories of class activities and the outcome of any such activities. The teacher-trainer from Kathmandu, Rinzin, taught hands-on

rehabilitative therapies and basic education techniques all of which the women are now using to improve the educational and social skills of the children. With Rinzin's assistance they were able to write an evaluation and progress analysis report on each of the child. Ambika Dhakal the teacher at the school also had the opportunity to attend some workshops and training conducted by Education Centre in Panauti south east of Kathmandu.

The outcome of this project has been very positive as the female teacher and her assistance now have the skills to teach and handle children with special needs. This in turn has a positive effect on other women in the village as the children are improving their life skills and are now able to communicate at a higher level. Photos on the following page reflect the positive changes within the school.





Good Oil Project

This project is into its' 2nd year and is located at the Shree Bachala Primary School in the remote village of Bhadratar 4 hours north of Kathmandu. It aims to encourage girls to attend school by providing incentives of cooking oil for the family, exercise books and pens to students with attendance greater than 80% on a monthly basis. Although the project is targeting girls living in poverty, all eligible students receive these benefits, making the project more acceptable in the minds of the local community.

In the 1st year we were only targeting grades 1 to 4, because of its success and a request from the school committee, we have decided to include all classes at the school. The budget however has had to remain the same so unfortunately we can no longer supply exercise books and pens, but we are endeavouring to find a donor for those items. Regular school attendance records are provided to our staff in Kathmandu and visits to the school have been organised to see firsthand the impact this project is having on the children, teachers

and the village community.

In October our staff delivered 200 school backpacks which had been funded by generous Asha Foundation donors. Previously the children were carrying their books in plastic bags.

In January this year Asha committee member Phil Gleeson visited the school to meet the Principal, teachers and students and was given a very warm welcome. The Principal thanked the Asha Foundation for the help we have given to his school.

We can now gauge the outcome of this project as being successful based on overall school attendance, positive feedback from the Principal and teachers and the acceptance of this project by the village community. The increase in girls attending is very pleasing as it have been proven that educated girls become educated mothers who are then more likely to send their children to school.





Shree Bachala Primary students



Asha Foundation committee member Phil Gleeson with School Principal



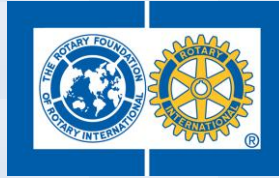
Dental Clinic

In our bid to improve dental health in rural Nepal, a dental clinic was held at the village of Kuntabesi in eastern Nepal. Our Project Partner was Dr Singh and his team of dentists, dental assistants and university students from Kathmandu. Over 200 children and adults received dental treatment, a toothbrush and toothpaste and instruction in dental hygiene.

This was our first dental clinic and it was judged to be successful by the dental professionals, Asha members who were in attendance and of course the villagers.

This project was fully funded by donations from the general public in Australia. It is hoped we can hold another clinic in the near future.





Kuntabesi Project

Funding for this project was provided by The Rotary Foundation and the Rotary clubs of Moruya (Australia) & Dillibazaar (Nepal). The Asha Foundation is helping to project manage the work as we have a close association with the Shree Kalidevi Primary & Disabled Schools in the village of Kuntabesi 3 hours east of Kathmandu.

Stage 1 of this project was completed in April of this year. This stage involved the rendering and painting of the classroom interior walls, constructing a secure play area at the disabled school and the construction of a disabled toilet for the children.

Stage 2 and the final stage will provide direct access to water for both schools via a pumping system from the village water supply. At present children have to walk down a steep slope with buckets to collect the water then walk back up to the school. This is not possible for the disabled children, so precious time is used by the teacher and carer to collect water. Having water via pipes, holding tanks and taps ensures hygiene standards will improve. Stage 2 will commence late in 2012.



School children from Shree Kalidevi Primary School - Kuntabesi

Financial Report

The Asha Foundation

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Income and Expense Statement for the period ended 30-Jun-2012

2011		2012
Income		
7109.00	Donations	3721.05
545.00	Donations - Good Oil Project	4401.00
	Field Trip Income	480.00
1000.00	Fundraising	
	Membership Subscriptions	40.00
36612.50	Sponsorships	30896.00
<u>45266.50</u>	<i>Income</i>	<u>39538.05</u>
Other Income		
4058.15	Interest Received	4577.65
<u>4058.15</u>	<i>Other Income</i>	<u>4577.65</u>
49324.65	Total Income	44115.70
Less Outgoings		
1175.46	Bank Charges	1034.04
102.00	Fund Raising Costs	
43806.00	Funds Transferred to Nepal	49700.00
2000.00	Matching Grants	
10000.00	RAWCS	
266.20	Stationery	
	Subscriptions & Dues	1111.00
<u>57349.66</u>	<i>Total Outgoings</i>	<u>51845.04</u>
-8025.01	Surplus (Defecit) for the Period	-7729.34

