

A friendly

Namaste

to all our friends, patrons,
members and sponsors

*Paths are
made
by walking.*

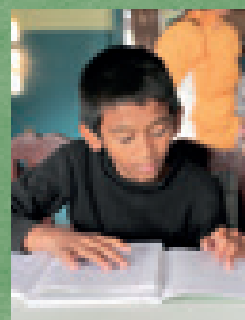
Franz Kafka

Freundeskreis Nepalhilfe e. V.

EINRICHTUNG ZUR FÖRDERUNG
NEPALESISCHER KINDER



FNH



NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER
2018



Gentle reader,

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Dear reader, a humble note of caution: we are a non profit, voluntary organization; editorial mishaps may occur.

I would like to begin this foreword by looking at the progress we have made since 2011. Similar to a magician pulling a dove from a top hat, a small group of amateurs has pulled out an elephant. Truly what your donations and our work have achieved is amazing.

Here are just a few highlights:

- Since 2011 the authorities in Nepal have continually awarded the children’s village the highest rating – an A rating.
- Nestled within the grounds of the village an elementary school has been established. The primary goal is not only to give a first-rate education. More importantly it concentrates on helping children traumatized from losing their parents and often living on the streets. Individual mentoring is part and parcel of this program as well as frequent teacher training. This year Ingrid Patzsch was again there this year aiding local teachers (see page 23).
- Increasingly the FWHC and the whole project are becoming more independent. More and more, decisions are made on the ground in Nepal. We are thrilled to see that thanks to initiatives taken from colleagues in the Children’s Village and in the Youth Hostel, the standard of living has increased (see page 14).
- Only half of Nepal has access to electricity. Our solution was to set up a clean photovoltaic system in the village. It provides all the power needed for living and learning; the village is now energy independent.

In 2011 we established a practical training program complete with workshops. The aim is to introduce young adults to the metal and wood working trades as well as to the electrical industry. On page 29 Unique Rawal a graduate relates how much he enjoyed his time there and how he has remained to help out with the new students.

To further strengthen the students’ chances on the job market, we began to offer vocational guidance. Today with help from a partner in Nepal – Career Disha Nepal (CDN) – we prepare young adults for the Nepalese job market (see page 25).

Furthermore members of the FWHC and FNH have also made contact with many villagers. Together this reconnaissance has given rise to “sustainable footprints.” Scattered across Nepal are small efforts to help a particular village with a specific problem. Detailed in pages four to eleven are descriptions of some of these projects.

My wish is that we all keep up the effort and remain engaged in these valuable projects in Nepal. For me, I am proud and happy at being in so a dynamic caring group of fellow travelers. One that spreads good will near and far. This newsletter begins with our latest, most recent exciting efforts, “sustainable footprints.”

