



असल छिमेकी नेपाल
Asal Chhimekee Nepal

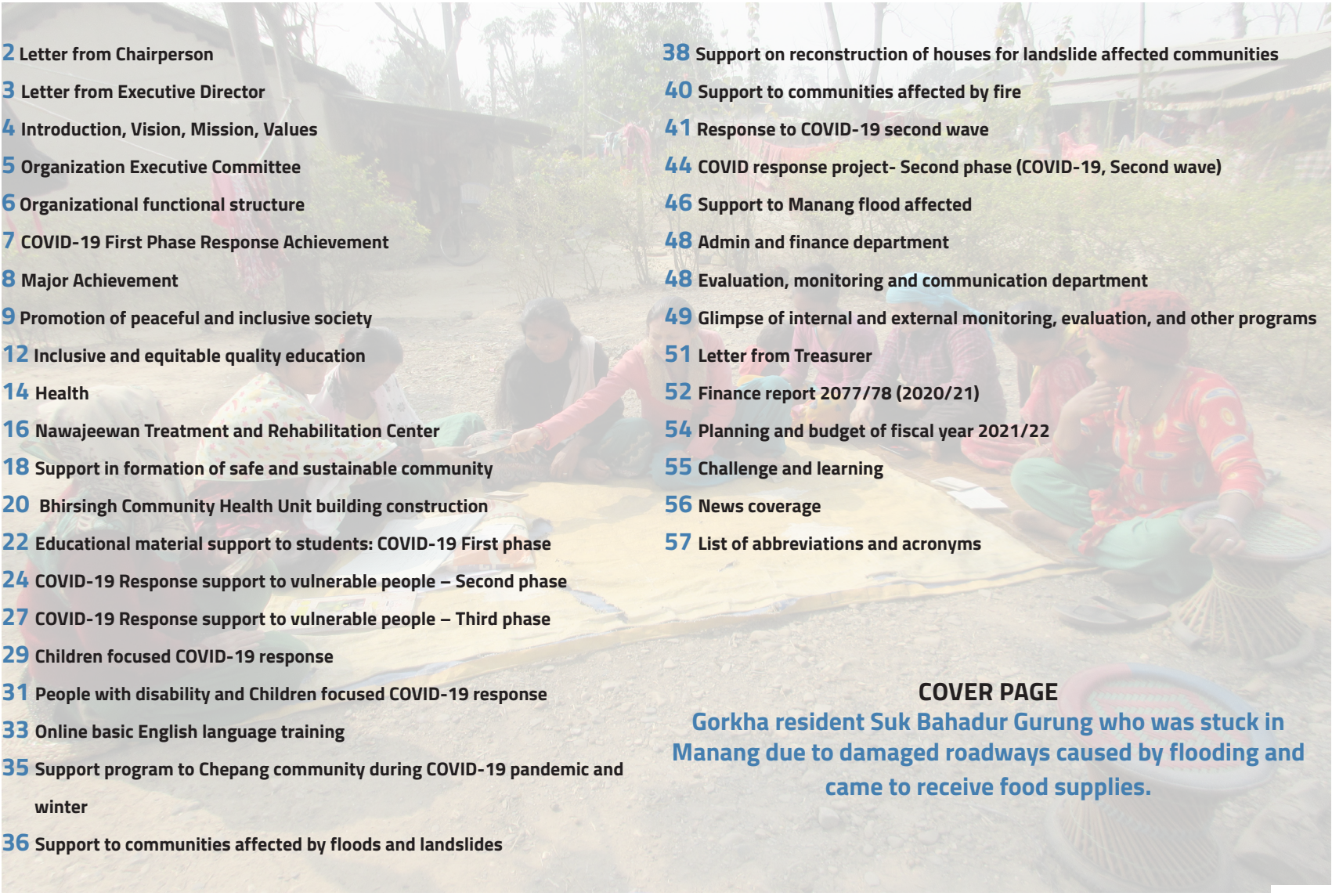
ACN ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन २०७७/०७८



While transporting relief supplies for Manang flood and landslide affected families.



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COVER PAGE

Gorkha resident Suk Bahadur Gurung who was stuck in Manang due to damaged roadways caused by flooding and came to receive food supplies.

LETTER FROM CHAIRPERSON

Greetings to all board members, life members, general members, Executive Director Raju Adhikari, staff, supporting donors, Pokhara Christian Community, coordinating Government, and Non-Government bodies, beneficiary communities of various places, journalists and media friends.

It has been 18 years since PCC's social initiative ACN began serving poor and marginalized communities. ACN has been implementing community empowerment, livelihood, health awareness activities, treatment, and rehabilitation of female drug and alcohol users in Kaski and Nawalparasi districts. We have distributed relief materials to flood-affected communities of Myagdi, Manang, and Nawalparasi districts. Nepal is also dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. We have provided relief materials to COVID-affected daily wage labor families, single women, and elderly people, giving priority to people with disability and their families in response to the worldwide pandemic.



PCC and ACN, as we are walking together, have been able to serve successfully because of the trust of our donors, as well as the support of governmental and non-governmental organizations. To be recognized as a good organization among the Christian communities, other organizations, in general society as well as in the center of the country is a matter of honor for all of us. This has all happened due to the grace of our Mighty God. I pray for the success of our coming programs.

On the auspicious occasion of 19th ACN AGM, I would like to thank all the members of the executive committee, board, life and general members, advisory friends, stakeholders, Social Welfare Council, PCC, donors and supporting institutions. I appreciate the tireless work of the Executive Director and all the staff of the organization. I pray that ACN will be able to make more progress in the days to come.

I would like to express my gratitude to all those who have been with me during my tenure as members of the Executive Committee and as advisors. I would like to wish all the members of the Executive Committee, who will be selected from today's convention, success in taking the organization to a new height during their tenure.

Bharat Bahadur Gurung
Chairperson, ACN

LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The last two years have been very challenging for everyone, especially due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To prevent the spread of infection, the government imposed a series of lockdown and prohibitory orders. Many industries were shut down due to financial crises which led to people losing jobs. There was a devastating impact on the economy. Daily living for people with disabilities, children, senior citizens, daily wage laborers, poor families and communities has been very difficult. There is also growing loneliness and alarming social and psychosocial impact due to distancing from friends and relatives, and no religious or social events. The rising number of suicides in recent days is just one example. When the lives of those who have gone abroad to work has become difficult, their families remaining behind in Nepal also experience torment. The social stigma of being infected, the lack of health care, and the challenges and pain of facing death remained extremely difficult. The self-sacrificing contribution of the frontline health workers, security personnel, and organizations working day and night in extremely dangerous situations is highly appreciated. Every year, monsoon disasters have added more difficulties while suffering from Coronavirus. Thousands of families have been displaced due to floods and landslides in Melamchi, Manang, and Terai region, including Nawalparasi.



Due to the global pandemic, ACN faced challenges in all areas including finance and project implementation. Almost all the leaders and employees were infected while serving people during the pandemic. Thus, we had to face many challenges institutionally, socially, family, and personally. Despite all these problems and challenges, the leaders and entire staff of the organization continue serving from emergency to rehabilitation, and remain working for poor and marginalized communities. All the projects and programs have been implemented in close coordination with the SWC, local government, and stakeholders. We are constantly striving to help all the individuals, families, and communities affected by pandemics and disasters along with community empowerment, livelihood, health promotion, and Nawajeewan treatment and rehabilitation programs. Therefore, more than 15 projects have been implemented this year. We have provided service and materials equal to NPR 4 crores. We have provided an overview of the projects and programs of the fiscal year 2077/78 (2021/22) with this annual report.

I would like to thank governmental and non-governmental organizations, PCC, board members, advisors, staff, individual supporters and donor agencies for standing with us in this journey. As this year is a convention year, I would like to congratulate and thank Chairman Pr. Bharat Bahadur Gurung, the entire executive committee, and advisors. Best wishes to the newly elected executive committee and advisors for a successful tenure.

Rajendra Kumar Adhikari (Raju)
Executive Director, ACN

INTRODUCTION

Asal Chhimekee Nepal (ACN) is a non-government organization established by Pokhara Christian Community (PCC) in 2003, registered in Kaski district and Social Welfare Council Nepal to carry out social work systematically. Since its establishment, ACN has been working by implementing various community transformation projects and programs. For the last nineteen years, ACN has been working for positive transformation of poor and marginalized communities and responding to various disasters to address the needs of vulnerable groups of people, with maximum utilization of resources received from various donor agencies including individual donors and supporters. ACN aims to contribute towards the end of poverty in all its forms by adopting sustainable goals (SDG 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, & 16). 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.

Additionally, during the pandemic of COVID-19, ACN initiated care and response by implementing various programs to address the needs of the most vulnerable people (daily wage laborers, elderly, single women, and people living with disabilities) from the 11th day of full lockdown up until the end of the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year ACN has been able to work in Kaski, Nawalparasi, Gorkha, Tanahun, Myagdi, Makwanpur, Rautahat, Rolpa and Manang districts with various programs.

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

A	Attitude
S	Sharing
A	Action
L	Love

ORGANIZATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ACN's executive committee conducted five meetings in this fiscal year of 2077/78 (2020/21). To communicate and implement the organization's decisions in a prompt and qualitative way, a support team (ST) was formed with a select representative from the executive committee in ACN. The support team conducted 36 meetings in this fiscal year. All the decisions made by the support team were approved by the executive committee. Monitoring and evaluation of programs through periodic field visits and interaction with beneficiaries and stakeholders to ascertain the effectiveness of programs and employee performance evaluation etc. has been done in the various stages.

