

असल छिमेकी नेपाल Asal Chhimekee Nepal

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ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20 वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन २०७६/०७७



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LETTER FROM CHAIRPERSON

Asal Chhimekee Nepal (ACN) is an organization established in 2003 in the Kaski district administration office as a social initiative of Pokhara Christian Community (PCC). ACN has taken responsibility to serve people from poor and marginalized communities by utilizing its resources and opportunities. Social improvement is necessary for country development. In order to eradicate caste-based discrimination, superstitions, corruption, and human trafficking, the active role of non-government organizations is necessary.



ACN has implemented community empowerment and livelihood, health awareness, child protection, and Nawajeewan (treatment and rehabilitation center for female drug and alcohol users) programs in Kaski and Nawalparasi districts. ACN has constructed a community health unit, disability-friendly rehabilitation and training center and is also running an education enhancement program in Gorkha district. ACN has reached out to flood-affected families in Bara, Parsa, and Rautahat districts in Southern Nepal with relief packages. In addition, during the COVID-19 pandemic, ACN has reached out to severely affected families with essential food supplies during the period of COVID-19 lockdown (daily wage earners, single women, elderly families and people living with disabilities).

We have arrived at this point due to the continuous support from the government, non-government and funding partners, prayers of church groups, volunteers, and the dedication of the staff team. I am grateful to all of them. Finally, on the occasion of the 18th ACN general assembly, with appreciation, I would like to thank the assembly general members, executive committee members and advisors, stakeholders, Social Welfare Council, government, funding partners, PCC, supporting organizations, executive director and all staff team. And express hope for continued support in the days to come.

Mr. Bharat Bahadur Gurung Chairperson, ACN

LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am glad to present the Annual Report for the Fiscal Year 2076/77 (2019/20). I believe that this report will be able to give a brief account of major activities carried out during the year with the positive transformation of beneficiaries, we served.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected people all around the world and Nepal was no exception. The COVID-19 outbreak and continuous extending lockdowns to prevent the spread of COVID-19 badly affected the daily lives of people in Nepal. Our target groups were among those severely affected and the struggle to survive became a major priority for them. ACN, as the team and organization has also been affected by the pandemic in many areas.

ACN is very grateful to all supporters who have been praying for us, our work and encouraging us in many different ways. Despite the challenges due to the global pandemic that our supporters face, they continue to support us with funds and further they are working hard to raise more funds and help us to be able to serve more people/communities in needs. With good leadership, support from government and non-government stakeholders, hardworking and devoted staff team and praying and supporting partners, we are able to support thousands of families in need and help them sustain the pandemic. Thank you all. With your continued encouragement and commitment, I believe ACN can achieve its vision of serving poor and marginalized individuals and communities for their transformation. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, monsoon-related floods and landslides, I would appeal you to join hands to make a difference in the lives of people living in the desperate need for help. Let's be united in helping the helpless, being voice for the voiceless, justice for the oppressed, hope for the poor, from wherever we are and whatever we can do, let us do it. I would like to also request everyone to be aware and careful in the midst of COVID-19 and be a responsible citizen.

Praise God for His love and faithfulness.

Mr. Rajendra Kumar Adhikari (Raju) Executive Director, ACN



INTRODUCTION

In 2003, Pokhara Christian Community established a non-government organization called 'Asal Chhimkee Nepal' to systematically carry out its social work. Since then, ACN has been working in community transformation after obtaining registration in Kaski district and affiliation with the Social Welfare Council (SWC) of Nepal. For the last eighteen years, ACN has worked towards bringing positive transformation in poor and marginalized communities with maximum utilization of resources received from various donor agencies and individuals. ACN aims to contribute towards the goal of ending poverty in all its forms by adopting sustainable goals. ACN implements various programs including community empowerment and livelihood, adult literacy, inclusive and equitable quality education, child protection, health awareness and promotion, Nawajeewan treatment and rehabilitation, and disaster response programs in Kaski, Nawalparasi, Gorkha, Bara, Parsa, and Rautahat districts. In addition, ACN always stands by for disaster relief work, and ACN has supported the most affected families (daily wage labor, elderly, single women, and people living with disabilities) during the COVID-19 lockdown through the distribution of basic food supplies in coordination with the local government authorities.

VISION

A transformed society where people enjoy fullness of life in harmony with God, each other and creation.

MISSION

To demonstrate God's love by serving and empowering communities through a holistic and participatory approach, in order to improve livelihoods, health and equality for poor and marginalized people mainly in western Nepal.

VALUES



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BOARD MEMBER

Chairman	: Mr. Bharat Bahadur Gurung
Vice chairma	an : Mr. Muktinath Dhakal
Secretary	: Mr. Prakash Gharti
Treasure	: Mr. Purna Lal Kayestha
Member	: Mrs. Bishnu Kumari Gurung
Member	: Mrs. Bindu Ranabhat Rai
Member	: Mrs. Durga Gurung
Member	: Mrs. Rachel Kumari Ghimire Bhatt
Member	: Mr. Nar Bahadur Pariyar
Member	: Ram Kumar Shrestha
Member	: Mr. Min Bahadur Gurung

Advisors

Dr. Deependra Kumar Gautam Mr. Ram Bahadur Rokaha Mr. K.P. Tripathi Mr. Ved Bahadur Tamang Mr. Hari Ram Ghimire

Invited

Mr. Ram Prasad Sharma (Disaster Risk Reduction Coordinator) Mrs. Pramila Tamang (Representative from beneficiaries)

Functional Structure



MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

35 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and **7** Child Clubs are running well.