Wishing you and your family a healthy, happy and productive new year,

Christiane Karsch
Cologne



A word from Christiane Karsch, member of the board of the FNH since 2012

FOOTPRINTS

DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE

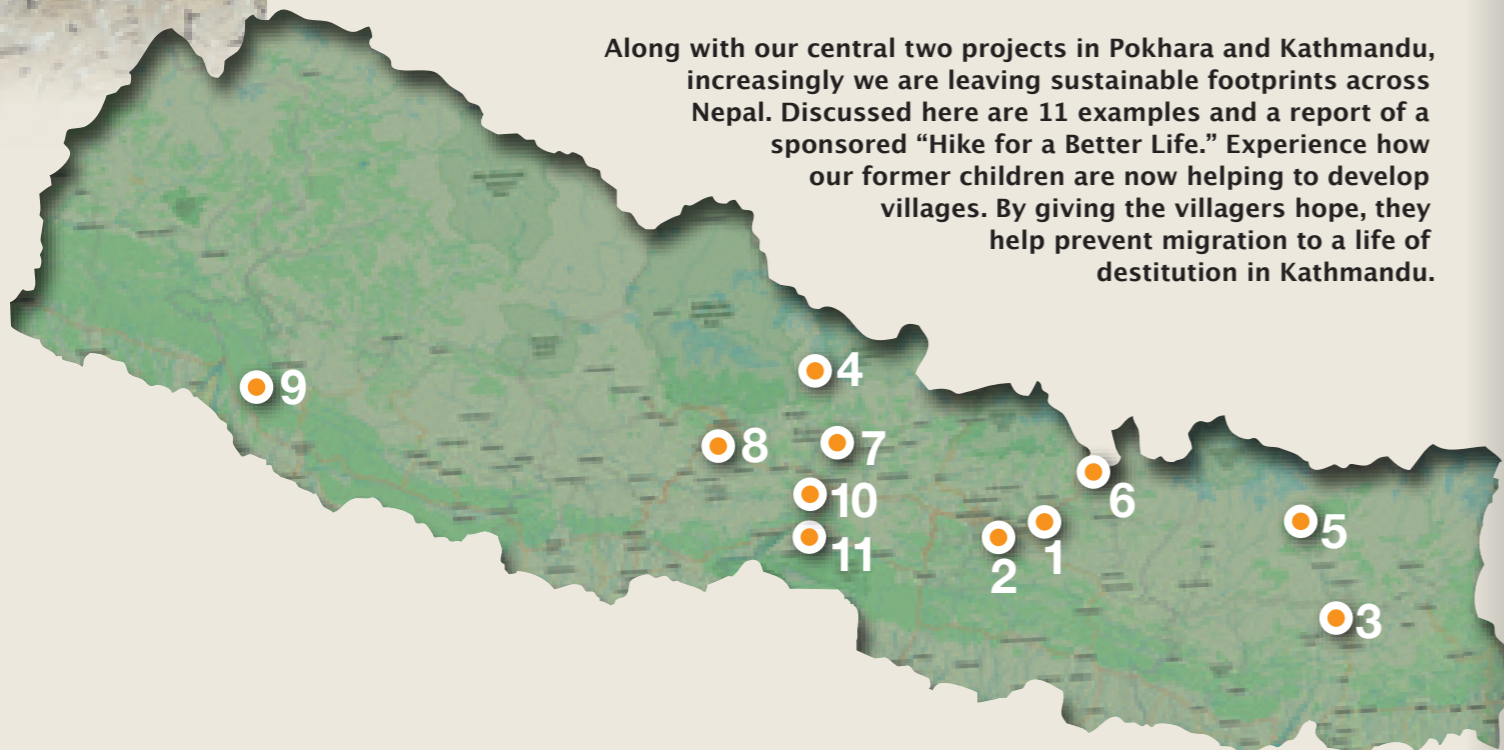
STRAIGHT ACROSS NEPAL



Reconstruction, well building, efficient and sustainable agriculture, education – Nepal is in need of them all.

The FNH and FWHC are both on the front lines lending a hand in various projects

Along with our central two projects in Pokhara and Kathmandu, increasingly we are leaving sustainable footprints across Nepal. Discussed here are 11 examples and a report of a sponsored “Hike for a Better Life.” Experience how our former children are now helping to develop villages. By giving the villagers hope, they help prevent migration to a life of destitution in Kathmandu.



© OpenStreetMap, openstreetmap.org

Development cooperation for three schools in the vicinity of “the hostel”

The three schools in and around Dukuchhap in Lalitpur District were partly destroyed from the earthquake. The Chitra Kumari Primary School received a completely new building from the FNH consisting of prefabricated units. As the school rests on a slope, the latter was strengthened. So

far the costs have come to roughly 27,000 Euros. A new roof was installed on the Shree Chanda Devi School for 13,000 Euros. The roof to the Indra Kamal Primary School needed repairs and this came to 1,900 Euros. Instruction has now resumed at all of the schools.



Retaining wall for the Mangala Devi school in Bhode

On recommendation of Dewan Rai, the request of the Mangala Devi School in the Danakuta District reached us to stop the soil erosion at their school. We have actively financed a large retaining wall as well as the planting of fruit trees with a protective fence around the school grounds. Thanks to

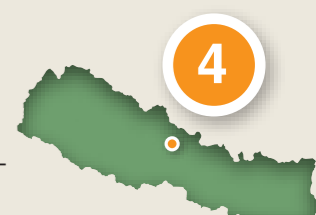
the protective fence, voracious goats and cows are prevented from eating off the young shoots. In addition our funds enabled a large rainwater collection tank and drinking water supply for the school. Alexander Schmidt visited the project last year.



Successful village development in Singdi

Many years ago we started to develop the village Singdi in Lamjung district. With hydropower generating 40 kilowatts, with toilets and showers in all the houses, a health-post, a computer lab in the school, the village has become more attractive and has been growing ever since. Now Singdi is

connected to Pokhara via a road and new houses are being built. The village with 2400 inhabitants received 5,000 Euros from the FNH last year for another water supply. Singdi has become a successful village development project.



1 Helping to develop the mountainous village Padgaunbeshi

After the latest earthquake in Nepal, nine homes were flattened in this village in the district of Kavre Palanchowk. Each of these home owners received a princely sum of 2,000 Euros to rebuild. The villagers' response was overwhelming. Alexander

Schmidt was in Nepal as the earthquake hit and shortly after he visited the village. In addition to rebuilding homes, the school Sarawoti Elementary School received 500 Euros for new teaching material.





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Village development in the Makalu Region

That a power supply and education are existential can be seen in what transpired in the village of Ropesa and Tashigaun in the Sankuwasabha District in Makalu.

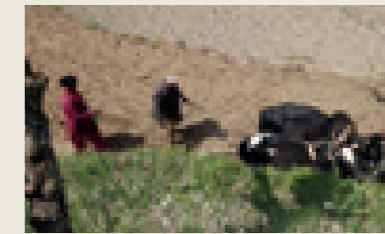
For 15,000 Euros we were able to rebuild the primary school. Shortly afterwards, there were almost twice as many pupils as before. The school is in Ropesa, the village that Alexander Schmidt had visited two years ago. It so far from any roads that logistics pretty much came to a standstill. Instead school furniture had to be constructed in situ. The

heavy turbine for that 8 KW hydroelectric power device had to be flown in with a helicopter. 8 KW should provide enough power for both villages. Work on the micro-grid continues; the initial bill for transportation and initial grid work has cost 25,000 Euros. Surprisingly, villagers have committed themselves to covering 25% of the expenses themselves. Either they've rolled up their sleeves and offered their labor, or donated material, or helped with fundraising. By making it their project, a village becomes more attractive, and more importantly young adults are more motivated to stay.



Villagers are completely involved in rebuilding the school.

The children are happy and grateful. With a new school many more children come to lessons.



Water project in a mountain village

What do you do without water? In 2015 the earthquake cut off the water supply of a village in Sindhupalchok district, a village high up in the mountains. Nothing was left, the spring, the 6 km channel and the water tank on the other end. Without water, farming was no longer possible.

