



"There are two ways of spreading light--to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." ~ Edith Wharton

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UPDATE

Friday, April 13th was New Year's Day in Nepal, the year now 2069. 2068 was a truly remarkable year for [Nepal Orphans Home](#). Our children are growing up and twenty new children have joined the family. One of the touching highlights was the reuniting of sisters after an eight-year separation. At Skylark English Medium School our children continue to receive praise for their wonderful personalities and top academic performances.

Read the full story of the reunion and more news from Papa's House [here](#).

NEWSLETTER

The Gift of Education

After watching the CNN documentary, "[Nepal's Stolen Children](#)," Father John Giuliani was moved by the reality of trafficked children in Nepal. That same night he sought out Michael Hess via email. After an exchange of letters, Father John generously donated to Nepal Orphans Home and encouraged a grant application to the [Amalia and Nicola Giuliani Foundation for Religion and the Arts](#), created in honor of his parents.

In the application, NOH stressed the need to stop the vicious cycle of intergenerational poverty, to instead work towards intergenerational mobility through investments in our children and their education. Many of our children, as rescued Kamlari, come to Papa's House with the disadvantage of being years behind normal grade level, thus extra time, resources, and care are needed to help move them along in their schooling.

The grant proposal was successful and NOH was awarded funds to bring on four after-school tutors to help the children find success with their studies and beyond.



The Chelsea Education Center - An Update

In January, Glenn Detrick, NOH Board Member and fundraising lead for the the [Chelsea Education Center](#), headed to Kathmandu to visit the children and assess the development of the project. The center will offer vocational training as part of a "Sustainable Livelihoods" project and life-skills training. Glenn shares his thoughts on why the center is needed, and his hopes for the change it will bring:

"As our kids gain their primary education they are learning the fundamentals to be contributing members of society. Those who go into the Sustainable Livelihoods program at NOH upon completion of their initial education will develop skills that will allow them to find jobs, and in some cases, start shops/businesses. That's how a third world country begins to drag itself out of poverty. In 1960, the per capita income of South Korea was about the same as Nepal. Now, 50 years later, look at the difference. What happened? Many things, of course, but education and a focus on the development of its people and their skills was a core value for the South Korean people.

There is no greater or more purposeful investment than an investment in people. Economies grow, thrive and ultimately prosper to the extent there is an effective investment in people. We are taking kids who would have been an economic burden on society if left in their former circumstances and creating an environment where not only will they not be a "cost" to society, but they will be able -- based on the education and vocational training they will get -- to be catalysts for productive economic change and the improvement of society."

To learn more about the project or to donate, visit the [Chelsea Education Center](#) page of the NOH website.



Hattisunde - Our New Volunteer Nepal Placement



About five hours from Kathmandu sits a hilltop village named Hattisunde. The locals of this remote area heard about the work [Volunteer Nepal](#) is doing and reached out to us, asking for help with English teaching and teacher training. With that call, VN director Christina Baldarelli, started off to visit the village on a fact-finding trip. Upon arrival, she realized she was the first Westerner to enter the village, ever!

The trip to Hattisunde is a jeep ride around hill after hill, offering brief but stunning views of the Himalayas and a stop at a local fresh juice stand, if the timing is right. The local population is mostly Buddhist and receive little aid from the local government. Christina's description is a place of hospitality and sincerity on a level that she says she has never encountered. Since that trip, the first round of VN volunteers has headed to Hattisunde, returning with the same reports of love, gratitude, and warmth Nepalis are famous for.



Left: The first Volunteer Nepal volunteers Daniela Potzler (middle) and Robin Baker (right) arrive in Hattisunde. Right: Playing games in Hattisunde.

New Staff Joins Volunteer Nepal

Over the past few months we've been lucky to welcome two new staff members to [Volunteer Nepal](#), Hari Shrestha and Yem Kumar Mahato. As Volunteer Coordinators, Hari and Yem ensure each volunteer experience is an exceptional one. They are with our volunteers every step of the way, from greeting them at the airport, to taking

them sightseeing around Kathmandu, and most importantly, providing the cultural and language lessons that prepare our volunteers for the work they will be doing throughout Nepal.



New staff Yem (left) and Hari (right).

Yem is the cousin of brother and sisters, Vinod, Anita, and Sunita Mahato, who have been with NOH/VN from almost the beginning, and shares the same Mahato heart and spirit. He hails from the Terai region of Nepal and recently finished class ten before starting with Volunteer Nepal. Yem will be living at the Volunteer House as our new House Manager and is often described as kind, honest, and full of a desire to please.