19 women are involved income generation activities by mobilizing revolving fund.

585 were aware of anti-human trafficking.

301 women participated in Adult literacy classes.

46 youth received vocational skill training (beautician, commercial cooking, electrician and tailoring).

13 female drug and alcohol user rehabilitated in their family and society after treatment in Nawajeewan.

420 women and children benefited from free-health camp in Nawalparasi.

690 people participated in Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management training.

2,050 households received essential food supplies and hand washing soap in COVID-19 lockdown.

Gorkha district

1,170 people (70 households) benefited from the construction of Benigaun Community health unit.

6,269 people with disabilities (PWDs) benefited from the construction of Disability-friendly Rehabilitation and Training Center building.

2000 face mask and 2000 pair disposable gloves provided to Siranchowk Rural Municipality.

Bara, Parsa and Rautahat districts

1,155 Flood affected families received relief supplies.

81 people participated in Disaster Risk Reduction training.

42 Hand pumps for drinking water installed.

700 pregnant women and new mothers received personal hygiene kits and nutrition supplement packages.

4 health posts received essential medicines, instruments and furniture.

17 health posts personnel received training on infection control and waste management.

GOOD GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

ACN has been following these processes for good governance.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ACN's executive committee conducted four meetings, one in each quarter of the 2076/77 fiscal year. To facilitate prompt implementation of decisions, ACN has two teams with a representative member of the executive committee – implementing team (IT) and support team (ST). To run the organization smoothly, both teams conducted 36 meetings this year. Later, all the decisions taken by the IT and ST were approved by the executive committee. Monitoring and evaluation of programs through periodic field visits and interaction with beneficiaries and stakeholders to know the effectiveness of programs and employee performance evaluation has been done in the various stages.

SOCIAL AUDIT

According to the NGO mobilization policy, Social Audit is a vital part of good governance which was continued this year. ACN's sixth social audit was conducted on 22 Nov 2019 in the presence of concerned stakeholders with Mrs. Bina Silwal, chairman of NGO federation of Gandaki as the Chief Guest of the program. The whole social audit process and program was facilitated by Dr. Kamal Phuyal. He presented his findings of the program after field visits of working areas, interaction with beneficiaries, stakeholders, executive committee and staff, and review of organization policies and documents. He prepared the Social Audit 2019 report with feedback and suggestions received during the social audit program. Government authorities, local representatives, beneficiaries, and others associated with the organization attended the program from Kaski, Gorkha, Nawalparasi and Rautahat districts.

Promotion of Peaceful and Inclusive Society

Working Area : Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group : Marginalized communities, women and children

The program has been able to support communities to promote a peaceful and inclusive society through reducing community social problems by empowering disadvantaged groups (caste, class, gender) in the community. The program works through the mobilization of SHGs and child clubs. In this program, currently 41 SHGs are running. Among these groups, 36 women are involved in income generation activities by mobilizing revolving fund. Seven child clubs are running their weekly program regularly.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nepal government announced nation-wide lockdowns to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Most of the activities of this program involve large groups which were not allowed to meet during lockdown. So we were unable to conduct all the activities of this program throughout the whole year and meet all the original targets due to the lockdown restrictions. Although we could not carry out our planned activities during the COVID-19 lockdown, we were in regular contact with our beneficiaries, trying to support them according to their situation and need.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Kaski		
Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) awareness program	800 people	585 people
Child protection committee formation	25 members	15 members
Training for child protection committee	120 people	40 people
Interaction program on AHT	75	Not done
Leadership development and manage- ' ment training	250	232
Skill training for women	80	99
Small business management training	100	83
Self-Help Group/ Child Club involvement in community work	4 events	4 events
Nawalparasi		
Leadership development and manage- ment training	375	346
Skill training for women	100	135
Small business management training	80	38

WITNESSING AND LIVING THE CHANGE

Sabita Pariyar (24) lives in Kaskikot, Pokhara with her husband, two daughters, and in-laws. Her family's main income source is farming. She shared about the changes she witnessed in her community after ACN became involved.

ACN came to our community and formed a Self-Help Group (SHG). I became a member of the group. After joining the SHG, we learned to differentiate income and expenditure and how to save money. Before, some families did not send their children to school, but now all children are going to school. Other community people are surprised when they see our group members doing income generation activities and speaking confidently in front of other people after attending various trainings from ACN. We received personal hygiene and first aid training from ACN. Because of that, I was able to provide immediate first aid treatment to another group member who sprained her hand.

Now, all group members understand the benefits of small family business and so most of the group members are running a small business. We have 21 members in our group. We save 50 Nepalese rupees per month. Due to saving in our group, we don't need to apply for loans from other lenders whenever we need money. We use our savings to support people in need, for medical treatment and to pay children's school fees. Due to saving, we can manage investment for small business too.



This year, according group request, ACN arranged a poultry farming training. ACN also supported by providing two chickens after the completion of the training. After attending the training, my chicken farming become very good. I sold those two chickens for two thousand, four hundred Nepalese Rupees and then I bought 10 small baby chicks and one basket for chicks. After this, I have understood that if we do chicken farming properly (as we learned from the training) we can get lots of benefits. I would like to express my gratitude to ACN for coming to our village, forming a SHG and providing various trainings to enable us to learn and grow.

