



A non-profit charitable, U.S. foundation rescuing...
...*"the forgotten children of Nepal"*

July, 2011

WE HAVE A LOT GOING ON



450 DESERVING LIVES.



**Virtue's Children Nepal is an
ALL-VOLUNTEER
FOUNDATION**

No funds are spent for salaries, office rent, international travel, bonuses or special benefits. Minimal administration expenses accrued in Nepal are covered by board member donations.

MAKING A "FAMILY" WHERE THERE WAS NONE

VCN has seen remarkable success amongst the orphaned Nepali children in its care. Almost all of these children are survivors of horrendous beginnings: extreme deprivation, family tragedies, injuries, abandonment and abuse. A bath and a pair of shoes can be the beginning of amazing transformation in these children, with housing, good nutrition and schooling to follow. The orphanage that VCN constructed last year for 25 girls and continues to support has been the greatest pride for us. No suggestion of "institution" exists. Something very fundamental underlies the relief and stability that these boys and girls demonstrate from the moment they are rescued.

Sharing time and affections are essential to the reassurance that each of these children needs to fully appreciate the guarantee of a new life; a life of structure, possibilities and unyielding support. This offering comes easy to VCN and provides enormous rewards to everyone on both sides. While family structure for these children can never be the same as with traditional families, compassionate alternatives can be equally effective to the child's development. In addition to attentive care-givers and generous parental attention from VCN board members, the children themselves manage an instant "sisterhood" and "brotherhood" that bonds them together and provides an inspiring support system of friendships and helpers.

As much as we credit all the children for resiliency and the fortitude to move forward, we recognize that deep within each child carries an incredibly painful history. In pure Nepali character, though, wounds are never picked at, but are allowed to heal and transcend into the smiles and the good cheer that prevails in the home they share as a community of family. Thoughts and memories of early traumas and struggles are set aside and never mentioned. The overwhelming spirit of this home is of belonging, sharing, loving. The joy of time spent in the company of these determined kids is the constant reminder of our purpose in Nepal.

***A wondrous gathering of special children forging new lives.
A VCN board member, a few orphanage staff and 84 of the orphaned children in VCN's care.***



GIRLS' ORPHANAGE

This new, wonderful orphanage provides unending gratification to 25 children, VCN and to those who played a major part in making this home materialize. It took time and effort, but the worth of the goal was never in doubt and



now is fully expressed in the beaming faces of the spirited little girls who have been given security, a family structure and all the support necessary to achieve fulfilled lives. It is most likely that these homeless girls would soon have been victims to child trafficking, if not for our rescue. Now, bonded together in harmony and beautifully adjusted to their home environment, every child is

a reminder of our purpose. This year the girls demonstrated tremendous academic success and every day they celebrate their new lives with optimism and joy. Even a few minutes spent in the company of these children dramatically underlines

the success of this project.

While VCN continues to financially support the orphanage, The Paropakar Organization manages all levels of care and education for all of the children and does so with the same integrity and pride shown by VCN. Supervisors and assistants give full, loving attention to these children and insure their well being with daily reminders of how important they have become to everyone involved with their new lives.



BOYS' ORPHANAGE

Paropakar Orphanage can claim well-deserved credit for many achievements, including the initial inspiration for VCN's social work many years ago. A visit to that orphanage in 1984 inspired two visitors to Nepal who are now VCN board members. From the beginning, they made efforts to assist the orphans with donations and college scholarships. These days VCN continues with the same commitment to improving the lives of destitute orphans.

Paropakar was the first social organization and orphanage established in Nepal (1953) and it has managed to continue its service to children and the helpless, but is mainly dependent upon

meager donations from the public in Nepal. The dedicated management team of this organization has served thousands of children through the years and VCN feels privileged to participate in their noble cause with provisions and contributions that directly improve the quality of life for the orphans. Our donations of clothes, educational equipment and supplies, medical care, sports equipment and housing improvements through the years have greatly improved the orphanage environment. Our efforts have provided these children with a feeling of pride in their home and in themselves, effectively challenging the social shame of being an orphan child in an impoverished country.

By far, the most essential provision from VCN has been continuing college scholarships for those orphan boys who



excel academically and have the drive and desire for higher education. Without further study, these bright young men will have little opportunity and good minds will be shuttered for life.