Interaction and feedback sharing was also conducted among various stakeholders in Nawalparasi district with local government and executive committee, and various options were explored to conduct the communities' activities effectively. Interaction on effectiveness of community activities took place with active participation between executive committee with ward officers and local representatives. There was direct participation of executive committee representatives in implementing activities in the community.

Following are the list of individuals taking responsibility as an advisor and as a member of executive committee for 3 years.

Executive Committee

Chairman : Mr. Bharat Bahadur Gurung
Vice chairman : 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 Bhatta
Member : Mr. Nar Bahadur Pariyar
Member : Mr. Ram Kumar Shrestha
Member : Mr. Min Bahadur Gurung

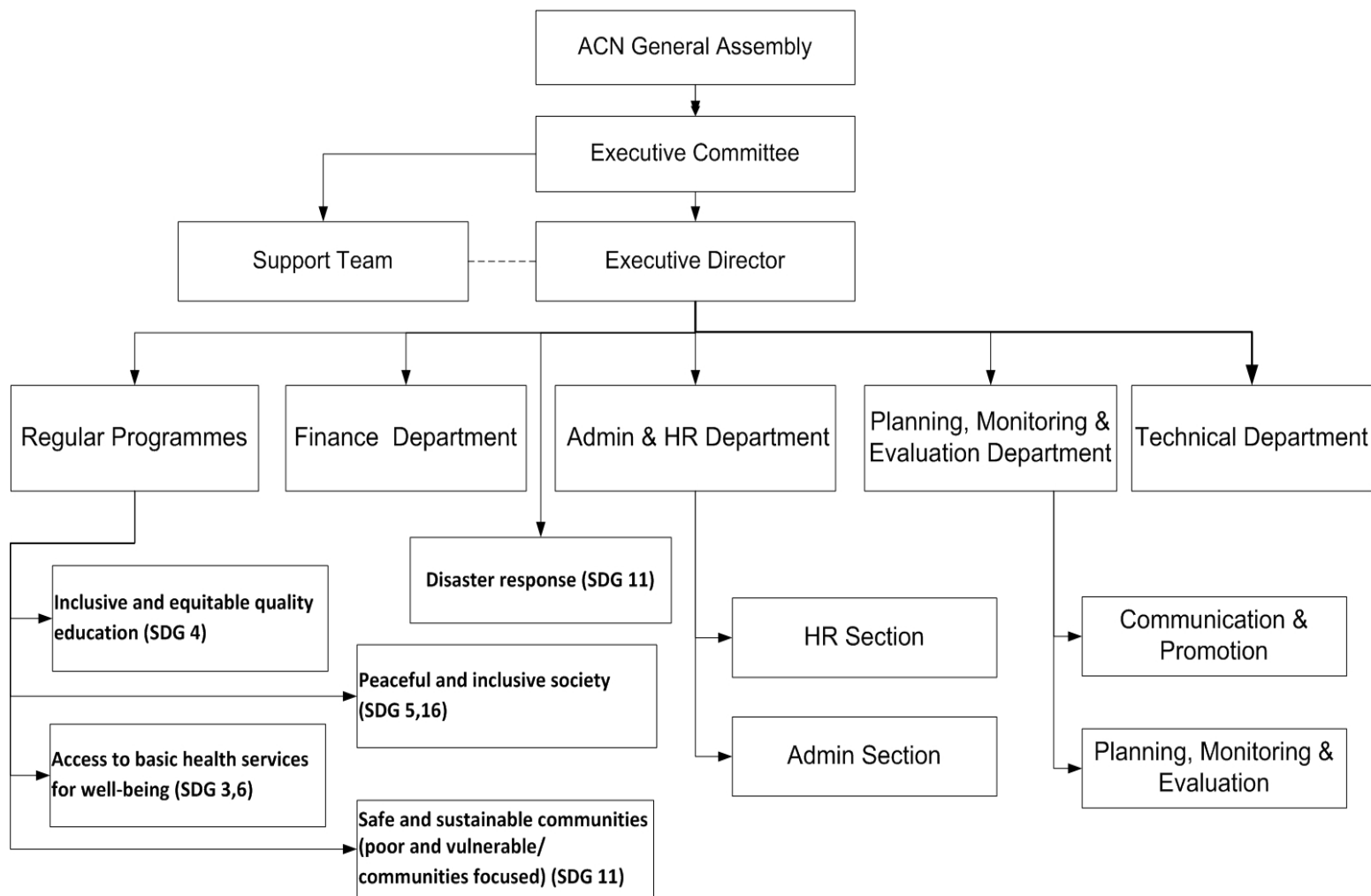
Advisors

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
(DRR Coordinator)
Mrs. Pramila Tamang
(Representative from beneficiaries)

ORGANIZATIONAL FUNCTIONAL ORGANOGRAM

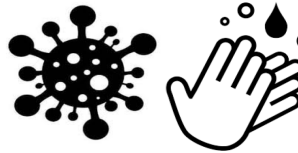


ACN'S RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS – FIRST WAVE



2,841

Families supported with food supplies including **510** people living with disabilities



1,284

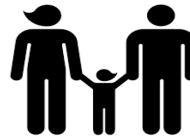
Children participated in Hand washing and COVID-19 Awareness programs

2,000
Masks



1,775

Children supported with education and self-learning materials



438

Parents participated in child protection programs

2,000
Gloves



767

Children supported with nutrition kit packages



120

Single women headed families received livelihood support

16,500
Posters and pamphlets



200

New mothers supported with nutrition and hygiene kit packages



23

Handwashing stations, **2,578** students benefited from 18 government schools

100
Virus Transport Medium kits



150

People living with disability and their care takers supported with hygiene kits packages



492

COVID infected people and families received counseling support

401
Safety gear support to COVID infected



MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT

- 38** Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are running in Kaski and Nawalparasi districts and each group consists of 20 to 25 members.
- 161** Women received skill training in Kaski and Nawalparasi districts.
- 18** Young adult received adult literacy facilitator training and **30** women participated in Adult literacy classes in Kaski district.
- 62** Youth received vocational skill training (barista, beautician, tailoring) in Kaski and Nawalparasi districts.
- 10** Female drug and alcohol users rehabilitated in their family and community after treatment in Nawajeewan.
- 340** Women participated in birth preparedness awareness class in Kaski district.
- 411** Women participated in National health insurance awareness program in Kaski district.
- 635** People participated in Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management training in Kaski and Nawalparasi districts.
- 200** People (691 people) benefited from the construction of Bhirshing Community Health Unit in Gorkha district.
- 551** (2,689) flood and landslide affected families received relief supplies in Nawalparasi, Myagdi, and Manang districts.
- 12** Teachers have received online basic English language training in Gorkha district.
- 61** Landslide and fire affected families received Tin sheets and iron nails for the construction of a shelter in Myagdi and Rukum districts.
- 897** Households received basic food supplies and **10** isolations centers received health materials in response to second wave in Kaski, Gokrha, and Nawalparasi districts.

PROMOTION OF PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

Working Area : Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group : Women focused marginalized communities

The program has been able to support communities to promote a peaceful and inclusive society through reducing the social problems of the communities by empowering disadvantaged groups (caste, class, gender) living in the community. This program works by forming Self-Help Groups (SHG's) to implement activities at the community level. In this program, currently, 38 SHGs are running in two districts (23 in Nawalparasi and 15 in Kaski). Each SHG consists of 20 to 25 members and each group has one facilitator.

ACTIVITY	KASKI		NAWALPARASI	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Self-Help Group	15	15	23	23
Facilitator meetings	12	12	12	12
Capacity development and group management training	225	232	404	420
Skill training	60	60	80	101
Small business training	117	117	122	122
Social action	105	106	-	-

Apart from Self-Help Group formation, this program also conducts monthly income savings. This year, group management and leadership development training, small business, and various skill trainings such as poultry training were conducted. SHGs in coordination with the community and local government, have conducted various social works that benefit local community people. Many simple community activities such as distribution of dustbins under waste management program, and fixing lights in the street for safety during nighttime have been organized. In this year, we distributed dustbins so that waste is collected in one proper place and installed handwashing stations in community schools and buildings to facilitate improved handwashing. During the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, Nepal government declared prohibitory order (lockdown) to prevent the spread of COVID-19 which limited our in-person meetings with communities. However, we were in regular contact with our beneficiaries online and by phone calls and provided support and care as per their need.

Self-Reliant Panmaya

My name is Panmaya Nepali. I am a facilitator of Asal Sathi (Good Friend) Self- Help Group (SHG). I live with my husband and two children in Pokhara-7, Pargati Tole. 7 years ago, ACN came to our area and described the importance and need of groups. We then formed a SHG and started monthly meetings and savings.

After the formation of the SHG, ACN provided various types of training like group management, leadership development, skill training, tailoring, chicken farming, quail bird farming, kitchen garden, rooftop kitchen garden, and first-aid training. After regularly taking part in group meetings and trainings, I felt confident that I had developed the capacity to work in a group. I had studied in school up to grade 3, but before being involved in the group, I used to be afraid to speak in front of people. ACN provided adult literacy classes for our group members in which I learned to read and write along with my group friends. Later, I become a facilitator of my group. I started conducting monthly meetings and calculating monthly savings. Now, I also have skills to give basic first aid advice if someone is sick in our community.

ACN handed over the group to us after 5 years, and I have been continuing the group under my leadership. My group members believe in me. Before I knew nothing but household work; now I go to community meetings and participate in discussion forums. This way, I am happy to have my opinion among people. I understood that we women are often left behind due to lack of various skills and information. Thank you ACN from the bottom of my heart for making me able to do something on my own by forming a group.