We took up the necessary construction and repair costs in order to ensure the villagers could take care of themselves. Agriculture here is traditional: oxen yoked to wooden plow, women following behind sowing seed.



Over 100 pupils are contented in their new classrooms

Reconstruction and development of the elementary school in the mountain village Ramche

Of all the districts struck by the earthquake, it was Gorkha that was damaged the most. Alexander Schmidt and Chandra Sunar, former healthcare assistant at the children's village, were there in the

fall of 2015. In this district the village Ramche had its elementary school flattened. With 15,000 Euros the FNH got the school up and running; over 100 pupils attend.



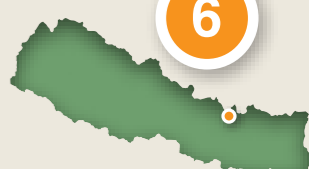
Women of the BPW Club pass over a donation for toys and other material

Full-day kindergarten in Pokhara's industrial park

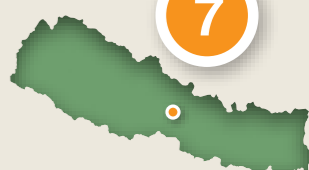
One challenge facing working mothers in Nepal is what to do with their toddlers. In Pokhara's industrial zone the local Business Professional Women Club (BPW) has set up a full-day kindergarten near to where women are working. FNH too is helping

out. Toys, mattresses, a TV, clothes, furniture and dishware – the 1,000 Euros the FNH donated went a long way. In 2017 Alexander Schmidt visited the institution and reported the children are well taken care of and the mothers over the moon.

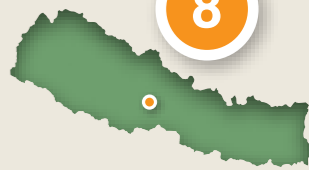
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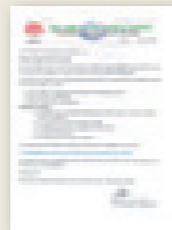


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Clean drinking water for pupils and teachers

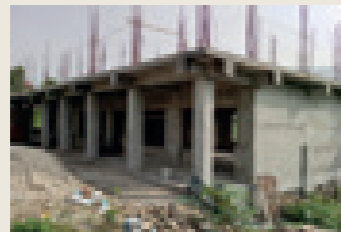
A note of thanks from the school director of the Jay Lord Buddha Public School

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Clean drinking water for the Jay Lord Buddha Public School in Thakurdwara

The majority of Nepalese live on the plains, the Therai; unfortunately the quality of water is miserable. FNH members Ingrid and Frank Patzsch from Chemnitz made contact with the school in Thakurdwara in Bardia District. A visit to the

school with 500 children revealed the dire situation. 2,300 Euros financed a large water tank and a top quality system to filter pumped well water. The system covers the daily needs of all schoolchildren and teachers.



Due to a lack of funding, building instruction now can take place on the ground floor

10

Building an elementary school in a Chepang village

A Swiss medical doctor living and working in Nepal, Ruth Gonseth, was the one who made contact with a school in a Chepang village south of Tandi in Chitwan District. 5,000 Euros is helping to re-

build and refurbish the elementary school. Since November 2018 instruction has resumed on the ground floor.



100 assembled bed frames for an emergency shelter for flood victims

11

Flood victims receive 100 bunk beds in the Antadoya Chepang Emergency Shelter by Tandi

Ruth Gonseth, the Swiss doctor mentioned above who has long worked in Nepal, also came into contact with the flood victims among the Chepang. The Chepang remain today hunters and gathers in the forests of the Chitwan District. These poor

people were especially hard hit by the monsoon deluge in the summer of 2017. Shelter was desperately needed. The FNH donated 10,000 Euros for 100 beds in the Antadoya Chepang shelter.



Hike for a Better Life

It's March 2018. For a well mixed group of 14 travelers it is the start of an adventure. Under the banner "Hike for a Better Life," this intrepid group was about to sally forth for two weeks in the land of the Himalaya. First was a five-day sponsored hike organized by the FNH and teamtischer GmbH through remote mountain villages in Parbat District in the west. Moreover they visited our Children's Village and Youth Hostel.