A CLUB MEMBER NOW A FACILITATOR

Sunita Chhetri (19) lives with her parents who work as daily wage laborers. They moved to Masinabagar, Pokhara (a slum area) when Sunita was 13, hoping to find enough work to provide for their family. Sunita was an outgoing friendly girl and soon made friends. Her new friends introduced her to a children's club called Namuna, which ACN had formed in the area where they lived.

Sunita flourished at the club, she loved taking part in the activities, particularly the singing and dancing, and she was always ready to help other people. After seeing her involvement in the club, the club facilitator gave her the chance to participate in a street drama. She acted very well in the drama and helped to organize that event. Other people at the club and from her community began to appreciate her. This motivated her further and eventually, she became a chairperson of the club. She assisted in running the children's club as a chairperson for two years.



While she was the group Chairperson, she used to say that later she would like to work as a facilitator of the club among children and help them become aware of child issues and rights. She enjoyed working among children so much that she kept coming to the club and encouraging younger children even after she graduated from the club at 18 years old. By seeing her interest and ability, ACN selected her as a club facilitator of the same club when she applied for the post.

It has been a year now that she is working as ACN's Children's Club facilitator. Sunita is a champion for the younger children; teaching them about child protection issues, trafficking, and child rights and encouraging them to stay safe and be careful. She has become a role model in her community and has made her mother proud.

INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION

Working Area: Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group: Marginalized communities, women and youth

Inclusive and equitable quality education program aims to increase employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for young people and adults by providing technical and business skill training to them, and providing literacy and numerical knowledge and skill to adults so that they can have quality lives. Due to the long nation-wide COVID-19 lockdown, ongoing tailoring training in Nawalparasi district and adult literacy classes of Kaski and Nawalparasi districts had to be postponed.

ACTIVITY	KASKI		NAWALPARASI	
	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Adult literacy: Facilitator training	10 People	10 People	30 People	12 People
Adult literacy class	80 People (4 Classes)	61 People (2 Classes)	240 People (12 Classes)	240 People (12 Classes)
Vocational Skill training for Youth (com- mercial cooking, tailoring, beautician, electrician)	15 people	16 people	30 People	30 People

* Due to the COVID-19 lockdown, Adult literacy classes are not completed.

POWER OF SKILL TRAINING

My name is Dhanmaya Gurung. I live in Masinabagar -25 Pokhara. There are four members in my family including my husband and two daughters. My husband works in Malaysia and I am a home maker.

I heard about a six-month beautician training opportunity from ACN for SHGs women. I applied for the training because I always wanted to learn some useful skills in my life. I was happy to be selected for the training.

Before, I didn't know anything about beauty parlor work. Due to English beautician terminologies like pedicures, manicures and English instrument names, I felt it difficult to learn at the beginning of the training. I had problems to understand and pronounce the words. I had to use the items daily during the training, so it was difficult for me in my early days of training. I was scared thinking 'what if I could not learn?' But my trainers tried hard to help me to learn. My other friends who were learning with me motivated me to learn. ACN's staff also motivated me and encouraged me to do better in the training. While doing the training I learned other daily practical things.

After completing six-month beautician training, I became confident that I can do something for my children. I thought to do something to show my neighbors also, so immediately after the training I worked as a volunteer in Gurung Beauty parlor in Bagar, Pokhara. Then I started to work in a parlor of my neighbor's sister and recently I bought that parlor. Now I have my own beauty parlor.

Now I believe in myself that I can work outside of the house too. I would like to express my gratitude to ACN for providing the vocational skill training, an opportunity for self-independence and most importantly for ACN's helping hand to uplift my life.



BEING ABLE TO READ AND WRITE, AGAIN!

My name is Rajkumari Tamang, 43 and I live in Shantitole -1 Pokhara. I am a homemaker.

ACN organized Continue Literacy (Adult literacy) Classes in our area in coordination with the 'Himnadi' SHG and I joined the class. I had a very strong desire to be able to read and write. I had done my studies in school up to grade five. But I did not continue with my studies, so I had forgotten everything. After completing two months of the literacy classes, I can again recognize Nepali and English alphabets and numbers. Now I can read and write sentences. Before, I had to request to my daughter to dial the phone number for me but now I can find names from the contact list and make phone calls on my own. I am able to write letters and send messages on the mobile phone. Before, I had to request others to note contact number and write SMS messages for me. I was able to achieve 3rd position in the exam after completing two months of literacy classes and received a certificate which made my husband and daughter very happy. Now my other friends who did not join the class, are regretting not joining the classes and want to join class if it is conducted again. I am also a treasurer of my tole development organization. Previously, I faced difficulties to fulfill my duties as a treasurer without being able to read and write and without basic mathematic knowledge. Now I can do this well which makes me more confident.

I feel that I have received light in the darkness. Now I can write SMS immediately in any emergency and share information. I ignored my age and joined the literacy class which helped me to read and write again. I have understood the importance of education and so I encourage others to do the same.



Health

Working Area: Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group: Marginalized communities and women

To promote a healthy life, based on community and self-help groups (SHGs) needs and requests, ACN conducts various health awareness programs (especially women-focused), sanitation and hygiene awareness, safe drinking water, toilet use, treatment/rehabilitation program for female drug and alcohol users and various awareness programs to prevent drug abuse. Due to the COVID-19 lockdown, group activities planned for the time during lockdown have been postponed until after the lockdown.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Kaski		
Health awareness : safe motherhood (nutrition and birth preparedness)	300 People	271 People
Awareness on National Health Insurance	250 People	91 People
Nawalparasi		
Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Camp	350 People (1 event)	420 People (1 event)

Birth Preparedness class brought a big change in my life

My name is Durga Bhujel. I am 29 years old. I live with my two daughters in a rented house in Simpani, Pokhara. My husband works in the Police force in Dumre, a town around 3 hours away by road. When I was 15 years old, I got married and I got pregnant but I had no knowledge about pregnancy care so I struggled a lot with my first pregnancy. I did not know how to provide care to a baby and myself during pregnancy and after pregnancy.