Gain knowledge, increased income

45 year old Suman Chaudhary has a small family with four members. She lives in Sarawal-6 Rural Municipality, West Nawalparasi. Her main livelihood is agriculture farming, and she began poultry farming to increase her income. Due to a lack of experience and knowledge about poultry farming, she was not very successful. Sometimes she could not make any profit from poultry farming or even cover her expenditure.

ACN organized two days poultry farming training in the Khadauna SHG which Suman participated in. After successfully completing the training, all participants were provided with initial setup of chicks, grains, and feeding utensils.

Suman said, "I learnt about the types of chickens, diseases that can be contracted in the chickens, the general medical treatment, and the vaccines to be given to chickens from the training. I am putting what I learnt in the training into practice. Now my chickens are not dying like they were before. I feel very different doing poultry farming after training. Before, I used to think that the opening of the chicken coop could face any direction but after training, I learned that the opening of the coop should face the east and I also learned how to manage the chicken coop well.

Now I have been able to earn a good income from poultry farming. My investment has not been wasted and I have been able to harness the benefit from my investment. This poultry training from ACN has encouraged me to raise a lot of chickens."



INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION

Working Area: Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group: Marginalized communities, women and youth

According to Sustainable Development Goal number 4, one aim of ACN is to facilitate inclusive and equitable quality education for all, and to provide life learning skills opportunities. This program aims to increase employment and entrepreneurship opportunities among young people and adults by providing technical and business-related skill training. Literacy and numerical knowledge skills are also taught so that adults can have better quality lives. This year Himnadi SHG and Lalguras SHG requested help to conduct an adult literacy class in their community in Pokhara, Kaski for women with limited reading and writing abilities. ACN responded to this request from the SHG, and four-month adult literacy classes were conducted successfully. In vocational training, one-month barista training and three-month beautician training were conducted for young people who left their studies early due to family or financial situation. Such programs with specific training focus were provided with an objective of capacity development of participants and as an act of community empowerment. Due to the second wave of COVID-19 and the government's prohibitory order (Lockdown), beautician training had to be postponed. In this fiscal year we were successful in completing tailoring training which was postponed last year due to COVID-19 lockdown and pandemic.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Kaski		
Adult literacy: Facilitator training	10 people	10 people
Adult literacy class	15 women	30 women
Barista training	10 youth	13 youth
Beauty Parlor training	5 women	9 women
Nawalparasi		
Tailoring training	3 women	30 women
Beauty Parlor training	10 women	10 women

*** Due to the COVID-19 prohibitory order, Beauty Parlor training is not yet fully completed.**

Changes after becoming facilitator

My name is Roshni Pun. I am 22 years old. My family has 3 members; my father, mother, and I. We live in Shanti Tol -1, Pokhara. ACN formed a children's club in our community and later Himanadi Self-Help Group (SHG). Currently, I am working as the treasurer of this group. After the formation of the SHG, ACN organized various trainings. When I got to know that ACN was going to organize facilitator training for conducting adult literacy classes, I wanted to participate in the facilitator training. I had the opportunity to participate in a five-day Adult literacy facilitator training. During the training, I learned how to teach those who are older than me, who have never been to school, or only completed one or two grades of schooling. Now, some participants can teach Nepali and English letters and numbers to children in their family and they can say their phone numbers and note down other numbers. As they are in the SHG, they have become able to sign the minutes of the group instead of using their thumbprint, and their participation has also improved.



Even though I studied up to class 12, I used to find it difficult to share my thoughts, but now I can share my thoughts with confidence. I have felt a great joy to be able to teach the women of my community. After conducting facilitator training and conducting classes, I feel that my self-confidence has increased.

HEALTH

Working Area: Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group: Marginalized communities and women

To promote a healthy life, ACN has been conducting health-based programs according to the needs of poor and marginalized communities. Program activities include various women-focused health awareness programs : birth preparedness, sanitation during and after birth of baby, measures taken to care for new mothers and infants, and other health-hygiene awareness. ACN conducts National Health Insurance awareness program to encourage people to enroll in the insurance scheme to take medical benefits provided by the government of Nepal through various hospitals. Through awareness programs, ACN aims to reduce doubts and confusion people have about the national health insurance policy. In addition, treatment/rehabilitation program for female drug and alcohol users including various awareness programs are conducted to reduce drug and alcohol abuse.

During the second wave of the pandemic, we provided information on health safety measures to protect from COVID -19 via an online platform to the communities, as well as how to take care of covid-positive person at home.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Health awareness: safe motherhood (Birth preparedness, taking care of new mother and infant)	329 People	340 People
Awareness on National Health Insurance	409 People	411 People

Birth preparedness awareness class for safe motherhood

My name is Puja Gurung. I am 22 years old. I have a 14-month-old daughter. I live with my daughter, husband, and mother-in-law in Hemja-25, Pokhara. After marriage, I joined the group formed by ACN in our community. I am also the facilitator of that group.

While I was pregnant, I participated in an awareness program on birth preparedness and methods to take care of oneself and baby during delivery, which was very helpful to me. According to what I learned in the awareness class, I saved some money, food, and the contact numbers of the doctors, nearest health post and nurses, the contact numbers of ambulances and I kept these in a place which was accessible for everyone, so that it would be handy in case of emergency. I had also come to know about hospital bag, in which I had to keep hospital cards, clothing for baby and myself, and other necessary items for myself and for baby for the day of delivery. But, because the markets were closed due to the COVID-19 lockdown, I could not prepare the necessary items for the baby in the hospital bag. At that time a friend of mine helped me.

I also learned how to take care of myself and my newborn baby after delivery, food that new mother should eat, nutritious food for breastfeeding mother, methods of feeding baby, method to bath a baby during infancy and methods to maintain baby hygiene. Therefore, it was very easy for me to take care of myself and my baby. This awareness class helped me to learn not only to prepare for my delivery and post-delivery but also taught me how we can be ready for any health emergency problem in the family.



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

Since 2003, Nawajeewan treatment and rehabilitation program has been working among female drug and alcohol users for their treatment and rehabilitation. Women can come to the residential center for treatment from any district of Nepal. So far, 197 female drug and alcohol users have been admitted and 131 clients have overcome their addiction and been rehabilitated back to their family and community. After treatment, usually the client's confidence and capacity increases and their interpersonal relationships improve. Clients can successfully resume their life, education, and work. Families and communities have better understanding of the cause of drug and alcohol addiction, and they have also understood the importance of support and counseling. Now, families and communities have become aware of reducing the long-term effects of drug and alcohol addiction in their family members. Due to COVID-19 and the government prohibitory order (lockdown), drug and alcohol consumption is increasing higher than before among women, teenagers, and children. The probability of drug and alcohol consumption also increased among low-income daily wage labor women and in their families. In this situation, Nawajeewan's outreach program has been playing a vital role by providing information, counseling, and creating awareness on COVID-19 and drug and alcohol abuse through digital media (zoom, social media, and telephone).

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMME	ACHIEVEMENT	OUTREACH PROGRAMME	ACHIEVEMENT
Client admissions	17	Outreach Programs	137
Clients completed three months of treatment	8	Meeting old and new clients in outreach	207
Rehabilitated clients	10	Family meetings , counseling and get-together	165
Free service receiver of client	5	Client get-together programs	3
Client observation visits	3	Teenager's drug and alcohol abuse awareness programs	145
Client family meeting	1	Interaction programs on drug and alcohol abuse among women	64
Employment for rehabilitation client	4	Drug and alcohol abuse awareness programs among mothers groups, children clubs and NGO's women	83
Literacy classes for clients	11	Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings for client	3
Client health check-ups	422 times	Brochure distribution/ Advertisement of Nawajeewan programme	225
Psychosocial counselling	385 times	Counselling support to COVID affected people and families	21
Handicraft and skill training sessions	260 times	World Drug Day celebration and awareness	26
Practical education classes	184 times		
Education supports for client's children	9		

Story of Gyanu Aama

Gyanu Nepali, a 55-year-old woman, lives in a rented room with her daughter in Gulfutar-8, Kathmandu.

Gyanu Aama learned to smoke and drink local liquor with her friends when she was just nine years old. After marriage, she and her husband used to sell vegetables, gooseberries, and fruit. Sometimes they worked in a construction site as laborers and they used to drink alcohol together in the evening. Gyanu has a son and two daughters. Her husband died due to over consumption of alcohol at the age of 53 and at the age of 22, her son was murdered. Then she became depressed. She used to mourn her son and smoke and drink alcohol a lot which made her more addicted. When her daughter saw that she was losing herself in smoking and drinking, her family brought her to the Nawajeewan Treatment and Rehabilitation Center of Pokhara to help her recover from her addiction.

Gyanu Aama said, "I arrived at the treatment center at night. Even that day, I was drunk. After sleeping at night, I felt very difficult as I did not get alcohol and cigarettes the next morning. I was so desperate. Even in the days that followed, it was very difficult for me to stay without smoking and drinking. At Nawajeewan, staff gave me Horlicks, vitamins, and fruit. They taught me to drink Horlicks with hot water and drink a lot of water whenever I was desperate for alcohol and cigarettes. Gradually, I began to mingle with other women at the center and I taught them the basics of farming. I used to keep myself busy by taking care of the chickens. Everyone called me Aama (mother) and loved and cared for me. In this way, I gradually started to feel comfortable and useful, and my addiction reduced.