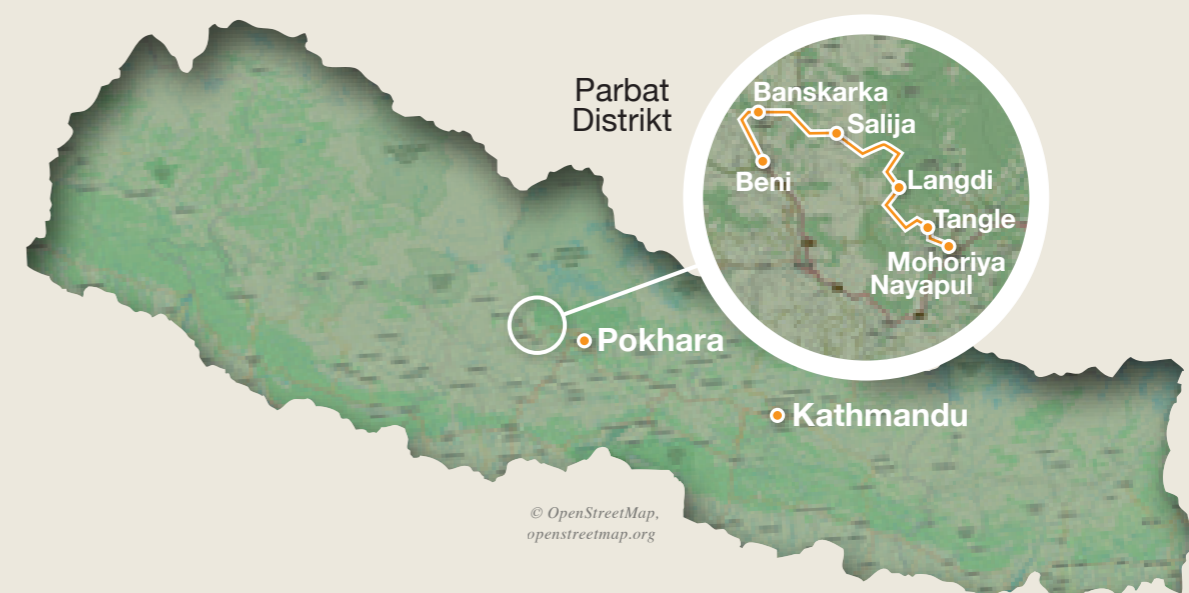
grips with an unknown rather exotic land not as tourists but as neighbors. Individually occasionally they have come to their limits both physically and emotionally but as a group they stand together. They learn how little is needed to decidedly improve the life of a village or community; they experience what does and doesn't work. Ultimately they have learned to become acquainted with strangers who took them in impartially and with open arms. For a moment both have forgotten how wide a chasm there is between their different worlds.

The goal of this unusual journey was to get to understand the local people and their lives. As well, participants of the hike wished to learn which projects most urgently needed supporting and where the biggest bang for donated money would be. The rationale behind this persuasion was that an aid project will only be sustainable when both donor and receiver have a mutual solid feeling.

Kathmandu: chaos, orderliness and hope

For a European Kathmandu comes across like something in a fantasy film. It's a Moloch of six or more million inhabitants without street names, without traffic rules. Thousands of honking, tooting, blaring, beeping horns are heard from myriad mopeds, cars, trucks and Tuktuks all fighting

For this rough and ready, cobbled together group, the Nepal journey leaves an imprint consummate and deep. To a degree participants have come to

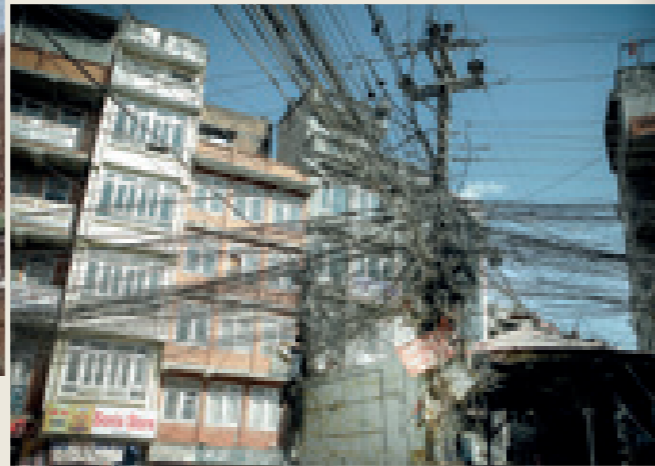


5 day sponsored hike through Parbat District

© OpenStreetMap, openstreetmap.org



Power line tangle in Kathmandu



HIKE FOR A BETTER LIFE

to squeeze through the often narrow enormously dusty streets and lanes. Kathmandu is an organism run riot, an exuberant growth of diminutive traders doing business on streets that never will be finished and buildings with slapdash power lines. Monks with iPhones sit among uncountable sleeping dogs. Splendid temples and shrines peek out from mountains of garbage and the ruins of the 2015 earthquake that surround them. Nothing appears to be finished. And yet, and yet, most everything functions remarkably well. The city may be loud and chaotic but still it is saturated with Buddhist serene imperturbability and Hindu rituals.

Nepalese affability often keeps at bay the desolate situation. Everyone has time, everyone is unwearied, no one appears aggressive or frustrated. Strangers find Nepalese fair-minded and open. Rarely will a Nepali gaze upon a tourist with envy or desire. One feels safer than in Paris or the Cologne Central Station.

The mountains Hike for a Better Life

For five days the intrepid band of hikers is underway through the Parbat Region. Along with their guides Laxmi Gurung and her husband Alexan-

der Schmidt, the fourteen trekkers visit disparate hamlets in a region that seldom sees a stranger, let alone a tourist. Politely put, the infrastructure is rudimentary. There may be power and astonishingly at least a 3-G net, still the marks of the 2015 earthquake are evident. Everywhere. Everything is lacking. Without outside help little can be repaired. Water supply is a mess; schools and communal centers are heaps of rubble. Nepal is facing an existential moment. Do these communities have a future together? The threat is palpable: if the villagers lose hope then as with so many other developing nations, the young and hardy move to the city leaving the old and frail behind. With burgeoning populations, cities' misery increases as well.

Here out in the country, a Nepal that once was, the kindness is overwhelming. Everywhere the respective rural communities welcome the group with floral wreaths and blessings. Instead of being quid pro quo, a thankfulness dependent on aid to be received, most often villagers demonstrate a truly felt concern for members of the "hike for a better life."