A few months ago, ACN organized a birth preparedness class with Him Nadi Samuha (SHG) in our place. When I heard about birth preparedness I wished to participate because at that time I was pregnant again. I participated in the program and the program's learning helped me a lot.

After that I did everything according what I learnt during the training. I started saving money for my delivery, I arranged food supplies like rice, pulses, ghee, jwano (thyme seed which is used for soup for lactating mother in Nepali culture and rich in calcium), methi (fenugreek seed) and started to eat more nutritious food with green vegetables and fruits. I prepared some clothing for the baby and for myself in a bag for the delivery day. I kept my hospital (antenatal) cards and details in a place which was accessible for everyone, so that it would be handy in case of emergency. I made a plan for the hospital for my delivery. I prepared a list of vehicles and ambulance contact numbers according to my need. It was a well- organized plan in comparison to my first pregnancy. Because of the preparation this time, we had no difficulties and no confusion.



Now, I know how to take care of my baby and I am sharing my learning among friends in my neighborhood. ACN's birth preparedness program has brought a big change in my family life. This training learning has helped me to understand not only about birth preparedness but also helped me to understand how we can be ready for any health emergency problem in the family. I am very grateful to ACN.

NAWAJEEWAN TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR FEMALE DRUG AND ALCOHOL USERS

Working Area : Kaski District (For all Nepali women)

Target Group : Female drug and alcohol users and their families, communities and schools

Nawajeewan treatment and rehabilitation program is for female drug and alcohol users. Since 2003 Nawajeewan has been working among female drug and alcohol users. Women can come to our residential center from any district of Nepal. So far, 186 female drug and alcohol users have been admitted and 121 clients have overcome their addiction and been rehabilitated in their families and communities. After treatment, the confidence and capacity of most clients increases and their interpersonal relationships improve, so clients are able to successfully resume their life, education and work. Many have succeeded to live an exemplary life in their community. Communities, families, and various mothers groups have understood the causes of drug and alcohol addiction and the importance of support and counseling. Now, families and communities are more aware about reducing long-term effects of drug and alcohol addiction on their family members for their better future.

Due to the COVID-19 lockdown, teenagers and children are more at risk of drug and alcohol abuse. In this situation too, Nawajeewan program has been helping to reduce risk by running online awareness programs and telephone counseling.

ACTIVITY	ACHIEV	ACTIVITY	ACHIEVE	
RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMME		OUTREACH PROGRAMME		
Client admission	17	Total new and old clients met during outreach	230	
Client completed three months of treatment	15	Counseling and monitoring of clients during outreach	90	
Client completed six months to one year of treatment	12	Family meeting , counseling and get-together	172	
Rehabilitated client	13	Client get-together program	47	
Free service receiver of client	8	Teenagers drug and alcohol abuse awareness program	464	
Client observation visit	4 events	Drug and alcohol abuse awareness program among mothers groups, children clubs and NGO women	145	
Employment for rehabilitation client	6	Interaction program on drug and alcohol abuse among women	108	
Literacy class for client and education support for client	7	Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meeting for client	4 times	
Client health check-up	474 times	Brochures distribution/ Advertise- ment of Nawajeewan programme	2000	
Psychosocial counselling	453 times	Nawalparasi district		
Handicraft and skill training session	241 times	Outreach meeting and counseling	82	
Education class	196 times	Awareness program on drug and alcohol abuse among teenagers and women	314	
Education support to client children	3	Family meetings	34	

FROM STREET LIFE TO NEW LIFE

18 year old Bimala Khadka (name changed) lived in Pokhara, Kaski district with her father and brother. She was born into a very poor family. Her father used to take care of his family by doing house painting work. When she was 10 years old, her mother died due to asthma and alcohol drinking habits. Her father also drinks alcohol which she used to hate.

When Bimala was 12, she loved to go to school and play with her friends, so one night she stayed at her friend's house. When she returned home her father was upset with her and threw her out from the house, saying that she was in bad company. She stayed with her friends for a few days, but when no one came to collect her and her father and brother didn't want her, she started to live on the street. She used to live either in a hotel or under a bridge in the street.

While living on the street she collected plastics, begged, did dishwashing, and sometimes even stole things to eat. In this way, while living on the street she learned smoking, drinking alcohol, and taking narcotic drugs (cannabis, dendroid, etc.). After five years of living in the street, she met Himalaya Life's staff who helped her to admit into the Nawajeewan treatment and rehabilitation center for female drug and alcohol users in Pokhara.

Bimala completed one year of treatment and was discharged from the Nawajeewan centre.