While living in Nawajeewan, I got herpes zoster and I was taken to the Gandaki hospital for examination. During my treatment at the hospital, I was diagnosed with tongue cancer. After consulting my daughters, they sent me back to Kathmandu for treatment. As my tongue cancer was in the early stages, the treatment went well. At first treatment, I was afraid that maybe I wouldn't be able to speak, or they would have to cut out my tongue. But nothing happened as I was thinking. Now I am doing my speech therapy and I can speak.

I am very thankful to ACN Nawajeewan program. They gave treatment opportunity to an old poor woman like me to treat alcoholism. I would have died if I had not come here. My cancer would not have been detected. I have got tongue cancer because of heavy smoking and alcohol consumption. I will never drink or smoke again. My daughters are very happy since I quit smoking and drinking."



SUPPORT IN FORMATION OF SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Working Area: Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group: Marginalized communities

Nepal is vulnerable to both climatic and non-climatic hazards. The major aim of this program is to create awareness and to enable communities regarding disaster risk reduction and disaster management through various trainings for safe and sustainable communities. To achieve this aim, ACN provides disaster risk reduction and management, and search and rescue trainings to vulnerable marginalized communities and ACN's SHGs. Trainings include various groups such as mother groups, youth clubs and schools. In training, we provide information to communities on arrangement of safe and inclusive open spaces for women, children, elderly people, people with disabilities, and for all. All the disaster risk reduction, disaster management, and search and rescue trainings are conducted in coordination with the Nepal Red Cross and Nepal Armed forces.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Kaski		
Disaster risk reduction trainings	225 people	252 people
Nawalparasi		
Disaster risk reduction trainings	360 people	383 people
Exposure visit	25 people	28 people

Impact of Disaster Risk Reduction Training

Saroj Patel lives with her only son in Sarawal-6, Nawadhihawa, Nawalparasi. She is a single woman. Her son has a physical disability. She is taking care of herself and her son by farming.

She is constantly worried by the river flowing some distance from her house. Due to the very low terrain and lack of drainage during the rainy season, her house is at risk from July to September. Saroj said she must face the problem of flood water entering her house many times every year.

Saroj participated in Disaster Management training for flood damage control and accident management provided by ACN. The training helped her to understand accidents that occur in daily life, how to provide first aid, as well as various types of outbreaks and measures to control their damage.

She said, "Through the disaster management training, I learned how to do first-aid treatment for wounds and injuries. This saves the cost of treatment for minor injuries and improves recovery time. I now understand how to avoid snake bites, what to do if snake bite occurs, and how to make stretchers from local materials to take the patient to hospital. I have also learnt flood safety measures, methods to safely store food and important documents, materials, etc. and methods to avoid problems of annual flooding. Thank you to ACN for considering our situation and providing disaster management mitigation training."



BHIRSINGH COMMUNITY HEALTH UNIT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Working Area: Gorkha district

Target Group: Underprivileged rural community from health service

Until last year, Siranchowk Rural Municipality ward no 1 Bhirsingh community people were a long way away from very basic health service and facilities. Villagers had to walk two hours to reach the nearest Kerabari Health post for regular small and very basic health needs. Therefore, villagers were facing difficulties to access very basic health facilities. In this situation, in coordination with Rural Municipality (local government) and financial support from various individuals and organizations, ACN constructed a building for the Bhirsingh Community Health Unit. To assist the Community Health Unit in beginning to provide health service, ACN also provided the most essential health instruments, materials, furniture, and medicine. After completion of the health building, the Rural Municipality immediately commenced health services by appointing a health worker. Due to the availability of health service in the village, villagers time, lives, and money have been saved.



Villagers are so happy to have a community health unit in their own place. They were facing difficulties before as they had to carry sick people for hours to reach the nearest health post due to lack of transportation facilities and proper roadways in the village. Because many village youth migrate to foreign countries for labour, the village has a shortage of strong manpower needed to carry sick people to a distant health post. Now this community health unit is functioning in their village, increasing health awareness and improved health among villagers is expected.

Bhirshing Community Health Unit building construction

200 HHs, 691people

Hope brought by community health unit construction

Lal Bahadur Gurung who studied up to grade 3 had the opportunity to join the military as a young man, but his mother did not allow him to go as he is her only son. Therefore, he stayed in the village doing agriculture and livestock. He is now 65 years old and loves his village environment. He lives with his two sons, three daughters, and parents in Kerabari Bhirsingh, Siranchok Rural Municipality, Gorkha.

Bhirsingh is a village far from the Gorkha district headquarters and is lagging behind in development opportunities. Even paracetamol is not available for fever or headache. People have to walk for more than an hour to reach the nearest health post. Although there is a road, transportation facility is rare, which creates difficulties for sick and senior citizens to access health services.

Lal Bahadur says that one of his sons has a disability due to a lack of basic treatment and poor financial condition. All villagers have a desire for health service facility in their own village.

Recently a Community Health Unit has been set up in the village. All the villagers are happy with the possibility of getting timely health check-ups and medical advice in case of any serious health issues. Lal Bahadur hopes that from now on, there will be no one who has to suffer from preventable chronic health problems like his son due to lack of general health care facilities. He thanked ACN, PCC, Siranchok Rural Municipality for the construction of the Community Health Unit and land donors for providing the land.



EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL SUPPORT TO STUDENTS: COVID-19 FIRST PHASE

Working Area: Kaski, Gorkha and Tanahun districts

Target Group: COVID -19 affected children and communities

In the first phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nepal government enforced four months of nationwide lockdown to prevent the spread of virus infection. Due to the prolonged nationwide lockdown, every sector and community of the country was affected. Families that were fully dependent on daily wages and jobs in the informal sector were affected particularly badly. After the lockdown as schools restarted, in coordination with schools and local government, we provided educational materials to students of 24 government schools in Kaski with the aim to support children from low-income families to continue their schooling. In Nepal, even government schools require children to wear a school uniform. Our educational materials package included school uniform, shoes, socks, bags, exercise books, and pencils. In addition, we also provided one month package of food and hygiene materials to COVID-19 lockdown affected families in Palungtar 6, Gorkha and Byas Rural Municipality-10, Tanahun.



Educational materials in Kaski

814 Students

Food and hygiene materials in Gorkha

29 HHs, 116 people

Food and hygiene materials in Tanahun

30 HHs, 120 people

Happy mother with educational material support

9 year old Anjali Nepali studies in class 5 at Shree Krishna Secondary School, Pokhara. She is the only child in her family. She lives with her mother in a rented house in Pokhara. For the last seven years her father has been working abroad in Qatar. Her father sends money for their living and Anjali's school expenses. Her mother also manages to earn something towards their living costs by washing clothes and dishes in a neighboring house.

During COVID-19 lockdown, due to fear of COVID infection, Anjali's mother could not go for work and she had to stay home. His father also faced difficulties as his work stopped due to the pandemic and he was not able to send money home. Her mother struggled a lot to manage their daily expenses and their home rent also piled up. So, there was tension in the family. Although the lockdown situation improved, her mother was stressed about Anjali's school expenses for uniform, bag, and stationary as she was already struggling to manage daily expenses and room rent.

ACN provided school materials to children of COVID-19 affected families like Anjali to continue their schooling and Anjali also received school materials.

Anjali's mother said, "I have had to face many ups and down as I am illiterate. I can write my name, but I panic if someone asks suddenly. I have only one dream: that my daughter gets higher education so she does not need to work in other people's houses like I do. I wish, in future she will become fully able to earn for herself. When I got a call from Anjali's school that there was distribution of school materials and we were requested to come to receive materials for Anjali, I was so happy. I felt so relieved when my daughter received uniform, bag, shoes, socks, and stationary because at this time I could not buy all these materials."



COVID-19 FIRST WAVE RESPONSE SUPPORT TO VULNERABLE PEOPLE – SECOND PHASE

Working Area: Kaski, Nawalparasi, and Rautahat districts

Target Group: COVID-19 affected communities

ACN continues to stand with the poorest and most disadvantaged people since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal. ACN started relief work distribution of essential food supplies for daily wage labor families and poorest families from the 2nd week of first phase of COVID-19 lockdown. After completion of COVID-19 Immediate Relief support program, ACN initiated the COVID-19 vulnerable support program to support the most vulnerable groups of people who were at risk of extreme poverty due to the prolonged COVID-19 lockdown in the first wave of the pandemic. ACN identified four vulnerable groups for support in this program. They were children, pregnant women, single mothers, and people living with disabilities along with their caretaker and families. ACN provided nutrition and self-learning materials, and organized COVID-19 awareness programs among seven children clubs of Kaski and Nawalparasi districts. For women, ACN provided nutrition and hygiene materials to pregnant women and new mothers, and slipper training and seed support to single women in Kaski district. One month supply of essential food was provided to people with disabilities and hygiene materials were provided to their care takers and families in Kaski district. In addition, ACN provided one month of essential food supplies to COVID-19 lockdown affected families in Rautahat district.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Children		
COVID-19 sanitation and hygiene awareness program	600	205
Nutrition materials support	400	400
Self-learning material distribution	600	594
People with disability		
Meeting and counselling	450	350
Food supplies support	150	150
Hygiene materials support to caretaker and families	150	150
New mother and pregnant women		
Nutritious food materials and hygiene materials	200	200
Awareness on health and hygiene	200	200
Single women		
Kitchen garden plants and seeds	100	100
Slipper making training	20	25
Low-income family		
Food materials	200	222

Learning with fun

Ananda Mahatto (11 years old) and Shristi Mahatto (6 years old) are brother and sister and live in Shergunj, Kawasoti-15, Nawalparasi. Ananda is in Grade 5 and Shristi is in nursery class at the Saint Paul English Boarding School. Both are very hardworking students. Both brother and sister go to school together.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, lockdown was enforced which caused schools to shut down too. For the initial few days, both brother and sister were very happy to stay at home. With increasing infections, the lockdown kept extending, so they became sad as they were not able to go to school, meet friends and they missed playing with their friends. They were waiting for the end of the pandemic and lockdown so they could go to school and meet their friends and play with them. ACN had provided nutritious food items and self-learning materials to children of marginalized communities who could not go to school because of the COVID pandemic and lockdown. Ananda and Shristi were among the children who received nutritious food items and self-learning materials from ACN.