The hikers bed down in private quarters with villagers. That means either sharing a two-bed hut or conking out in a stable with water buffalo sleeping

With a small donation one can click on the link from Christiane Karsch christiane.karsch@nepalhilfe.de to view a documentary of the "Hike for a Better Life" by Adrian Draschoff.

In Tangle seniors enjoy western cigarettes



Tangle construction site: water tank and connections



High above in the mountains lie Tangle and Mohariya



nearby. Food is cooked over open fires by women in the hamlet. Ubiquitous are meals of rice and lentils (Dal Bhat) along with various vegetables or possibly a freshly butchered wee chicken.

The Children's Village: a home

A change of scene: the girls and boys in the FWHC Children's Village in Bhakunde-Pokhara excitedly greet the arrival of the hikers in their school uniforms. Children take each guest by the hand and proudly show their simple but clean rooms. They play soccer together and exchange addresses. The bugle isn't blown by the daily reveille but there is a roll call and the assembled children do sing. Uniforms, song, files in formation at parade rest, rallying cry - reveille in the Children's Village may look martial to the outsider but to barely developed Nepal it comes across as ordered and structured, and in that comforting. The beginning of a better world.

Take away for participants

"The people that we met in Nepal aren't starving. They radiate contentment, perhaps even to the point of being happy. If that is the case, then what is needed to achieve a respectable and dignified life? What then is needed so that youth don't flee and pursue their luck in the city? On this "Hike for a Better Life" we have experienced close up and personal that the small things can change the world for many people. More astounding, in Nepal it can

be an unadorned undersized gesture that can lead from chaos to a better life. A school uniform, a woman who tenderly combs your hair at an orphan's compound, clean water or a chair for every child in a classroom - that's the fundamental approach of the FNH and FWHC. Together with just a little a lot can be put into motion and a better future can take wings."

**Frank Schmidt
Christian Sutter**

members of that merry band of brothers and sisters in the "Hike for a Better Life"

Below: The hikers arrive at the FWHC Youth Hostel in Kathmandu





Large photos left:
First work and
then the film

Small photos right:
Certificates for Martin Tischer
and Ingrid Patzsch

12. GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

30 JUNE 2018 IN MOERS

This year the Members' Meeting was held in LOFT47 of the firm teamtischer GmbH. Both conference rooms and catering were courtesy of Martin Tischer. At the meeting's conclusion a convivial grill party was held on the patio and the film "Hike for a Better Life" (the film from the March 2018 sponsored hike) was shown.

Chairman Alexander Schmidt opened the meeting and thanked the members for their ongoing support above that is above and beyond the call of duty. Second on the agenda was a commemoration for those who have passed on. Afterwards Alex presented certificates of appreciation to Martin Tischer and to Ingrid Patzsch (see page 23). Ingrid had again this year led a several week long teacher training program at the Children's Village.

Four key issues were discussed: the need to increase membership contribution to €50, the chairman's report, the treasurer's report, and new election of board members.

Alexander Schmidt's report

Alexander brought the members up to date on all three of the group's projects, "Footprints" (see pages 4-11), the

"Children's Village" and the "Youth Hostel." For twenty-two years the group has been making its presence in Nepal known in a positive way. At the moment 83 children live in the Children's Village in Pokhara and 15 young adults at Kathmandu's Youth Hostel. As of June 2018 22 Nepalese colleagues are working full-time and 11 part-time with these projects.

Children's Village

Yet again, the Nepalese authorities have given the village an A rating confirming the high standards of the living conditions as well as the educational facilities.

Youth Hostel

Unfortunately the street in front of the hostel should be widened and hence the hostel partly demolished. As things move slowly in Nepal, there have not been concrete efforts to realize these goals. The Youth Hostel was painted in the spring of 2018.

Treasurer Marco Hanßmann's report

With a series of clearly laid-out graphics Marco Hanßmann summarized the solid financial state of the FNH. 1.2% is what the FNH has in administrative costs.

The mid to long term goal is to use German membership fees to cover 100% of the costs. At that point 100% of every penny donated will flow to Nepal. As membership has grown in the past years to 350 members, that goal is without reach.

Reelection of the board

All members of the board stood for reelection and were unanimously returned to their functions.

Important information for our members

Along with the invitation for the members' assembly came an explanation of three reasons why the membership contribution is being increased:

1. That unbelievable 1.2% figure has only been possible due to the laudable efforts of the unsalaried, voluntary, board members and the support of umpteen helpers. Still our end goal is to have 100% of donations go to Nepal.

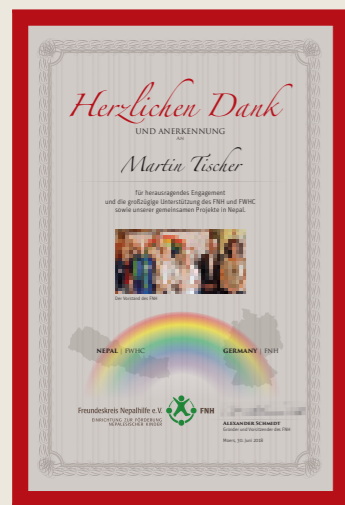
2. As we have expanded we are bumping up against boundaries here in Germany. At times we need professional expertise which we do not have and must pay for.