Hari has lived in the Dhapasi neighborhood his entire life, just a few steps away from the Volunteer House and NOH homes. Prior to joining us, Hari served as a computer tech in the Nepali Army. Just weeks after starting at Volunteer Nepal, Hari was already taking trips to remote districts to research new placements, leading volunteers on day hikes in the mountains surrounding Kathmandu, and accompanying them to placements all around the country.

THANK YOU!



When Bob Linscott returned to Boston after his trip to Nepal last summer he was eager to start a fundraising campaign for NOH. Bob noticed the condition of the book bags the kids were using -- many of them were hanging together by a few threads. He shared his excitement about this project with his friend John Hogan, who then reached out to two other friends, Deb Utter and Maureen Khung. Using their extended network, the team put out the call for help. A colleague of Deb's reported back that Samsonite had agreed to donate 125 backpacks, one for each child of NOH!

Bob returned to NOH in December, carrying all 125 Samsonite backpacks for the kids to open on Christmas morning. Click [here](#) for even more photos of Christmas at Papa's House.



The children opening their Samsonite bags on Christmas morning.



Laura and Zed

We want to say congratulations to our dear friends Zed and Laura, who were recently married in Los Angeles and brought a little of NOH to California that day. Following the ceremony, friends and family sat down to dinner. Zed and Laura placed a bookmark (an example of which is below) at each setting introducing our children to their guests, and provided a donation to NOH in honor of each in attendance.



Sapana

In honor of your presence at our wedding,
we have made a modest donation to Nepal Orphan's House
www.nepalorphanshome.org



We are humbled and filled with gratitude to be part of their day. Thank you Zed and Laura and we wish you love and joy in your marriage.

Long-time NOH supporter Tamara Saltzman returned to Nepal in December full of love for the children she has grown to know so well, and a little something more for

the house in which many of them reside in. Tamara presented Michael with a jumbo-size Nepal Orphans Home banner. With banner in hand, Michael, 'a bit like Santa and in the wink of an eye' climbed to the ledge of the third story of the house to begin nailing it up. With hundreds of eyes looking on from below, there were shouts of "higher," "lower," "No, Papa, the other way!" and the like, till the banner was finally straight and Michael safely down from the ledge.

Now, Nepal Orphans Home is proudly and properly represented to all who pass by. Thank you, Tamara!



The Craigslea children on 'mismatched' day.

The students of Craigslea State School in Australia, like many children, wear a standard uniform to school every day. Once a term, however, they have the opportunity to wear whatever they like, for a gold coin and a good cause.

Kathy Kirk, a friend of NOH, spoke to the students about Nepal Orphans Home. The children, age 4-12, then chose NOH as the recipient of the most recent Gold Coin Day. In exchange for a gold coin (approximately \$1), each student, as part of the 'mismatched' day theme, wore multiple layers, different shoes, shorts and dresses.

The 680 students raised \$646.55AUD for their fellow students across the sea at [Nepal Orphans Home](http://www.nepalorphanshome.org).

Kathy Kirk seems to work tirelessly as an advocate for NOH. In addition to introducing Craigslea State School to NOH, she did the same when she

asked Veronika Stephenson and her mom, Elisabeth, to help provide some knitted goods for the children.

Veronika and Elisabeth have been knitting away, creating socks for the cold winter months. They recently sent 70 pairs to the children and are continuing to knit more to ensure that each child has a new pair before the cold hits again this winter.



The children modeling the generous donations of Veronika (left) and her mother, Elisabeth (right).

DONATE

Nepal Orphans Home receives no government support and relies on the contributions of individuals sharing our mission to provide for the welfare of children in Nepal who are rescued from slavery, orphaned, abandoned, or otherwise not supported by their parents.

Please help support our amazing kids by [making a donation](#) in any amount at [our website](#). A [wish list](#) is available for those who would like to make contributions for specific purposes. Alternatively, various gift packages and descriptions of current projects are available at [Universal Giving](#).

If you would like to make a stock donation, please contact Barbara Hess, Treasurer of NOH, Inc., at bhessnc@aol.com to obtain the routing number for our account.

Contribute just by conducting internet searches using the Goodsearch search engine at www.goodsearch.com and designating Nepal Orphans Home as the recipient of the funds raised by your searches. Goodsearch can also be used for online shopping, through which leading companies donate a portion of the sales to Papa's House.