Ananda's and Shristi's mother said, "During the COVID-19 lockdown while my children's school was shut down, nutritious food items and storybooks, color copies and colors (self-learning materials), etc. helped my children remain engaged at home and they enjoyed a lot. Self-learning materials helped them continue their reading habit and encouraged them to be creative as well. "



Loving working in kitchen garden again

Buddhimaya Nepal lives with her daughter, son, and daughter-in-law in Khatemasina-14, Pokhara. She is widowed. Her husband died many years ago.

Buddhimaya runs a small 'chatpat' pasal (street shop) for her daily income. During the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, she had to close her small chatpat pasal for a couple of months. Her son whom she lived with worked as a driver, but his work also stopped due to the pandemic. Her other son and daughter had gone abroad for work. They also had difficulties during the pandemic, so her daughter returned home. COVID-19 has hit them hard financially and weakened the financial condition of her family.

She said, "When life came back towards normal after some loosening of COVID-19 restrictions, I received some seeds, plants, and grow bags from ACN. While distributing seeds and plants, ACN staff taught us how to use unused pots, sacks, and broken plastic pots and bottles for growing vegetables. I planted all the seeds and planted my own kitchen garden and I also used unused pots, plastic bottles, sacks, and grow bags for vegetable growth. After some days, there were plenty of vegetables in my kitchen garden. One of the vegetables was very strange. I wondered how to eat or cook? Then I cooked together with potato which was very tasty to eat. I shared my vegetables with my neighbors as there were a lot of vegetables in my kitchen garden. I used to grow some vegetables. But after gaining information and encouragement to do kitchen garden from ACN, I did kitchen gardening which reduces my daily vegetable expense and eating organic vegetables is good for our health too. Then I remembered back to when I didn't have enough money to buy vegetables during COVID lockdown. Again, I have understood the importance of having a kitchen garden. This encouraged me to continue my kitchen gardening.



COVID-19 RESPONSE SUPPORT TO VULNERABLE PEOPLE – THIRD PHASE

COVID-19 AWARENESS AND SUPPORT INITIATIVE

Working Area: Kaski and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group: COVID-19 affected communities

The major goal of this program was to create awareness on COVID-19 and vaccination, to provide safety gear, food nutrition, and medical support, and to provide counseling and psychosocial support to vulnerable people of marginalized communities. Therefore COVID-19 awareness programs were organized among various groups. People were provided with information on basic safety measures to protect oneself and others from COVID-19 infection, on the purpose and benefits of vaccination and encouraged to take the vaccine. We also provided counseling support to COVID-19 affected people and their families to help reduce negative impact and recover quicker from COVID-19. In addition, we provided food, nutrition and hygiene materials, medicine, and safety gear materials (mask, sanitizer etc.) as per request and need. ACN supported marginalized communities, individuals, and families to reduce the impact of COVID and to be safer from infection through awareness, relief support, and counseling.

ACTIVITY	Kaski	Nawalparasi
COVID-19 Awareness program	397	120
Safety gear materials support (soap, mask, sanitizer)	281	120
Food, nutritious food, and medicine support	59	20
Counselling support and meeting to COVID-19 affected people and families	364	128
Emergency support to COVID-19 affected	17	-

Share love and empathy, not discrimination

Maya lives in a village called Chisepani (Pokhara) with her daughter and son. She owns a small tailoring shop. ACN came to know about her being infected from COVID-19 for a long time, recovered from COVID-19 and facing challenges in her community because of the infection. When ACN staff visited her home to meet her, she was very happy and got emotional.

She said, "When my children and I were infected with COVID-19, nobody came to visit us even after we recovered. My children recovered quickly, but I had to isolate myself for more than 40 days. I found it very difficult to stay in isolation for such a long time. I had to suffer not only physically, but also faced social harassment which made it very difficult for me to recover from COVID. My neighbor used to call me "Corani" (a derogatory Nepali term for someone with Corona). That time, I was sick mentally too. When I asked for support to buy food supplies and other necessary daily items, even a mobile recharge card, nobody was willing to support us even though I had money to pay them. Villagers drew a boundary with rope around my house to stop me from stepping outside my house.

Because of this, I used to think I will die, not from COVID, but because of social discrimination. I used to cry all day and night. After getting COVID negative report on 4th attempt, I felt so good that now everything is fine. I went to open my tailoring shop, but my landlord did not allow me to open the shop and told me to shift my shop. Only after people from ward office and health post convinced him I was able to reopen my shop. I am very happy that you came to meet me."

After meeting Maya, ACN provided one month food supplies, hygiene, and safety materials (hand washing soap, mask, and sanitizer) as per her need.



CHILDREN FOCUSED COVID-19 RESPONSE

Working Area: Gorkha district

Target Group: Primary level school students

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ACN began to provide support to school students in Siranchowk Rural Municipality ward 7, Gorkha district. Students were provided with nutrition-based food materials to keep themselves healthy during the pandemic, and educational materials that could be utilized while studying from home. Support was provided to 6 schools in Gorkha and 1 school in Kaski, Pokhara. While distributing these packages to the students, awareness programs related to COVID-19 were also conducted.

Hand washing stations have been built in schools of Srinathkot-7, Gorkha district for students to protect themselves from COVID infection and control infection, and to encourage handwashing practice. Additionally, one hand washing station has been built in a school in Pokhara, Kaski district.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Nutrition food and educational materials	373 Students 6 Schools	384 Students 7 Schools
COVID awareness program	400 Students 6 Schools	659 Students 7 Schools
Construction of handwashing stations	546 Students 6 Schools	546 Students 7 Schools

Support of the helpless

Dil Bahadur Pariyar and his wife Kumari Pariyar are both above 50 years of age. They live with their eight children in Siranchowk - 7, Gorkha. Dil Bahadur Pariyar is a person with a physical disability. Dil Bahadur's entire family is dependent on him. He said that it was very difficult to support his family due to lack of work during the COVID lockdown, he was even unable to arrange food and clothes for his family members.

Among Dil's 8 children, 4 of them go to Janakalyan Secondary School nearby his house. Janakalyan Secondary School is the same school that was re-constructed by ACN after the 2015 earthquake. Approximately 250 students from marginalized families go to this school and are receiving good education facility.

When the Coronavirus pandemic was making people's life difficult, Dil Bahadur Pariyar was very happy to receive nutritious food and educational materials for his four children from ACN. By seeing the faint smile of Mrs. Kumari Pariyar, the enthusiasm of her youngest daughter towards her new school materials, and happiness of Dil Bahadur, we Asal Chhimekee Nepal (ACN) have been inspired to keep working hard.



PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY AND CHILDREN FOCUSED COVID-19 RESPONSE

Working Area: Gorkha district

Target Group: People with disability and children

The first phase of the Coronavirus pandemic and long-term nationwide lockdown severely affected various sectors of Nepal. The Government's imposed lockdown to control spread of the virus affected the daily lives of people of all communities. Among the most affected groups, low-income people with disability and their families were among the most vulnerable groups needing support as it was difficult for them to find daily work and fulfill family daily basic needs during the pandemic situation. ACN's response to the COVID-19 pandemic reached those families who were in serious need of help. ACN provided one-month food supplies sufficient for a four-member family including a blanket to cover themselves as protection from cold for people living with disability and their families. Additionally, to protect children from Coronavirus, awareness programs were conducted and 16 handwashing stations were constructed in Gandaki Rural Municipality wards 7 & 8, Gorkha district.



Food materials and blanket

83 PWDs

Construction of handwashing stations

16 Handwashing stations (2,032 students)

Providing meals during the pandemic

My name is Kishor Shirmal. I am 53 years old, and I live in Gorkha. Due to my physical disability, my family does not care about me, so I live alone.

I do less burdensome work to earn my living, so I get less payment. However, I am usually able to earn enough to manage two meals a day. During the COVID-19 first phase of lockdown I did not get any work, so I had difficulty managing meals.

I will never forget ACN's support during the COVID-19 lockdown emergency by providing essential food supplies to me. I did not hear about ACN before, but now I came to know. ACN food supplies package is enough for two months for me and hopefully, COVID-19 lockdown will finish soon. Then I can earn again and manage my daily needs myself.