3. Since the founding of the FNH has held the line and never increased the

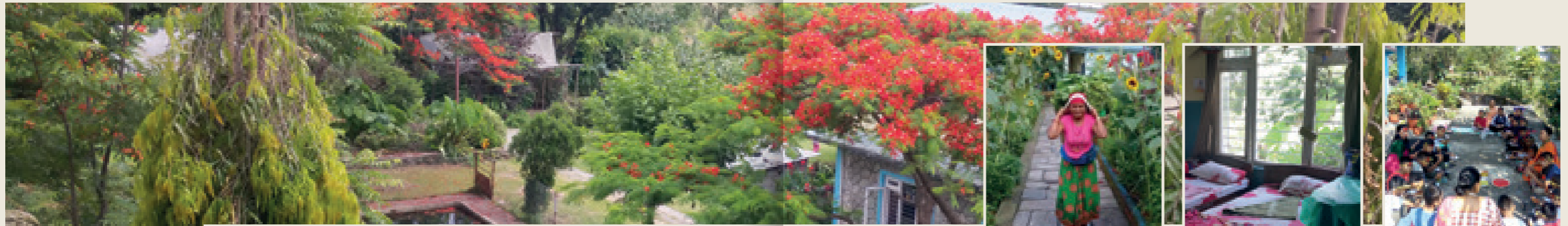
membership fee of €30 a year. This fee is very low compared to other organisations.

At the assembly the increase from 30 to 50 Euros was unanimously accepted. The increase will help to strengthen our efforts. You can cancel your membership at any time by the end of the year by contacting Marco Hanßmann (marco.hanssmann@nepalhilfe.de). It is something we would very much regret.

Dr. Sabrina Beck



The old and new
board of the FNH



A HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING IN THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE AND "HOSTEL"

Whoever grows up in a clean and well-tended environment carries this imprint through his or her life. That is one of the most important founding principles of the Children's Village, one that has followed us for years, and is one that has led to the government authorities awarding the village the highest mark of A.

Above: a green oasis in the Children's Village provides fresh vegetables and fruit

Below: our Youth Hostel newly painted



All the children entrusted to us live in the Children's Village and the Youth Hostel in neat homes. After the earthquake damage was repaired in Kathmandu the Hostel was newly painted. Doesn't it look nice? (photo left)

Televisions are in both facilities and at the Hostel is a small radio in which to hear as well as see sports events and educational programs.

The foundation is laid in the Children's Village

All rooms have spacious beds, wardrobes for clothes, and an iron for the school uniforms. By us children learn to

iron. Our house matron are not employees for the children and youth. Quite the opposite. They engage our children in every activity. Daily the children help with cooking, gardening, cleaning of kitchen and dining room; commendably they wash their clothes at the wash basins in front of each house. Even the youngest sweep before the house. Contrary to many other Nepalese children, ours always wear clean clothes, even when playing. They receive very good medical care, and learn everything about personal hygiene as well as keeping it up.

Well-manicured flowers bloom everywhere and in the garden everyone

itches in to harvest the large crop of vegetables.

The children learn a bit of farming, and carry compost in their baskets as they know how it helps with growth.

For a few months now we have deployed a wash machine in each of the four children's houses for the laundry of the youngest. Children under six years can't wash for themselves and it is asking too much for the matrons to do this daily chore.

Building and strengthening self-esteem

A sound formal education is what we offer at the school in the village from pre-school to the 5th grade. Afterwards all children and youth transfer to secondary school in Pokhara or Patan near Kathmandu. To promote self-esteem

children learn extemporaneous speaking, singing and dancing in public. For that purpose we even have a stage in the village which is regularly used. At the Hostel the youth have one year of career coaching and they learn the basics in handling electrical systems as well as working with wood and metal.

Is this not a bit of overkill?

The resounding answer is no! Quite the opposite, we continue to try to improve the child's and youth's surroundings. Here are a few examples of the impact on the later life of 'our' children.

Whenever time allows I visit the youth in their rooms, apartments or houses. What strikes me immediately is the cleanliness. Recently I was invited to a meal of Dal Bhat with those who are studying in Kathmandu. After the meal pots, stove and tiled wall meticulously

scoured. Neither plate nor pot had a speck of grime either before or afterwards. Flowers were even on the table.

In job interviews applicants look the interviewer direct in the eye with confidence all the while explaining their motives and strengths. They don't pull a cap over their face as is typical in Nepal. In other words they leave a good impression in any exchange.

I have never met former children or their children wearing tatty clothes. They put everything in motion to keep the accustomed standard of living. Indeed holding these standards is hugely motivating to maintain this standard. In the beginning, with a few individuals, naturally there are a few mishaps but soon all adapt to this well-regulated lifestyle. Everyone of our "grandchildren" attend good schools.