She shared about her victory over addiction during a client get together. "I had no one to teach me and love me when I was very young. There was scarcity at home when I was in my parents' home. Both my parents used to drink alcohol. Nobody used to treat me well. When I was living on the street nobody came in search of me or helped me. While living on the street, many bad things happened to me. People used to scold me for every bad thing that happened, whether I had done it or not. I was totally lost in addiction. I was in a condition that I could not live without smoking and drinking alcohol. When I came to Nawajeewan I initially had difficulties to stay without smoking and drinking. I tried to run away several times and I did that too, but Nawajeewan staff always came after me and found me. Then I stopped running from Nawajeewan because I understood that they cared, they would come after me and find me. Because of that kind of love and care I was able to defeat my addiction habits. After completing treatment in Nawajeewan I got married and now I am mother of a daughter. I will raise my daughter very well. Now I am planning to take tailoring training and will do something for my own income purpose. It's now been two years that I am living free from addiction. I am very grateful to Nawajeewan for helping me to defeat the addiction in my life."



SUPPORT IN FORMATION OF SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Working Area: Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group: Marginalized communities and women

Nepal is vulnerable to both climatic and non-climatic types of hazards. The major aim of the program is to create awareness and enable communities for disaster risk reduction and disaster management through various trainings for safe and sustainable communities. This year by targeting the vulnerable communities, ACN has provided basic disaster risk reduction, disaster management and search and rescue training to communities in coordination with Nepal Red Cross and Nepal Armed forces.

Basic disaster risk reduction training in Kaski	272 People
Basic disaster risk reduction training in Nawalparasi	418 People





RELIEF SUPPORT TO FLOOD AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

Working Area: Bara, Parsa and Rautahat districts

Target Group: Flood affected communities

Nepal experienced heavy rainfall in July and August 2019. The heavy rainfall inflicted widespread landslides and severe floods across 34 districts of the country. The devastating landslides and floods displaced 13,101 households. 110 people died, 67 were injured and 40 went missing (Source: MOHP). Bara, Parsa, and Rautahat districts were among the severely affected districts of the Eastern Tarai. Bara and Parsa districts also suffered from the devastating windstorm in April 2019. ACN has been able to provide relief support to the most affected and needy families of these three districts in three phases after monitoring and assessing the needs.

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My name is Nirajan Das. I live in Rajdevi Municipality ward number 9 in Rautahat. During this monsoon, my house was submerged by the flood. What little we had; everything was under flood water. At that time, ACN came to us from Pokhara and provided essential relief items like rice, lentils, oil, salt, tarpaulin, blanket, mosquito net, torch, soap, toothpaste and brush for me and other flood-affected families. After receiving the relief materials, we felt very relieved. I am very thankful to ACN Pokhara who came to support us from far away.

Food items relief packages	1,155 HHs	tł
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Basic disaster risk reduction and search and rescue training	81 People	u to
		re
Hand pumps installation	5 Hand pumps	b
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RECOVERY SUPPORT TO FLOOD AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

Working Area: Rautahat district

Target Group: Flood affected communities

Rautahat district of Eastern Nepal was severely affected by the floods caused by heavy rainfall in July 2019. After immediate relief distribution, ACN implemented a recovery program for the four worst flood-affected wards (3, 4,7 and 9 wards) of Rajdevi Municipality of Rautahat district. ACN was primarily focused on the health sector in the recovery program. ACN distributed hygiene kits and nutrition supplement packages to pregnant women and new mothers. To improve the capacity of rural health posts, ACN provided essential medicines, instruments, furniture and improved sanitation facilities. In addition, ACN provided health related training to the health personnel and female community health volunteers (FCHVs).

Hand Pump installation	35 Hand pumps
Distribution of hygiene kits and nutrition supplement packages to pregnant and new mothers	700 women
Refresher training for female community health volunteers (FCHVs)	30 FCHVs
Infection control and waste management training for health personnel	17 people
Sanitation improvement activities (Waste pit construction, water tank installation with WASH)	4 Health Posts
Hand Pump Installation for health posts	2 Hand pump
Provision of essential medicines, instrument, and furniture	4 Health Posts



My name is Rajpati Devi Mahato. My husband's name is Bilash Mahato. We live in Rajdevi Municipality -9 Rautahat. In 2019, due to a flood, our house and agricultural land were submerged in water. The devastating flood even swept away our water hand pump. We are very poor farmers and we depend on farm production, but the flood swept away all our crops this year. So, we had difficulties installing a hand pump. ACN provided relief materials in the early days of the flood and they observed the water problem in our place so later they installed hand pumps for us. After the installation of the hand pump, we have no problem for drinking water and other daily household work. We would like to thank ACN for helping this much.

BENIGAUN COMMUNITY HEALTH UNIT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Working Area: Gorkha district

Target Group: 2015 Earthquake affected communities

In 2017, the Benigaun Community Health Unit (BCHU) was started in Benigaun, Gorkha with the aim of providing easy access to health facilities for local villagers. Construction of a building for the Benigaun Community Health Unit began with the arrangement of land and some financial support from local villagers. But due to insufficient funds, they could not complete the construction work and had to stop at the foundation level. Therefore, the community health unit was running from a rented house. Benigaun Community Health Unit was facing difficulties to provide effective health services due to the lack of its own building, basic instruments and equipment. In this situation, with the coordination of local government (Rural Municipality) and financial support from various people and organizations, ACN was able to construct a building for the community health unit and handover the constructed building to the community. In addition, ACN provided essential medicines, instruments, and furniture. After this, the Benigaun Community Health Unit found it much easier to provide health services. Now villagers do not need to rush to reach the distant health post for small and basic health facilities.