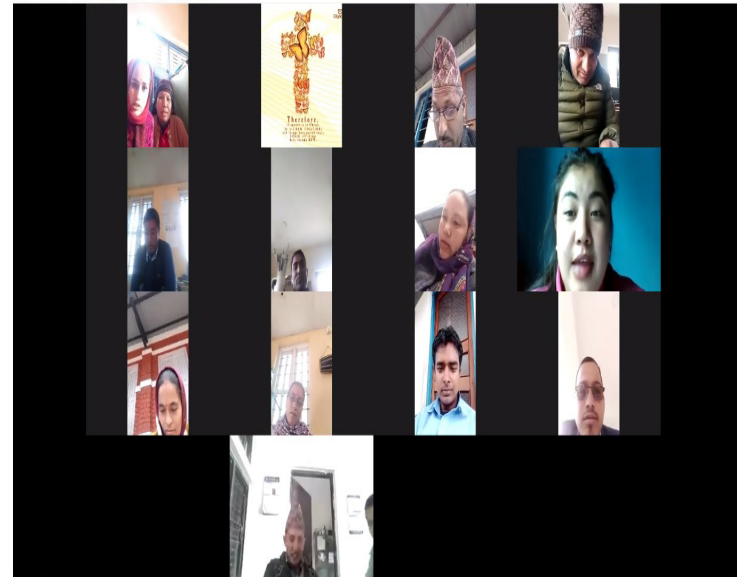
ONLINE BASIC ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING

Working Area: Gorkha district

Target Group: English subject teachers

In response to the 2015 earthquake, ACN re-constructed 4 schools in Siranchowk-7 Srinathkot Gorkha. After the reconstruction of these school buildings, in order to meet SDG goal no 4 'Quality Education', ACN has been focusing on enhancing and improving the education quality in these schools. ACN has been implementing various projects to enhance quality of education. This year ACN conducted an online English language training program to enhance capacity in reading, listening, and writing skills of elementary (primary) level school teachers in 6 governmental schools. This training was organized in coordination with Bethesda International Language and Leadership Development Center Private Limited.

After the training, teachers were able to pronounce, listen, and speak English language very well and such experiences were shared during the graduation ceremony.



Online Basic English Language Training

12 Teachers

Boost of self-confidence after English language training

Amrendra Kumar Mandal is a permanent resident of Saptari district and he has been working in Janakalyan Secondary School, Srinathkot, Gorkha. He holds a Masters degree (MED) in English. He teaches English to secondary level students of Janakalyan Secondary School.

After the training he said "I was a Masters graduate and I have been teaching the English language for the last 4 years, yet I faced difficulty in pronouncing many English words while teaching students in the class. It was very difficult not to be proficient in English despite being a teacher and a graduate in English. I really wanted to improve my English, and when I heard that ACN was going to provide English language basic training I was so excited. I was selected to be enrolled in this training program from my school. After 40 days of this training, I experienced that my listening skill, writing and speaking skill was improved and to pronounce various vocabularies without any difficulties was a great achievement for me. I feel more comfortable teaching in my classroom as well. I would like to thank ACN for providing such training opportunity for village teachers like us. We look forward to other intermediate and advanced level training programs in future."



SUPPORT TO CHEPANG COMMUNITY DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND WINTER

Working Area: Makwanpur district

Target Group: Chepang community, affected by coronavirus

Chepang community is a marginalized community in Nepal. Chepang communities are deprived of quality education, health, and basic public facilities such as clean drinking water and electricity. Many people in this community are heavily dependent on daily wage type of work and this community is among those most severely affected during lockdown because of the Coronavirus pandemic. ACN, in response to Coronavirus, provided support especially for marginalized people, daily wage-based workers, and people with disability residing in wards 2 and 5 of Raksirang Rural Municipality in Makwanpur district in coordination with the local ward office. ACN distributed food packages sufficient to feed 4 members in a family for a month, hygiene kit materials, and 2 blankets per family. Chepang community felt very relieved to receive support from ACN.



Food materials and warm blankets

170 HHs

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY FLOODS AND LANDSLIDES

Working Area: Myagdi and Nawalparasi districts

Target Group: Flood and landslide affected communities

Nepal was under full lockdown during the first wave of the pandemic caused by Coronavirus. Nepal faced another catastrophe, natural disaster flooding and landslide, caused by heavy rainfall during the month of July. This heavy rainfall caused trouble to many communities and households in many parts of the country. According to the Nepal disaster risk reduction portal, 229 individuals lost their lives in flooding and landslides, 140 were injured, 84 were missing and 906 houses were severely damaged. Therefore, nature also hit hard as the country was fighting hard against the Coronavirus pandemic. ACN, in response to these disasters, developed a project to support people and households that were severely affected by floods and landslides. ACN provided support and assistance together with local government in Sarawal Rural Municipality ward 6, Rampur, Khadauna area for flood affected communities and together provided support to landslide affected communities in Dhaulagiri Rural Municipality in Myagdi district. Basic essential items such as rice, lentils, salt, cooking oil, wheat flour, hand washing and cloth washing soaps were distributed. The relief package was enough to support 4 people in a family for a month.

Food and hygiene materials in Nawalparasi

400 HHs (2000 people)

Food and hygiene materials in Myagdi

85 HHs (425 people)

My helping hand of crisis

Kanta Harijan, a 60 year old woman, lives in Sarawal Rural Municipality-6, Nawalparasi District, in a joint family of 13 members. Despite having an adequate amount of farming land and constant farming efforts, the produce from their farm is often insufficient because some of their crops are washed away by flooding during the monsoon season. Therefore, her family always struggles to manage food for the year as winter farm production is not enough to sustain them for the whole year.

This year too, due to flooding, they were not able to go out for work and their stock food got wet, so they struggled to manage their daily meals. Sarawal Rural Municipality is one of the working areas of ACN. ACN was requested by Sarawal Rural Municipality for support to 400 flood-affected families. Kanta Harijan's family was one of them. ACN's package helped her family to eat for more days than two weeks.

Kanta said, "During the flood, my family and I were safe as we were sitting in the house, but we were worried thinking of dying from hunger. When our food stock finished, we were so helpless. Receiving emergency food supplies was a great relief. I am very thankful to ACN for helping me in my difficult time."



SUPPORT ON RECONSTRUCTION OF HOUSE FOR LANDSLIDE AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

Working Area: Myagdi district

Target Group: Landslide affected communities

Heavy rainfalls on 9-10 July 2020, swept away several houses in Myagdi district and many people became homeless. ACN, in partnership with the local ward office, initiated supporting communities to reconstruct their houses/shelters that were swept away by landslides. ACN provided plain sheets for roofing and iron nails that are essential for house construction. 3 bundles of colored plain roof sheet were distributed per household. Community members were so excited to receive housing materials and they gained hope from our support. Additionally, ACN supported materials for 1 family to reconstruct house in Byas Municipality, Tanahun district.



Colored roof tin and iron nails distribution

42 HHs and 184 People

Roof for elderly couple

Padam Lal Kami (64yrs) was working abroad in Saudi. He lost his job due to the COVID-19 pandemic, also due to his old age, and had to return to his home in Myagdi, Nepal. After losing his job, returning home was not easy for him due to financial constraints. He had to sell his TV and all other belongings to arrange money to travel back home. However, both husband and wife were happy that he returned home safely. Unfortunately, due to the deadly monsoon, his house swept away, and they lost their house too. They do have children but are not in regular contact with them and there was no hope of support from their children. Both husband and wife started to rebuild their house. But due to lack of financial resources and difficulty to work due to COVID and their age, they had only managed to construct the wall of the house. Padam was desperately searching for help or a loan to purchase Tin Sheets (Corrugated Galvanized Iron, CGI sheets) for his roof.

After providing food support to Myagdi landslide affected families, ACN distributed Tin sheets (Corrugated Galvanized Iron, CGI sheets) and needles to support shelter/house construction in coordination with the local government. Through this initiative, Padam Lal has received 3 bundles of CGI sheets and 3 kg of needles for roofing purposes.



During ACN technical staff taking measurement of Padam house for the estimation of tin sheets.

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY FIRE

Working Area: Rolpa district

Target Group: Communities affected by fire

While Nepal was facing the second wave of lockdown, wards 2, 3, and 6 of Triveni Rural Municipalities, in Rolpa district were severely affected by fire blaze which spread from the community forest. 34 houses were completely destroyed in Bartibang, Pirale, Chitre danda, Dhanbanga, Kafalchaur and 2 houses were destroyed due to lightning and thunder. In response to support these households to construct temporary shelters, ACN supported 19 families with colored roofing plain sheets based on 3 bundles per family, 3 kg iron nails and 3 other plain sheets of steel. Remaining households were supported by INF Nepal.

This response program was organized in co-operation with INF Nepal Rolpa and in coordination with the District Disaster management committee Rolpa and local government. The distributed items will be used in making immediate temporary shelters and they can also be used in future to make permanent shelters.



Roofing Tin sheet, steel plain sheet and iron nails

19 HHs

RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS SECOND WAVE

COVID-19 RESPONSE PROJECT-FIRST PHASE

Working Area: Kaski, Nawalparasi and Gorkha districts

Target Group: Communities affected by second wave of COVID-19

The second wave of COVID-19 came to Nepal in mid-April 2021. Just before the second wave began, life had just begun to return to normal, the economy was trying to rejuvenate, and people were going back to their jobs while following safety protocols. The COVID-19 vaccination program had begun and health personnel along with people above the age of 60 were given priority to access the vaccine. Then, the second wave hit the country very badly. From early on, deadly impacts were seen. Approximately 50% of people tested for covid were found to be positive, and therefore the government enforced a lockdown to control the spread of infection. At that time Nepal's COVID-19 infection rate was the highest in the world. Hospitals were packed, ICU's were full and there were shortages of oxygen cylinders, ventilators and medicines that were necessary for treatment of COVID patients. The number of deaths was much higher than in the first wave. In some places, due to lack of manpower the situation was very bad even though there were necessary health materials and infrastructure. Due to lockdown, families dependent on daily wage labor had to fight hunger and there was virus fear everywhere. Among them, low-income people with disability including individuals and families were one of the worst affected groups. There was a huge need for isolation centers as the infection rate was very high. In response to the second wave of the pandemic, ACN provided essential food supplies to COVID's worst affected families, giving priority to people with disability and their families. Health materials were provided to support the management of isolation centers to enable them to face the second wave well. ACN's essential food supplies package containing rice, lentils, pulses, wheat flour, salt, sugar, soap, and health kit were distributed, enough to provide one month supply for a family consisting of 4 members. In health-related support, 2 oxygen concentrators, 500 boxes of masks, 60 boxes of gloves, 250 liters of sanitizer, 80 PPE sets, 200 face shields and 40 pulse oximeters were distributed along with 20 BP sets, 56 digital thermometers and handwashing soap. Some medicines including paracetamol, vitamin C, and zinc tablets were also distributed in response to the pandemic.