With sponsorships, they have the opportunity to change their circumstances and seek a life of purpose and contribution. If you can possibly become a sponsor please contact VCN at virtueschildren@hotmail.com



PATH OF LIGHT

"Path of Light is the descriptive name we have assigned to this very special school we have opened on the outskirts of Kathmandu. The founding of this school could only have happened with the timely cooperation, financial support and services of committed patrons and volunteers. Exposure to the dire living conditions for the many destitute children trapped in the disturbing confines of brick factory com-



pounds became a mutual concern for several parties...and a school was born. Not only is the brickyard environment stark, polluted, unhealthy and without services of any kind, but it is also highly dangerous. Unstable, giant piles of bricks are the only playground for these children and forced child labor can quickly become a part of their lives. Under VCN management, support from friends and day-to-day management by a noble group of Nepali volunteers, our school is serving more than 65 children with free education and nutritious meals. Beyond the usual merits of schooling, good food and health care, escape from factory conditions and its many hazards is a joyous relief with lifetime benefits for these children.

As much as education is fundamental to the purpose of our attention, we also recognize that the gift of exposure to the "real world"



has had a profound impact for all of these children. Organized tours to temples, parks and the zoo have opened eyes and imaginations for all these children who had previously feared the outside world as an intimidating unknown. Our ambitions for these children encompass all aspects of leadership for lives of change and possibilities. We can't really know what the future will be for each child, but we are fully confident that the helping hand and guidance we are providing will mean life-changing difference for many.

THE MIND CAN SEE WHEN THE EYES CAN'T

From grade school through college, blind students in Nepal never take for granted the importance of education. When these children are also orphaned or are from impoverished backgrounds, their motivation to succeed becomes an even stronger force in their lives. Other options to seek

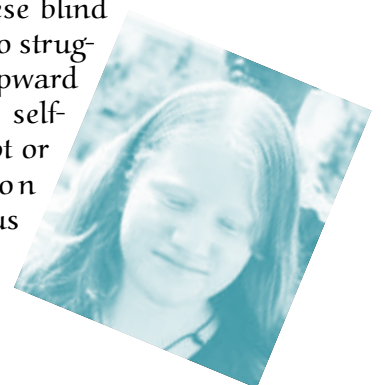


self-reliance and progress are rare or non-existent in Nepal. With the energized determination that our blind children exhibit in their studies, we champion their futures and the rewards have been astonishing.

Every year almost all of our sponsored blind children academically rank at the top of classes shared with sighted students. Without any special classroom services or allowances to assist the blind, these motivated students strive with passion and fortitude to realize the life-changing opportunity given by our sponsorships for an education. Even beyond the high scholastic stan-



dards set by these students, we are frequently gratified to witness incredible achievements by especially brilliant blind children in our care. Two of these students have been the first blind in Nepal to study higher math and they have succeed beyond all expectations – tops in their classes. Many others have won national honors for special achievements, talents and capabilities. The ability and courage of these blind children to struggle upward without self-pity, doubt or hesitation inspires us all.



VCN ALL-VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO RESCUE AND SUPPORT DESTITUTE AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN IN NEPAL!

- * VCN – Paropakar Orphanage for 25 girls.
 - * Family home for 6 orphaned girls.
- * Support and provisions to 75 orphan boys.
- * Education and nutrition for 145 street children.
 - * "Path of Light" School for 65 children from brick factory compounds.
 - * Scholarships for 66 orphaned and physically impaired students.
 - * Scholarships for 20 blind children
- * Services and supplies to elderly victims of leprosy.



VIRTUE'S CHILDREN NEPAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ALLAN AISTROPE
Board Chairman
Program Director

SHAWN CONNOLLY
Treasurer
Non-profit Consultant

WENDY BREWER LAMA
Ecotourism Consultant

PENELOPE ROSE
Board Secretary
Fashion Designer

RAJEESH SHRESTHA
Jewelry Importer

Dedication to our work in Nepal is the easy part. Unending inspiration is found in the smiling faces of the many children who would otherwise be suffering horrendous hardships if we were not there to rescue, serve and guide. But without our support team to encourage and financially back us, we would be unable to embrace the next child on our path. Through the VCN years, an exceptional blend of donors and VCN board members have made miracles happen. This teamwork has given new life and opportunity to hundreds of the most neglected children on earth and long may this partnership continue and grow.

