



*"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."
-- Mahatma Gandhi*

Editor: Jen Kim

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PAPA'S UPDATE



I have not yet adjusted to saying 2015. It seems like a pretty big number when I reflect back over my life as a teenager growing up in Maine during the 60's – which doesn't seem so long ago. As youth – we look to the future, as we age – we remember the past and in our middle years – we become a bit wall-eyed. Memories to the mind are like distances to the crow; they are short flights.

[Read Papa's full update here.](#)

NEWSLETTER

FEATURED VOLUNTEER STORY: A FAMILY TRIP TO REMEMBER

By Fuchsia De Lange



As I sit in the departure lounge about to leave Nepal, I am struck with a wave of emotion. My boys Ridley, 11, and Noah, 9, and I have spent the last 17 days in Nepal. The emotion is a mixture of connection, love, pride and completion.

Since I first visited Nepal Orphans Home two years ago, I have wanted to bring my boys. It has been an amazing opportunity for them to increase their understanding of benevolence, social consciousness, humanitarianism as well as a chance to step out of their comfort zone –

expanding their minds through this rich experience and discovering wanderlust for the road less travelled.

Our experiences have been priceless and we have been supported every step of the way by the professional, caring and supportive team at Nepal Orphans Home and Volunteer Nepal. They graciously organized transfers, accommodations, meals, activities and sightseeing trips for us, so

that we could fully enjoy spending time with the children, experiencing Nepalese traditions, feeding the homeless in Durbar Square (through Curry Without Worry) and travel to Chitwan and Pokhara to go on safari and paraglide!

The children of Nepal Orphans Home make an imprint on your heart forever. As we said our goodbyes yesterday I tried to do so as quickly and with as little fanfare as possible so it would feel more like a see you tomorrow than a goodbye.

As we left, Baby Hope gave her last piece of Nutella bread crust to Ridley and blew us kisses. I knew then that it wouldn't be goodbye forever.

I would recommend this experience to anyone – with or without children. You don't need anything to volunteer but a space in your heart for the children and a readiness for personal growth and development.

ONE BILLION RISING

By Anne McCadden



Nepal Orphans Home hosted the One Billion Rising event on April 18 at the Skylark School in Dhapasi, Kathmandu. As part of the international protest campaign inspired by activist and playwright Eve Ensler, the goal of One Million Rising is to bring attention to the global issue of violence against women and girls.

Based on the estimate that one in three women (one billion worldwide) will be a victim of domestic abuse in her lifetime, One Billion Rising launched on Valentine's Day 2012.

In the last three years, women and men from over 200 countries have held mass dance actions to increase awareness and call for action.

In collaboration with Skylark School, local NGOs and other human rights organizations, the NOH

children spent days making posters, practicing and preparing speeches for the occasion. The event culminated with a dance to an inspiring song called "Break the Chain" to demand justice and gender equality.

About 250 people attended this joyful and uplifting event. Big thank you to Cici, Anne, Liz, Judy, Meghan and Kelly who helped put this on.

[Check out more photos on our Facebook Page here.](#)



SWEET DREAMS CAMPAIGN

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of Nepal Orphans Home, volunteers Alecia and former house manager Vinod Mahato are raising funds for new beds for all the children.

The children at NOH never ask for anything – so in addition to making their lives more comfortable, this special surprise will bring bright smiles to their faces!

Each bed and a western-style mattress costs **9000 NPR (\$90 USD)**. The cost of new beds for an entire house is around **\$3000 USD**. Their goal is to raise enough to purchase beds for all of the houses at Nepal Orphans Home for a total of about **\$13,000 USD**.

To donate and learn more, [visit their fundraising campaign here](#). Or to donate via our website, [click here](#).



CONGRATULATIONS, VINOD!



In other good news, we are thrilled to announce Vinod Mahato has been accepted to North Carolina State University!

Vinod first came to Nepal Orphans Home upon completing grade 10 in Nepal. He credits Michael and the NOH community for giving him "love and support which completely changed his life." He now hopes to use his higher education to fulfill his dream of giving back and supporting NOH.

Pictured in the photo on the right are: Vinod, his wife Alecia, Sarah Rhodes (another former VN volunteer) and her husband Youlha, a Tibetan doctor she met at Bigu. Both couples reside in North Carolina.

Vinod and Alecia will be visiting Nepal this summer. We look forward to their return!

MEET THE STAFF OF VOLUNTEER NEPAL

By Emma McDonald



Meet the faces of Volunteer Nepal. We are delighted to be working with this team of hardworking, passionate women. Another member of our staff, Kalpana – also known as KP– is not pictured.

- Eileen - Director
- Sunita - Volunteer Manager
- Enjila - Volunteer Coordinator
- Griscma - Volunteer Coordinator
- Anjana - Volunteer Coordinator
- Kalpana - Volunteer House Manager

[Click here to learn more about our staff.](#)

MOVING DAY!

Earlier this month, the Nepal Orphans Home children and current volunteers teamed up for a big move. Like an army of ants, they thoroughly cleaned the old Volunteer House and carried everything over to the new house next to Ganesh Mandir temple.

The new location offers the best exposure to Nepali culture. It is the site for sacrifices on special occasions and early morning (gentle) bells ringing prayers to heaven.



Our new Volunteer House! (above)

Check out the rest of our housing updates:



Welcome to the new Sanctuary House.



The college boys are staying in the ground floor flat of this home.



Anita's Imagine House



The Chelsea Education Center Building (the new Sanctuary House is on left).

[Check out more photos on our Facebook Page here.](#)

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 wish to make contributions for specific purposes. Alternatively, various gift packages and descriptions of current projects are available at [Universal Giving](#) when you type in "Nepal Orphans Home" in the "Search by" box.

If you would like to make a donation of stock shares, please contact Barbara Hess, Treasurer of NOH, Inc., at bhessnc@aol.com for instructions.

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.

CHECKS

Checks, payable to Nepal Orphans Home, can be mailed to Nepal Orphans Home, P.O. Box 1254, Davidson, N.C. 28036. Of course, credit card donations are welcome and can be made through our website. www.NepalOrphansHome.org

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