ACTIVITIES	KASKI	NAWALPARASI	GORKHA
Health materials	1 Isolation center	5 Isolation centers	4 Isolation centers
Food materials	362 HHs	200 HHs	-

When cooking gas finished in Santa Bahadur's Kitchen in the midst of the pandemic!

35 year old Santa Bahadur Pariyar lives with his wife and two children in Pokhara-15 in a rented tin roofed house. He has had a visual impairment since his birth. His wife also has low vision. Both husband and wife work as street sellers (door-to-door sellers). They earn their living by selling incense, camphor, pens, pencils, etc.

Their life had been becoming increasingly difficult due to the second wave of COVID-19 and subsequent lockdown that restricted them from selling things on the street. They lost their means of livelihood. After a month of lockdown, they finished the savings they had saved before the lockdown. The second wave lockdown was extending with the continued rise of infection rate.

In the midst of the lockdown, their cooking gas finished. Although they had some basic food supplies such as uncooked rice and lentils, due to the empty cooking gas cylinder, his wife was unable to cook food for the family. Then he requested his neighbors for help and his neighbor provided some firewood. This small amount of firewood was enough for few days only. Then he requested a local FM station with the hope of help.

When ACN came to know about his situation from the local FM station, ACN came to his doorstep with a filled cooking gas cylinder. Santa and his wife were so happy. One filled cooking gas cylinder will be enough for three months says Santa Bahadur.



A happy couple after receiving help in need

Bhim Narayan Mahoto and Lal Maya Chaudhary live in Kawasoti-15, Nawalparasi district. Bhim has a physical disability. Both husband and wife live in a small house given to them by one older lady. They are the only two members in their family; they don't have children or other relatives. Bhim Narayan used to work as a daily wage laborer, but two years ago after a stroke, he developed physical disability. His right hand and leg are not working properly and his right eye also became affected. After that, he was unable to do heavy work. Since then, his wife has had the whole responsibility for earning their living. She is taking care of him and herself by doing daily wage labor.

In this situation, due to the COVID-19 second wave and lockdown, she could not continue her work as a daily wage laborer, so they lost their only means of livelihood. Therefore, they were in urgent need of food support. During COVID-19 second wave and lockdown, ACN has been providing essential food supplies and hygiene materials to poor families, and people with disability and their families. During distribution, this couple received food supplies for a month and hygiene materials from ACN as a relief support. This couple were so thankful when ACN delivered the essential food supplies and hygiene materials to their doorstep. Their happiness was seen clearly in their faces.



COVID RESPONSE PROJECT- SECOND PHASE (COVID-19 SECOND WAVE)

Working Area: Kaski, Nawalparasi and Gorkha districts

Target Group: Communities affected by COVID-19 second wave

In response to the second wave of COVID-19, ACN began second phase of response work. ACN has planned provision of basic food materials and safety materials to COVID and lockdown affected poor families, health supplies to health sectors, various online awareness programs for youth and children, talent show platform, and free helpline services to serve people in need.

In the fiscal year 2020/21 (2077-78), ACN began providing food materials and health safety materials, giving priority to people with disability and their families. Khoji free-help line number was established to provide COVID health service, counseling, emergency ambulance service, advocacy, and other emergency help.

Food and health safety materials in Nawalparasi

180 HHs

Food and health safety materials in Kaski

155 HHs

Worries paying back to neighbor

45 year old Kul Bahadur Saru Magar earns his living from daily wage labor to support his family. He lives in Bulintar-4, Nawalparasi district with his wife and three children. Due to the COVID-19 second wave lockdown, he could not earn his daily living, and soon his small amount of savings were finished. Therefore, he was facing a very hard time taking care of his family. In that difficult time, he received essential food supplies and health safety materials to protect his family from COVID transmission.

Kul Bahadur said, "Due to this COVID pandemic, my daily wage labor work has stopped. Food materials in the kitchen and the little savings I had were all finished. My wife can manage without food, but children could not manage without food, they were very hungry and did not understand why there was no food to eat. Therefore, I was feeding my children by borrowing from my neighbors. I was so worried thinking how to borrow again and how to pay back my neighbors as the COVID lockdown kept extending. I was afraid of thinking my neighbors would complain if I could not pay back in time. Then, I received food relief materials packages from ACN. What a timely help when I was in great need. These food materials are enough for a month for us, but I must pay my neighbors back too. I hope soon I can go for work. I am very happy and thankful to ACN for providing masks and sanitizer along with food materials."



SUPPORT TO MANANG FLOOD AFFECTED

Working Area: Manang district

Target Group: Communities affected by flood

This year, Nepal witnessed massive flooding and landslides in the Himalayan region which affected people who were living across the Himalayas and by the riverbanks of rivers flowing from the mountain region. On 15 June 2021, massive floods and landslides destroyed many houses and displaced many communities in Manang district. Many people lost their house, livelihood, and loved ones during flooding. At that time, Nepal was also struggling with the COVID-19 second wave, followed by lockdown. To address this problem and provide support, ACN in partnership with Pokhara Christian Community (PCC), INF Nepal, NCS Gandaki and NCF together with local district administration of Manang and local government representative provided support in ward 1 Naso Rural Municipality. Support included food materials enough for a month to each household. Health safety-related items were also provided to prevent transmission of COVID-19. People gathered in a community shelter and were living together as they lost their houses and were sharing one common kitchen to provide each other's basic needs. Support materials were carried by helicopter and reached those communities a total of 4 times.

Food and health safety materials

66 HHs

Worries for Shelter

Man Kumari Gurung lives with her family in Manang district. She is an elderly lady with 8 members in her family. Flooding in July caused huge damage in her locality and her house swept away right before her eyes. When the flooding occurred, many people rushed to save their lives, but she didn't. She wished to die in the flood as the flood was about to take everything she had. Her neighbor saved her life. It was very fortunate that no one died in this flood, as the flooding came just before evening, but they lost everything except their lives; their houses, animals and other belongings were completely washed away in a matter of hours and they became homeless.

Man Kumari, though her life was saved, worries about her future. She is much concerned about her future as her home was washed away and she can't collect enough energy to even think of how to restore everything that was washed away. Her son and daughter are without income as her son used to work in the nearby power station which was also washed away due to flash flood. There is no food supply as no shops are available in our village, she says. She also adds with a huge question in her mind, will our government help? Will they help to reconstruct shelter for us?

Asal Chhimekee Nepal helped with health materials and basic supplies with food materials to many families like Man Kumari as an immediate emergency response to flooding in Manang district.



ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The administration and Finance department performs various functions such as adherence to the administrative and financial policies of the organization, resource mobilization, finance control, planning of budget, human resource management, etc. The major areas of responsibility of Administration and Finance department in the Fiscal Year 2077/78 are as follows:

- Management of administration and human resource,
- Management of regular bank accounts and fixed deposits accounts,
- Management of procurement process,
- Planning, coordination and facilitation of IMT, ST, executive committee meeting, AGM etc. and other various programs,
- Verification, security, and management of the physical assets of the organization as well as inventory,
- Management of staff and executive committee insurance,
- Management of annual events,
- Uniformity in chart of accounts,
- Periodic update of financial status of programs,
- Financial report preparation.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

The Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Communication team have played an important role in the projects and programs implemented in the Fiscal Year 2077-78 (2020/21) from the time of the initial plan to its completion in terms of coordination between local government and communities, and their participation and approval of the program. This team has contributed to the program with timely monitoring and evaluation, ensuring the objectives of the program based on presetting indicators of the program. The team has also supported the program by producing quarterly newsletters, various other reports, videos, maintaining and updating website and social media, collecting stories, and networking and coordination with various organizations.

A brief description of some of the activities of last year is as follows:

- Preparation of project concept note as well as proposal and budget,
- Taking approval of projects from the donor and SWC,
- Management of data, informative materials and documentation,
- Meeting with communities,
- Internal and external monitoring,
 - Final monitoring / evaluation of the project by the SWC
 - Monitoring by local agencies
 - Monitoring by donor agencies
- Coordination with local and external agencies,
- Project updated and preparation of periodical and annual report of the project.