As many younger villagers left the village for foreign employment and there is a lack of transportation and roadway facilities, it had been difficult to carry sick people to a distant health post. With the new building, this problem has been solved to some extent. Since villagers no longer have to travel a long distance to reach the health post for basic health services, their time and money has also been saved. Additionally, there is an expectation that general health awareness among villagers will be increased.

Benigaun community health unit building construction 70 households, 1170 people





COMMUNITY MEDICAL SERVICES IN BENIGAUN

My name is Amar Gurung and I live in Gandaki Rural Municipality (RM) 8, Gorkha district with six members of my family. My main occupation is agriculture. I have been involved in social work in my community since I was 27 years of age and now I am 55 years old. I am also a chairman of the recently built Benigaun Community Health Unit building construction management committee.

Villagers had to walk 3 to 4 hours to reach the nearest health post just for very basic health facilities. To solve this problem, Benigaun Community Health Unit was proposed in 2017, but there was no building for the community health centre. Villagers started to construct a building, but due to insufficient funds construction work was stopped after laying the foundation of the building. So, the community health unit operated from a rented house carrying out daily health services, but daily health services were badly affected because of the shortage of space and facilities.

In partnership with the ACN and Gandaki RM, the incomplete construction work of the community health unit was completed recently. With the newly constructed purpose-built building, the service of Benigaun Community Health Unit has become effective. Now villagers do not need to walk several hours for small basic health facilities. I am expecting that our community's health and sanitation problems will also be reduced.

I would like to express gratitude on behalf of the entire village for ACN's support in the improvement of the Benigaun Community Health Unit service by the construction of the building and providing essential materials.



DISABILITY- FRIENDLY REHABILITATION AND TRAINING CENTER BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Working Area: Gorkha district Target Group: 2015 earthquake affected communities

According to the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) of Nepal, in 2014 there were 6,269 people with various kinds of disabilities living in Gorkha district. Due to the lack of disability-friendly infrastructure, we were having difficulty organizing programs targeting people with disabilities (PWDs) and there were also difficulties for people with disabilities to participate in the programs. There is very low access of people with disabilities (PWDs) in income generation activities due to a lack of skill and proficiency so that they are living a very hard life. Therefore, with the aim to increase skill and proficiency along with rehabilitation of people with disabilities (PWDs), ACN constructed a Disability-Friendly Rehabilitation and Training Center (DFRTC) building in Gorkha in coordination with the Gorkha Blind Association.

The two-floor building construction has been completed including office room, training hall, rehabilitation rooms, and toilets. ACN presented the keys of the DFRTC building to the Gorkha Blind Association by organizing a small



program with the local ward chairman (local government authority) and a few people with disabilities (PWDs). With the construction of DFRTC, we are hoping to increase skill training programs for people with disabilities (PWDs), improving their skills, rehabilitation, and situation.

Disability-Friendly Rehabilitation and Training Center building construction

6,269 People with disabilities (PWDs)

THANK YOU FOR THE DISABILITY-FRIENDLY REHABILITATION AND TRAINING CENTER!

My name is Jiwan Kumar Basnet and I am chairman of Gorkha Blind Association. I have been working in the disability sector for a very long time. According to the National census 2011 and National Disability Federation of Nepal, in Gorkha district there are 6,269 (3324 male and 2945 female) people living with disabilities. Due to the 2015 earthquake, 7,500 people have different kinds of disabilities in this district.

It is said that where there is disability, there is poverty. Due to poverty and disability, people with disabilities living in this district have a very difficult life. There is lack of access to government provisions for people living with disabilities. And communities have a negative attitude towards them, so that they



don't feel as citizens of their own country. In 2012 Gorkha Blind Association was established in Gorkha to deal with these various problems and increase access of people living with a disability. This association initially worked only for completely blind and low vision people of Gorkha, but is now working among all kinds of people with different disabilities.

This organization has been working with various stakeholders for the rights of people with disabilities through coordination, advocacy and livelihood training. But due to lack of financial resources and infrastructure, the association had been working from a rented house, so we were having problems in working effectively.

ACN constructed a building (with basic furniture and assistive devices) for a Disability-Friendly Rehabilitation and Training Center in Gorkha district with the objective of training and rehabilitation for all kinds of people living with disabilities in coordination with the Gorkha Blind Association. With this, I am hoping the number of training and rehabilitation programs for people living with disabilities will increase in the coming days. In addition, there will be a favorable environment for the participation in training and rehabilitation programs. Lastly my best wishes for Asal Chhimekee Nepal's success.

EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT

Working Area: Gorkha district

Target Group: 2015 earthquake affected communities

In the 2015 earthquake, all of the government school buildings located in Siranchowk 7, Shreenathkot, Gorkha were either partially or completely destroyed. ACN reconstructed two primary and two secondary school buildings which were completely destroyed in the earthquake and handed these over to local communities.

After the Earthquake of 2015, the quality of children's education and the attraction of attending government schools was decreasing. In this context, ACN started an Education Enhancement program for the four schools reconstructed by ACN along with the other three schools in the same village of Shreenathkot to enhance the quality of education. An orientation program for parents and teachers, child psychology and motivational training, management training for the school management committee, educational materials, library materials and needed furniture were provided to schools under this program. From this program, 769 people directly and 3,076 people indirectly benefited.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Awareness program among parents about education	100 parents (1 event)	205 parents (2 events)
Educational materials distribution to schools	405 students (4 schools)	500 students (7 schools)
Training on child psychology and modern teaching methods	18 teachers	28 teachers
Training on school management and proper utilization of available resources	18 people	36 people

IMPACT OF THE EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

My name is Uttam Gurung. In 2007, Janjagriti Primary School was established in Simle, Gorkha district and I am the Principal of this school. We run this school for 1 to 3 grade students. Most of the students attending this school belong to the Barama caste which is one of the marginalized castes in Nepal. This school was destroyed completely in the earthquake of 2015. With support from ACN, we initially built temporary classrooms immediately after the earthquake so classes could restart. Later, ACN reconstructed a beautiful well-furnished earthquake-resistant school building with toilets, playground and boundary for the school. By seeing the school receiving support from ACN, community interest towards the school increased.