Our appreciation for the support given VCN is equal to our commitment to our Nepali children. Every effort is made to insure that our funding to the children and the programs we support is utilized to the best and most efficient means possible. **VCN board members vigorously supervise all expenses and determine the value of every financial consideration.** What we do for the children is in the name of those who provide the means to achieve our purpose. We make every effort to minimize expenses, allowing us to do more for more.

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to assist VCN and the children we serve. Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated and will make you a partner in our rescue and service to orphaned and damaged children in Nepal.

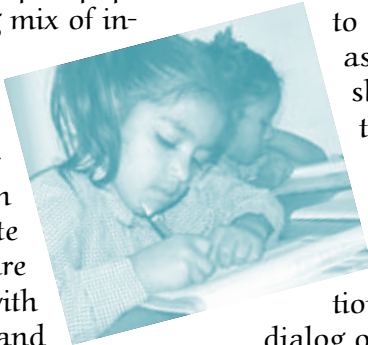


REACHING DOWN TO LIFT UP!

The challenges of social work in the slums of Kathmandu are innumerable, but the benevolent volunteers of the Bal Sarathi organization continue to provide service and opportunity essential to improving the lives of the most down-trodden, neglected children in Nepal. Supported by VCN, Bal Sarathi has established a school near a temple complex populated with a disturbing mix of indigent squatters, beggars, prostitutes and the homeless. Over 150 children from this unfortunate community are now provided with free education and nutritious meals. It was a difficult undertaking in the beginning, but with time, patience and continued outreach a trust was established with the children and with the children's family members. At first the children were encour-



aged just to partake of free meals, but they rapidly became comfortable with the Bal Sarathi ladies and classroom activities were introduced.



The children responded to the classes with enthusiasm, but their families were slow to be convinced that the children who shared their squalid and outcast circumstances would be accepted into a school or benefit from education. With interaction and dialog on the part of Bal Sarathi members, concerns were lessened and an appreciation beyond the free meals began to be understood. The children themselves shared the wonders of education within the community they lived in and in time the Bal Sarathi School was gratefully seen as the children's escape from the traps of poverty and social rejection. The children's futures are untold, but now their lives are matters of choice and determination, not the curse of their beginnings.



Virtue's
Children -
Nepal invites
you to join
KarmaQuest



Ecotourism and Adventure Travel on a customized, cultural tour of the Kathmandu Valley and Pokhara, to benefit orphans and physically impaired children in Nepal. A highlight of this journey will be a visit to Paropakar Orphanage in Kathmandu, where you will become acquainted with incredibly courageous and delightful, orphan boys.



A portion of the cost of this trip will be donated through Virtue's Children - Nepal to directly benefit these children or other orphans with emergency aid or educational support. Virtue's Children - Nepal board member Wendy Brewer Lama and her husband Karma Lama are directors of KarmaQuest, an award-winning adventure travel company based in Half Moon Bay, California. They have designed this special tour to highlight the medieval wonders and UNESCO Cultural Heritage treasures of Kathmandu, Patan and Bhaktapur cities, while giving you a taste of village life in Nagarkot, a bird's eye view of Mt. Everest on an unforgettable mountain flight and a restful stay in serene Lakeside, Pokhara. Customized treks to the Everest region will also benefit Virtue's Children - Nepal and its work in Nepal. Please inquire for details.

Your travels with KarmaQuest will benefit from Wendy and Karma's extensive knowledge of Kathmandu and Nepal, and their ability to introduce you to cultural insights and new, cross-cultural friendships through their expert Nepali guides. To learn more about KarmaQuest and their trips, partners and beneficiaries, please see www.KarmaQuests.com or contact Karma and Wendy at karmaquest@earthlink.net, or telephone at (650) 560-0101.

A NON-PROFIT, ALL-VOLUNTEER, CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Virtue's Children Nepal is a U.S. 501 (c)(3), charitable foundation. Donations to our organization are tax-deductible and acknowledgement letters are provided for donations received.

Post Office Box #411563
San Francisco, CA 94141-1563
(415) 37 6-3434
virtueschildren@hotmail.com
virtueschildrennepal.org