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



Meeting with SHGs in Sarawal Nawalparasi from Executive Committee and Monitoring and Evaluation Department



During monitoring and evaluation of project from SWC



18th General Assembly



Meeting with local government of Sarawal Nawalparasi from Executive Committee, Monitoring and Evaluation Department



During monitoring and evaluation of project from SWC



Five year strategic planning workshop

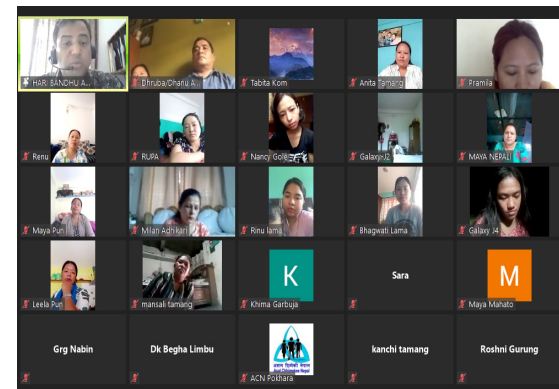
SOME GLIMPSE OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND OTHER PROGRAMS



Supporting educational materials to COVID affected poor family children on the occasion of 41st social service day



While conducting monthly meeting and collecting monthly saving in Sunaulo SHG, Setapani, Nawalparasi



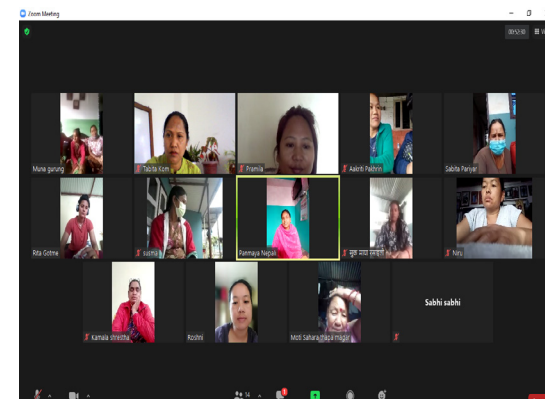
Basic counseling training for staff and community leaders via Zoom



18th ACN day



While handover of Health materials to Pokhara Metropolitan Health Branch to help control COVID infection



While conducting SHG facilitator monthly meeting via zoom during COVID prohibitory order

LETTER FROM TREASURER

I'm thankful to almighty God as ACN is celebrating its 19th general assembly and 6th convention.

I congratulate all board members, life members, general members, well-wishers, chairperson, members of executive committee, the executive director and staff members of this organization. I wish well to all of you with gratitude. Pokhara Christian Community established ACN with a purpose to do social work in the most vulnerable and needy communities. ACN is mainly working in Nawalparasi and Kaski districts to support marginalized communities and people. I thank all members for the success ACN has achieved in a short period of time to uplift living standards of people from these communities, and for successfully conducting various awareness programs. From the inception of ACN, it has been doing good social work among the communities. Just like its name, good work has been carried out, therefore beneficiaries love and support the work of ACN. Initially, there was no attention in the country towards female drug and alcohol users. ACN successfully identified the social problem of drug and alcohol abuse among women and responded promptly to rehabilitate women who want to be free from their addiction. ACN has many stories of women winning over their addiction and being rehabilitated in their families and community.



In 2020, Nepal faced a COVID-19 crisis, many people lost their jobs, daily work and economy collapsed due to full lockdown and this affected severely marginalized people, people with disability and daily wage workers who used to work each day to fulfil the daily needs of their family members. In this situation, ACN's staff and board members also faced challenges of lockdown which stopped regular support programs ACN was carrying out, and planned events had to be postponed until further notice. Later, facing various challenges, ACN board members and staff, built courage to visit door to door providing support to the neediest communities. In this journey, many staff and board members tested positive with COVID-19. It gives me immense joy to see the courage in our members and staff carrying responsibility to take care of one another even during this crisis period. Also, each year Nepal faces serious types of natural disasters such as floods and landslides. Last year, many people were displaced due to landslides in Myagdi district. ACN has been able to provide tin sheets for shelter purposes. This year in Manang district due to floods and landslides many people were displaced and lost their private property, infrastructures were damaged, and people lost access to go to the nearby city or town due to flooding. To address the problem, ACN acted promptly with relief materials that included health materials and basic food materials to Manang district with the help of Helicopter.

I'm thankful for all donors, supporters, and well-wishers of ACN for providing immense support and standing with us through your support and prayers even during challenging times. We are thankful for your kind support and love that you have provided to us until now. I want to thank the executive director of ACN and staff members for their valuable contribution even in difficult times.

I now, present annual fiscal report of 2077-78 (2020/21) and financial report and budget of 2078-79 (2021/22).
Grace and peace of God be with you all.

Mr. Purna Lal Kayestha
Treasure, ACN

FINANCE REPORT 2077/78 (2020-21)

Figures are in NPR/Crore (NPR 1 Crore = NPR 10 Million)

PARTICULARS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE
Regular Community Work			
Peace and Inclusive Society	3,046,675.38	3,046,675.38	-
Nawajeewan Treatment and Rehabilitation	3,481,047.62	2,966,589.62	514,458.00
Quality Education	2,442,536.34	2,442,164.34	372.00
Access to Basic Health Services for well-being	373,308.93	373,308.93	-
Safe & Sustainable Community	394,234.97	1,026,144.89	(631,909.92)
Support Office	6,191,639.64	5,239,041.78	952,597.86
Bank Interest	1,441,124.37		1,441,124.37
Depreciation	-	1,231,007.19	(1,231,007.19)
TOTAL (A)	17,370,567.25	16,324,932.13	1,045,635.12

DISASTERS AND COVID-19 RESPONSE			
Corona Response Project	16,872,186.15	16,269,513.09	602,673.06
Rapid Covid Response Project- 1st Phase	3,395,227.09	3,395,227.09	-
Rapid Covid response Project-2nd Phase	2,665,390.73	2,665,390.73	-
Reconstruction Support to Landslide Affected Community	2,309,851.00	2,304,851.00	5,000.00
Basic English Language	347,606.59	347,606.59	-
Flood & Landslide Response Project-Manang	423,403.80	423,403.80	-
Support to Fire Affected Community of Rolpa	1,110,928.00	1,110,928.00	-
Capacity & Skill Development	83,635.00	83,635.00	-
Bhirsingh Kerabari Health Unit Earthquake 15 reconstruction	100,000.00		100,000.00
Disable Friendly & Resource Training Centre		28,919.62	(28,919.62)
Kerabari Health Clinic Project		3,171,506.10	(3,171,506.10)
Awareness & Helpline to reduce impact of C 19		130,958.10	(130,958.10)
General Project		373,583.91	(373,583.91)
Depreciation		426,638.60	(426,638.60)
Total (B)	27,308,228.36	30,732,161.63	(3,423,933.27)
Grand Total (A+B)	44,678,795.61	47,057,093.76	(2,378,298.15)

Note: The deficit was covered by the reserve (Pre-designated funds)

PROGRAM AND ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR OF 2078/79 (2021/22)

Program	Budget	Working Area
Community empowerment,	6,7,44,040	Nawalparasi
Nawajeewan	3,3,46,586	Kaski
COVID recovery and rehabilitation support	6,0,75,438	Kaski and Nawalparasi
Disaster preparedness and response	2,5,37,000	Kaski, Gorkha, Nawalparasi and Lamjung
Capacity and skill development	3,4,50,000	Kaski, Nawalparasi and Gorkha
COVID response	4,2,00,000	Kaski, Nawalparasi and Gorkha
COVID response- second phase	5,4,80,000	Kaski, Nawalparasi and Gorkha
Flood and landslide response	2,8,18,431	Manang, Tanahun and Gorkha
Relief and rehabilitation of flood and landslide affected communities	8,4,63,775	Manang, Tanahun, Parbat and Nawalparasi
Total	4,1,3,15,269	

INCOME FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF 2078/79 (2021/22)

Income source	Amount
External source	4,2,1,76,726
Internal source	9,38,543
Total	4,3,1,15,269

Challenges of the fiscal year of 2077/78 (2020/21)

Impact of COVID-19

- Reduction of availability of fund and priority changed
- Difficulties in implementation of programs and projects
- Infection among staff and leaders-obstacles in regular fund mobilization
- Uncertainties of funds for long term projects

Implementation and administration

- Hard on division of work
- Need of update on rules, policy, and systems
- Need of staff's capacity development in specific fields
- Obstacles on implementation of projects due to weather and lockdown
- Short work agreement's impact on staff
- Impact of changes on priority of donors
- Need of internal control evaluation system

Learning of the fiscal year of 2077/78 (2020/21)

Risk assessment and preparedness

Clear work division and orientation of project

- Planning of alternative plans
 - Emergency response friendly policies and rules
 - Disaster response work must be done immediately.
- Stay in regular contact with donor agencies

Upcoming year's targets

- Organizational work evaluation
- Enhance Finance and administration, project management capacity, and systems
- Development of long term projects
- Review of Nawajeewan program
- Development of new 5 year strategic plan
- ACN office construction work will initiate in coordination with PCC
- Focus on promotion and fund raising
- Orientation among general board members and executive committee members

NEWS COVERAGE



अन्न विनिर्देशन कार्यक्रम : चारौदहरी चरौदहरीवासी स्वयं सहायता समूह
चरौदहरी चरौदहरीवासी स्वयं सहायता समूहले आफ्नो समूहमा रहेका सबै सदस्यहरूलाई अन्न विनिर्देशन कार्यक्रम अन्तर्गत अन्न वितरण गरेको छ। यो कार्यक्रमले चरौदहरी चरौदहरीवासीहरूलाई अन्न उपलब्ध गराउन मद्दत गरेको छ।



अन्न विनिर्देशन कार्यक्रम : चारौदहरी चरौदहरीवासी स्वयं सहायता समूह
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ACRONYMS

ACN	Asal Chhimekee Nepal
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
HHS	Households
IG	Income Generation
IMT	Internal Management Team
INF	International Nepal Fellowship
NCF	Nepal Church fellowship
NCS	Nepal Christian Society
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
PWDs	People with Disabilities
PCC	Pokhara Christian Community
RM	Rural Municipality
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SHGs	Self-Help Groups
ST	Support Team
SWC	Social Welfare Council

Acknowledgment to all our funding partners and supports



Other Organizations, Churches, Families and Individuals

COORDINATION



ASAL

CHHIMEKEE

NEPAL

ACN

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