After reconstructing the school building, ACN brought an education enhancement program to improve the quality of education



of the school. For this programme, ACN started working from the beginning of new admissions at the start of the school year. Education enhancement programs helped parents to understand the importance of education and children to understand their duties. Along with this, the school management committee, teacher and parents association, and school teachers were made aware of their duties and responsibilities. ACN conducted a mass meeting to create self-realization to understand the necessity of changes to the school management committee and administration and help them to make necessary changes for enhancing the quality of education. After the mass meeting, the school made an annual plan and is now working according to the plan. The school has prepared individual student record files, is conducting monthly exams and sharing results among parents. The school started a practice of informing parents regarding their children, if their children are not regular in school, if students did not bring stationery and books, if students did not do their homework. Flower plantation and tree plantation programs were also conducted in the school. Along with the various extra activities, Parent's Day has been included in the annual plan. We appreciate ACN's contribution to the enhancement of the quality of education and we are hoping for ACN's regular support.

SUPPORT TO COVID-19 LOCKDOWN AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

Working Area: Kaski, Nawalparasi and Gorkha district **Target Group:** COVID-19 lockdown affected communities

To prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nepal government enforced a nationwide lockdown on 22 March 2020. This lockdown was ended after almost three months of continuous strict lockdown. Due to the prolonged nationwide lockdown, every sector of the country was affected. Particularly, families that depend on daily wage labor and work in the informal sector were affected badly. Due to the lockdown, they lost their livelihood source so they struggled to meet their daily needs and to have enough food to eat. In this situation ACN identified needy families living in ACN's working areas and provided them with relief packages including essential basic food supplies and hand washing soap as per local government recommendations. ACN started COVID-19 relief distribution work from the 11th day of the COVID-19 lockdown and addressed the basic needs of daily wage laborers, elderly, single women headed households and people with disabilities during the pandemic.

Food items and cleaning materials distribution in Kaski	704 Households
Cash support to Pokhara Metropolitan COVID-19 relief fund	NPR. 25,000/-
Food items and cleaning materials distribution in Nawalparasi	1,340 Households
Virus transport medium (VTM) kit provided to Nawalparasi	100 kits
Surgical masks and disposable gloves to Siranchowk Municipality, Gorkha	2000 Pcs
Food items and hand washing soap distribution to people with disability (PWDs) in Gorkha	6 Households
Informative poster and pamphlet distribution	16,500 Pcs

WHEN WE WERE STARVING, WE GOT ENOUGH TO EAT

Sixty-three year old Madari Mahoto lives in Kawasoti -15, Nawalparasi with his family of four. The family's economic condition is very poor.

Madari used to fulfill his family's needs by doing daily wage labor work. But as he became older, slowly he was not able to continue working as a daily laborer. Then he started to produce bamboo products like baskets and he supported his family with the income from selling bamboo products. Sadly, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, he was unable to sell his bamboo products. After what little he had was used up, he and his family worried about what they would eat for daily lunch and dinner. He was also worried about a bank loan which was taken earlier during house construction. As he was unable to sell his products, he had no money to arrange basic food supplies, so they were forced to live starving and the COVID-19 lockdown kept extending. He was so stressed about how to feed his family.

In this situation, ACN provided 25 kg of rice, 2 kg of lentils, 1 kg of sugar with other basic food supplies, and handwashing soap to Madari's family. After receiving basic food supplies during the COVID-19 lockdown, Madari's family said to us that Asal Chhimekee Nepal is like a good neighbor who helps neighbors in their time of difficulty. He told us, "I was work-ing very hard to take care of my family but due to COVID-19 lockdown, my earning was stopped so I was helpless. I was looking for help and that time I got help from ACN. With ACN help, I and my family have eaten enough when we were hungry."



GLOBAL NGO LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Since the beginning, Pokhara Christian Community (PCC) has always stood alongside the poor and people in difficulties. During the decade-long insurgency between the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) and the Government of Nepal from 1996 to 2006, Nepali citizens suffered a lot. In 2003, PCC established a non-government organization called Asal Chhimekee Nepal (ACN) to continue social work and serve people in need. ACN was registered in Kaski district and affiliated with the Social Welfare Council of Nepal. Since then, ACN has been working as a social initiative of the Pokhara Christian Community.

ACN was primarily working in Kaski and Nawalparasi districts, but after the 2015 Earthquake, ACN was able to reach Gorkha, Dhanding and many other places with relief support. After this, ACN began reconstruction work in Gorkha, one of the worst earthquake-affected districts.

ACN has always worked with a serving heart for poor and marginalized people. In the17th year of ACN's service, the World Corporate Social Responsibility Congress and Awards awarded ACN with the Global NGO leadership and excellence award for ACN's contribution towards communities. The honoring program and award ceremony was held in Mumbai, India in January 2020. Receiving this Global recognition award is also an honor for our prayer partners, funding partners and for everyone associated with the Pokhara Christian Community and ACN. This Award has motivated us to be even more responsible.