Alexander Schmidt

STAFF AND CHILDREN IN OUR PROJECTS 2018

Number of staff November 2018

VILLAGE	SCHOOL	HOSTEL	TOTAL
16 staff members	9 staff members	6 staff members	31 staff members* 17 women 14 men

* 20 staff members are fulltime, 11 are part-time

Number of children November 2018

VILLAGE	POKHARA AND HINTERLAND*	HOSTEL	KATHMANDU, BHAKTAPUR	HIGHER EDUCATION	TOTAL
86 children	20 children	15 children	2 children	1 youth	124 children
41 girls 45 boys	7 girls 13 boys	8 girls 7 boys	1 girls 1 boys	1 male	57 girls 67 boys

* DAMAULI, BESHISHAHAR, PALPA, JHAPA DISTRIKT, BIRATNAGAR, DHULIKEL, CHITWAN

NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

A HEARTY WELCOME TO OUR SIX NEW ADDITIONS IN THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE



LESION GHARTI MAGAR
male, born 19.11.2013



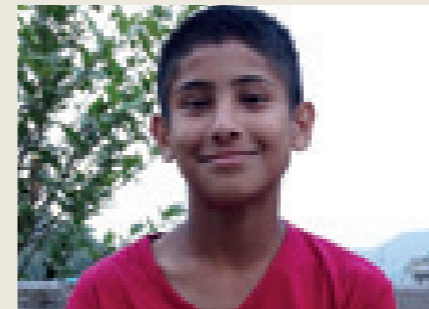
ASMITA GHARTI MAGAR
girl, born 26.12.2011



ASHIM NEPAL LAMSAL
male, born 30.03.2008
(date fixed by authorities)

The father of Asmita and Lesion died four years ago of polio. The death of her husband led to a psychological disorder and the abandonment of her four children. The 15 year old sister lives with the uncle and aunt; one brother is in a home in Kathmandu. The District Child Welfare Board (DCwB) in Baglung brought us the seven year old Asmita and her five year old brother Lesion.

Ashim's parents and birthplace are unknown. In 2009 the Pokhara police found the roughly nine month old Ashrim on the street and brought him to a children's home of another charity. As the home, however, did not fulfill the established conditions, the government closed the facility. In May 2018, the district's Office of Juvenile Care intervened in the matter and the boy came to us where we now have become Ashim's family.



KUMAR KANDEL
male, born 30.03.2009
(date fixed by authorities)

Kumar's parents are mentally disabled and the father abandoned the family. As with Ashim, Kumar was also taken to the home that the authorities later closed. Since his mother was unable to care for him, Kumar landed on the street. A woman from Tanahun Damauli registered Kumar with the Office of Juvenile Care which then last spring entrusted him in our custody.



CHABIRAJ PARIYAR
male, born 14.08.2012

Chabiraj's father died of cardiac arrest. He has three siblings. The mother, though, works hard as a day laborer and is unable to care for the family. Pokhara's Lekhnath Metropolitan Administration-18 ferried Chabiraj to us.



BIMALA SARKI (NEPALI)
girl, born 20.11.2004

Bimala Sarki's family lives in Sindhuli. Upon the death of the mother, the father walked out on his three kids. First Bimala was accommodated in a children's home of a Hong Kong project, later, though, the authorities intervened. The Office of Juvenile Care requested that we take Bimala in.

QUOTE FROM A VISITOR'S REPORT



"On special occasions there'd be an ice-cream party or Nepalese dumplings for everyone. It certainly impressed me how cordially, open, friendly and considerate everyone was with each other and how quickly visitors were integrated. The children are doing very well, the house matrons have a wonderful bond

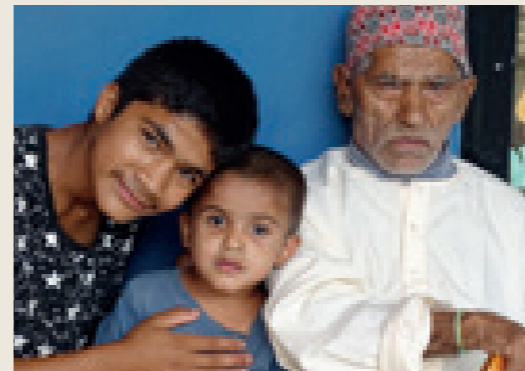
with the children. Verily the children's village has developed into a small oasis."

Dr. Sabrina Beck
Frankfurt

In Spring 2018 Sabrina was in Nepal and visited our projects

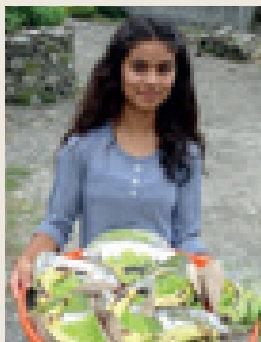
The complete visitor report can be found under <https://nepalhilfe.de/index.php/besucherberichte.html>





WITH MUCH JOY YOUNG AND OLD LEARN FROM EACH OTHER

Normally, in a family along with parents children have grandparents. All learn together. In a joyful kindly manner the elderly pass on their sagacity. In turn children delight the old with their playful shenanigans.



Babita bringing delectable refreshments for the elderly

Exactly this mutually beneficial relationship was missing in our Children's Village, as grandpa and grandma are nary to be found. Children measure their strength among themselves and watch as their life's elixir bubbles to the surface. They never truly get to know old people. Laxmi Gurung, board member on the FWHC in Nepal recognized this deficit. Three years ago she made contact with an old folks'

home in Pokhara, Old Shelter Home. Until recently, Pokhara, with its almost 600,000 inhabitants, had only four homes. The extended family in Nepal is still the norm.

For about a year now our children regularly visit the home, sing, dance, cooking, and helping out there with cleaning up the grounds. The children experience the full gamut, from hearty and

hale senior citizens to the bedridden, those weak and slowly departing. The children find the visits very important in developing their social competence.

In May of this year another important step was taken. All sprightly seniors were invited to visit children's village. At 1 p.m. a rented bus with 36 senior citizens ventured forth direction village. The oldest was over 100. How would the meeting go? How would young and old interact? For some long moments our colleagues' imagination ran wild. The kids, though, simply took wrinkly

hands and showed the elders the village. From the first moment everyone enjoyed the encounter.