Balance Sheet as at 30-Jun-2012

2011		2012
Assets		
1935.05	The ASHA Foundation	9218.10
19010.19	Bendigo Bank Milton General A/c	541.19
2174.97	SAI Building Fund 1380701	2285.13
23335.12	Safety Net No.1: 134053073	24719.34
21659.54	Safety Net No.2: 137563847	23435.37
21220.00	Safety Net No.3: 139974141	22527.44
2389.45	Pay Pal	636.31
370.14	Pay Pal - ASHA	1002.24
<u>92094.46</u>	<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>84365.12</u>
Less Liabilities		
	<i>Total Liabilities</i>	
92094.46	Net Assets	84365.12
Equity		
100119.47	Retained Earnings	92094.46
-8025.01	Surplus (Defecit) For the Year	-7729.34
<u>92094.46</u>	Total Equity	<u>84365.12</u>

Audit Report

Marie McNeil

B Bus (Acc) BA M.Ed FCPA FTIA FNTAA ACIM
CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANT
REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITOR
 ABN: 22 147 227 630

SUMMARISED FINANCIAL REPORT:

THE ASHA FOUNDATION INCORPORATED.

I have audited the financial statements of The Asha Foundation Incorporated in accordance with ACFID's Code of Conduct requirements.

These statements have been prepared on the basis of cash accounting.

The Management of the Association is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements. I have conducted an independent audit of these accounts in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the Association and ACFID. The financial statements have been prepared for distribution to members. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statement so which it relates to any person other than the members, of for any purpose other than that for which it is prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material aspects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with the basis of accounting outlined so as to present a view of the Association which is consistent with my understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations.

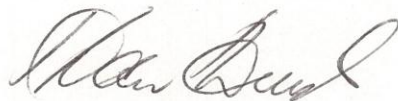
INDEPENDENCE

In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

OPINION

In My opinion, the financial statements present fairly the financial position of The Asha Foundation Incorporated at 30th June, 2011 and its revenues and expenses for the year ended on the basis of accounting outlined.



Marie McNeil
 7th July, 2012

T 02 4471 8881
F 02 4471 5595
E mcneil.accountants@bigpond.com

PO Box 701 Moruya NSW 2537
 73 Coronation Drive Broulee NSW 2537



Liability limited by
 a scheme approved
 under Professional
 Standards Legislation.

Small Business Advisor
 Income Tax, FBT & Capital Gains Tax Consultant



The Asha Team



Pauline Gleeson – President

Pauline joined the committee after visiting Nepal early in 2009 and became President for following year. She has travelled to Nepal 4 times and has established an excellent repour with the Kathmandu staff, carers and children.



Phillip Mewett – Vice President

Phil is Managing Director and Principal of Utopia Consulting Pty Ltd and was previously the Chief Executive Officer of Ocean and Earth Australia. Phil has a strong involvement with Rotary both at a local level as past Treasurer and President of the Rotary Club of Sussex Inlet and presently the District Rotary Foundation Chair.



Mark McIntyre – Nepal Director

Mark is the Co-founder and the Past President. As Nepal Director, Mark co-ordinates our programmes in Nepal. He has trained our staff in Kathmandu in the values of integrity, accountability and ensuring the awareness of gender equality.



Karen Sorensen – Secretary

Karen has a background in nursing and counselling and she has specialised in the cancer, palliative care and bereavement support areas. As a teenager, her parents provided foster care to 50 children and this has instilled in her a dedication to help children.



Rohan Gleeson – Treasurer

Rohan is owner principal of Southern Computer Co and Southern Fibre and like Phil Mewett has a strong connection with Rotary. Rohan is Past President of the Rotary Club of Moruya and is the current District Chair for Rotary Youth Exchange. Rohan has a background in accounting and computer programming.



Ken McLeod - Public Officer

Ken has been a fantastic supporter of The Asha Foundation and was appointed Public Officer in November 2011. Ken is a retired Air Traffic Control and Search & Rescue Manager, and was the Australian delegate to 2 United Nations committees. As a Past President of Moruya Rotary he has a strong sense of community both locally and internationally.



Mel Meeks - Facebook Editor

Mel has been a long time supporter of The Asha Foundation, sponsoring 2 of our beautiful children and promoting awareness of Asha through her company Surya Trading. Mel travels to Nepal twice a year so will have a close connection with the children and our wonderful staff



Phil Gleeson - Website Hosting

Phil joined The Asha Foundation team in 2009 and is responsible for the development of our new website and hosting. The creator of his own media company - Phoenix Media Group, Phil has donated his time and expertise to our website. Phil travelled to Nepal in late 2011 to trek to Everest Base Camp, he also had the opportunity of meeting our wonderful staff and visiting our Asha projects and children's homes.

Our Nepal Staff



Satish, Anu & Yuzeena

Dharmik Nepal - In Country Partner



Narayan Shrestha - President



CONTACT US

The Asha Foundation Inc

PO Box 300 Moruya NSW 2536

president@ashafoundation.org.au

www.ashafoundation.org.au