We are very grateful for this honor and appreciation of our work and service. We would like to give thanks to our hardworking staff, executive committee members, general board members, advisors, church groups and communities and funding partners. And last but not least, all glory to our Mighty God.

> Mr. Hari Ram Ghimire Chairperson, PCC





SOME GLIMPSES OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND OTHER PROGRAMS



Monitoring of Nawalparasi working area by Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation department



Monitoring of Rautahat working area by Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation department



Monitoring of Kaski working area by Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation department



Monitoring of Gorkha working area by SWC



Monitoring of Gorkha working area by SWC



While giving presentation on monitoring and evaluation at SWC

SOME GLIMPSE OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND OTHER PROGRAMS



Monitoring of DFRTC by local stakeholder



Monitoring of ongoing construction work of BCHU by the executive board and management committee



6th Social Audit 2019



Monitoring of ongoing construction work of DFRTC by the executive board and management committee



Monitoring by program coordinator



17th ACN day

LETTER FROM TREASURER

I would like to express my gratitude to Our Mighty God on this occasion of ACN's 18th General Assembly. I would like to congratulate all ACN's well-wishers, chairman, executive committee, lifelong and general board members, executive director and staff. And my best wishes to ACN.

ACN was established by Pokhara Christian Community with an objective to serve people. And I am very glad that ACN has been successful in serving people of poor and marginalized communities to transform their lives in Kaski, Nawalparasi, Gorkha districts and other many districts.



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many people globally are living in fear. Our government imposed a nationwide lockdown to prevent the spread of COVID-19 which affected poor, daily wage earners and people living with disabilities very badly. Due to loss of income source, they were in hunger. In the midst of the pandemic situation, ACN distributed essential food supplies to the most affected families in coordination with the local government authorities. Along with the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ACN also responded to the immediate need of flood and landslide survivors and later worked on their recovery support providing drinking water, sanitation, hygiene, and health promotion.

I would like to express my gratitude to our funding partners, churches and supporting partners and hoping for their regular support. I am thankful to the executive director and staff for their hard work and efforts.

Here, I am presenting the financial report for 2019/20 and the estimated budget for 2020/21.

Mr. Purna Lal Kayestha Treasure, ACN

Finance Report (Summary) 2076/77 (2019-20)

CONSOLIDATED (DRAP AND REGULAR PROJECTS), All figures are in NPR

INCOME	
Overseas Grants	47,317,843.19
Local/Internal Fund	4,538,151.98
Total Income	51,855,995.17
EXPENDITURE	
BALANCE	
Balance brought forward	87,146,958.20
This year's Surplus (Deficit)	-22,157,178.3
Total	64,989,779.90
FUNDS REPRESENTED BY	
Current Assets	52,138,165.7
Fixed Assets	20,158,571.8
Total Assets	72,296,737.5
LIABILITIES	
Funds Liabilities	64,989,779.9
Current Liabilities	7,306,957.6
Total Liabilities	72,296,737.5

NOTE: Funds Liabilities inclues funds received in advance and accumulated reserve.

THE ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF 2077/78 (2020/2021)

REGULAR PROGRAM

Program	Area		Total Budget
	Kaski	Nawalparasi	
Promotion of peaceful and inclusive society	1,874,219	4,081,578	5,955,797
Inclusive and equitable quality education	1,410,192	798,787	2,208,980
Health	525,099	-	525,099
Support in formation of safe and sustainable communities	1,122,764	1,430,027	2,552,791
Nawajeewan treatment and rehabilitation center	40,49,176	-	40,49,176
Total			15,291,843

DISASTER RESPONSE PROGRAM

Program	Area	Budget	Total Budget	
Support to COVID-19 lockdown affected communities – First phase	Kaski	2,447,753	2,447,753	
Support to COVID-19 lockdown affected communities –	Kaski	2,322,351	3,648,830	
Second phase	Nawalparasi	618,031		
	Rautahat	708,448		
Support to flood and landslide affected communities	Nawalparasi	1,840,326		
	Myagdi	5,461,683	7,302,009	
Karabari rural clinic building construction	Gorkha	4,326,415	4,326,415	
Total			17,725,006	

NEWS COVERAGE

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ACRONYMS

ACN	Asal Chhimekee Nepal
AHT	Anti-Human Trafficking
BCHU	Benigaun community health unit
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DFRTC	Disability-Friendly Rehabilitation and Training Center
FCHVs	Female Community Health Volunteers
HHs	Households
IG	Income Generation
NGOs	Non-government Organizations
PWDs	People with Disabilities
PCC	Pokhara Christian Community
RM	Rural Municipality
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SHGs	Self-Help Groups
SWC	Social Welfare Council
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene

FUNDING PARTNERS bijzondere ForumWiedenest 12 GK handen van de kerk Christliche Impulse für Gemeinden. Weltweit. diaconaat Gandaki Rural Municipality, Gorkha The Individual SIM HADA 🙀 글로벌케어 Shanti CEDAR FUND 施達基金會 **Partners** Charitable Trust Föreningen **HFB** Nepals Vänner - Friends of Nepal humedico Germany Kinderhilfswerk The INTERNATIONAL Corinthian NEPAL **FELLOWSHIP** Global-Care Damit Menschen Gott begegnen Trust Hope for Nepal AUSTRALIA

COORDINATION







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