



CHILDREN OF NEPAL

II - 18 NOVEMBER 2016



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On behalf of Awful Grace (AG) and Victim Support & Rehabilitation Program (VSRP), we're delighted to present the report on the successful completion of the second mission trip to Nepal. This was a follow on from the 2015 trip which was to address immediate needs of the earthquake of April 2015. As a consequence of fuel rationing on that 2015 trip, two of the planned villages were not visited. This 2016 trip was to fulfil our commitment to the people of Nepal.

In all, 350 children were engaged across three locations, with therapeutic and learning activities, as well as the provision primary healthcare like health check-ups, dispensing of vitamins, deworming tablets, eye drops, toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo and soap. These children were also prepared to return to school with the distribution of school backpacks and school supplies like uniforms, shoes, writing pads, pencils.

An added bonus was the serendipitous opportunity to visit Bhimphedi Prison and establish a medical clinic which served 190 prisoners and children of prisoners. Diabetes and high blood pressure were amongst the ailments attended to and medicines dispensed.

Planned well and with no agenda but the engagement as equals as an expression of our common humanity, there was mutual beneficence. The line between donor and volunteer and recipient, were blurred. Who gave and who received? All did!

This was beautifully expressed by one of our volunteers, 12-year old Trisha, who communicated with the children without words, in the construction of the windmills. A new paradigm of mission-enabling-engagement is the transcending of culture, language, status, wealth, poverty, even age. Our common humanity meant that even the most obvious differences were of little consequence.

Another key outcome is the nurturing of community spirit by the recipients themselves. In Chitwan, when we introduced the games, we witnessed the transformation of the children from being reticent to participate, to, by the end of the day, not only having loads of fun, but that it overflowed and the children dragged their caregivers into the game!

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As we plan for a third trip in fulfilment of our 3-year promise to the people of Nepal, one of the most significant outcomes is the decision to focus with great intentionality on community development, instead of just mobile clinics and distribution of school material (which has been done the last two years). Rather, as we conclude the 3-year mission programme in 2017, our desire at Awful Grace is to engage in community development and to catalyse the creation of self-sustaining initiatives to lift the villagers out of their poverty cycle. If you wish to support the community development project, please contact me at christine.tan@awfulgrace.org.

Thank you for your partnership in the year or years past, and your continuing engagement with us in 2017.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christine Tan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christine Tan
Founder

OBJECTIVES

Children of Nepal is a project which started in 2015 and will continue as we journey with the people of Nepal to restore broken communities and bring hope to the families and children. It is a collaborative partnership between Awful Grace (AG) and Victim Support & Rehabilitation Programme (VSRP) and the people of Singapore.

This year, nine volunteers from Singapore arrived on November 11, 2016 in Kathmandu. Of the nine, more than half were new to Nepal, including two 12-year olds and a 17-year old. Together with more than 25 Nepali volunteers stationed in Kathmandu, Chitwan and Dhading, we were excited to begin our work. An intense period of planning preceded the trip.

On the first day, we visited a local church and the Peace Loving Children Home in Gothathar (Kathmandu), where more than 150 children and caregivers gathered for medical screening and school materials distribution. School bags, essentials such as soap, shampoo, school uniforms and stationery, were distributed to the children. We travelled to Chitwan the next three days and ran the mobile clinic at the Prison in Bhimphedi and for the villagers in Chitwan and Dhading. In total about 580 people went through the health screening with about 350 children receiving the school bags and essential supplies.

Dr. Priscilla Ang, Dr. Robin Jung, and Dr. Raj Datta conducted the medical clinics, with support from the team of Singapore and Nepali volunteers coordinating the distribution of bags, and facilitating activities for the children.

1. More than 550 families, children and prisoners benefitted from the health screening
2. More than 350 children received school materials and essentials
3. 30 volunteers and staff of Victim Support & Rehabilitation Program (VSRP) were involved in the activities

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On behalf of Awful Grace (AG) and Victim Support & Rehabilitation Programme (VSRP) we would like to thank all our donors for their generous and faithful support. We would like to especially express our gratitude to the Singapore Red Cross Society for their immense contribution of the supplies necessary for the medical screening. Last but not least, we thank all the volunteers for making this project possible between Singapore and Nepal.

All photos in this report are used with permission from Victim Support & Rehabilitation Programme (VSRP). For confidentiality reasons, names of children have not been included in this report.

THE TEAM

Based on the needs of the mission, the team that was assembled for the Mission Trip included:

Volunteer	Type of Assistance
3 doctors, 1 nurse and 3 Singapore volunteers	Provided health screening and dispensing medication
4 Singapore volunteers	Coordinated therapeutic activities for children
25 Nepali volunteers and 5 VSRP staff	Supported the activities and core team volunteers

REFLECTIONS BY MISSION TEAM MEMBERS

Watch the videos of the trip from team members at our website.

Link <http://awfulgrace.org/our-communities/projek-namaste/>

NEXT STEPS

Based on our observation and assessment, assistance in the form of community development with the objective of lifting the poverty level in these villages would be of significant benefit. In order to achieve this, the following will be put in place:

1. Research to determine the type of community development project which would best benefit the community
2. Possible locations
3. Sustainability
4. Funding required
5. Local partners to collaborate with
6. Timeline for launch and plan for growth

Timeline in 2017 - 2018	Type of Assistance
February - July	Undertake research, develop proposal, secure funding
August - October	Planning for Vision Trip and engaging local partners
November/December (Phase One)	Vision and Mission Trip. Phase One is the initial launch and establishment of the project(s)
March 2018	Planning of Phase Two

* More details and the budget is available upon request

THANK YOU NOTES

Note: Photos are reproduced with permission from Victim Support & Rehabilitation Programme (VSRP) and the beneficiaries.



Dear **supporters & Friends**

Heartfelt greetings from Nepal !

We all re thankful and grateful for your love and kind help to provide us school bags, stationary and our health screening and providing medicines. We honor your desire to serve us. We honour your kindness beyond the boundary and your group have come to see us from long distance; overseas. It is great sacrifice. We will continue pray for you to see us again next year.

प्रिय साथी तथा सहयोगीहरू

नेपालबाट स्वीष्टिय नमस्कार ।

तपाईंहरूले हामीलाई स्कूल व्याग, कापी, लुगा, खेलौना तथा स्वास्थ्य जाँच गर्न सहयोग गर्नु भएको लागि , हामीहरू धेरै धन्यवादी तथा आभारी छौ । हामी त तपाईंको सहयोगी हृदयको लागि सम्मान गर्छौ । तपाईंहरू हामीलाई भेट्न धेरै टाढाबाट आएर यसरी दयाको भावना देखाउनु भएको लागि पनि सम्मान गर्छौ । यो ठूलो बलिदान हो । हामी प्रार्थना सहित आशा गर्छौ तपाईंहरू फेरि पनि अर्को वर्ष हामीलाई यसरी नै भेट्न आउनु हुनेछ भन्ने प्रतीक्षा गर्छौ ।

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2017

PEACE LOVING HOME, KATHMANDU

Please see their names in the back side.



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CPP KATHMANDU

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2017
PRISONERS' CHILDREN CHITWAN

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PRISONERS' CHILDREN DHADING

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2017
PRISONERS' CHILDREN MAKWANPUR

Please see their names in the back side.

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