The children and the elderly had animated conversations and ate creamed rice from a huge pot. Our girls combed old ladies' silver hair and adored them with flowers. For the guests a play was performed and at the end everyone danced to cool music in the schoolyard. At no point was reticence an issue. In fact the opposite occurred with the children seeking close contact. The elderly would like to come to the village

36 senior citizen from the old folks' home visiting the children's village

for religious festivals to offer our children their blessing.

At the end of the day a group photo was taken (see above) and packages of fruit juice that the elderly brought along were distributed to the children. Actually, the seniors had wished to remain only one hour but ended up staying until to 5 p.m. A successful day where our kids briefly had a granddad and grandma. The next visit is already being planned.

Laxmi Gurung
Pokhara

QUOTATION FROM A VISITOR'S REPORT



"Also the children soon realize there is hardly a difference between their lives and the daily flow in our family. In lieu of parents a dedicated team gives a structure: where responsibility, discipline and independence are learned. As well space is created for the individual to flourish. After a three week visit at the Children's Village our lives have been enriched; especially our daugh-

ter has gained an important impetus in how she shapes her life. We are very appreciative."

Katharina Prünke
Bonn Bad Godesberg

Katharina and her husband and their eight year old daughter were at the Children's Village in December 2017

The complete visitor report can be found under <https://nepalhilfe.de/index.php/besucherberichte.html>



WHEN DREAMS BECOME REALITY

We had a dream the kids and me: there should be a place for children, teachers and staff where everyone could go in any season, in any weather and be happy together. A place to celebrate, to have contests, birthdays and other events to which all residents could be present. Naturally there should be a stage where the children could dance, sing, give speeches, and stage performances. A place for learning, where on a flat screen films and sports events could be shown. When it rained karate and gymnastic could be practiced here, as well as meeting locals. A large communi-

ty with almost 100 children and much staff needs an equally large room, an auditorium as it were.

Fitting the purpose was an already existing hardly used old building next to the school that had been used occasionally for homework. To realize our dream required much work and more money. Still it wasn't an impossible dream if our angels pitched in. A heartfelt thank you to Italian Bank Credito Fondiario with its truly generous donation. A dream became reality! The new room, or better said, auditorium, now stands ready for action.

Patrizia Bisi
Rome



A festive opening



Dennis explains how the mini-computer calliope is a programmable wonder

CALLIOPE THE MINI-COMPUTER IS COMING

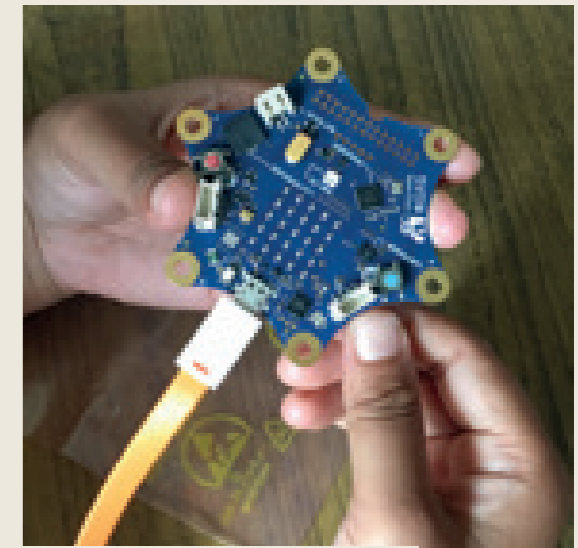
What is Calliope? Originally the muse of poetry in Greek mythology, it is now a mini-computer that is child's play to learn to program. That's something the children in Nepal also wanted to try out. Six devices awoke the interest of teacher and pupil. In a test phase participants take the first steps into the digital world with help from an internet platform developed from the Fraunhofer Institute. www.iais.fraunhofer.de

Dennis and Lena brought the devices with them and familiarize the children with the technology.

Everyone is interested even enthusiastic. With a little practice and the right program Calliope metamorphosed into an instrument, pocket calculator, meteorological station or disco mirror ball.

<https://calliope.cc/>

In addition, the teachers enjoy testing the programs with their pupils preparing them for a digital future.



The children have fun programming

QUOTATION FROM A VISITOR'S REPORT

"In the Youth Hostel the residents were waiting for me with an inquisitive gaze. My portrait-CV was on the bulletin board much like a wanted poster detailing my family and my hobbies. My passion for dancing served me well. Shortly after an introduction the boys and girls wanted to learn a dance from me. Nei-

ther did they know the song or the Jazz steps but they threw themselves into it and had a humongous good time!"

Hannah Hoppe
Riga

In July 2017 Hanna visited the Youth Hostel and Children's Village



The complete visitor report can be found under <https://nepalhilfe.de/index.php/besucherberichte.html>

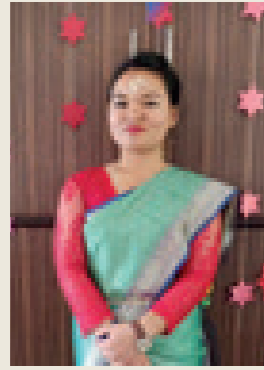
"Without fail, in just a few days of my visit I get to know so many individuals who touch a chord. Some can still laugh despite having little. Others are so concerned for the good of the child they go far beyond what can be termed teaching."

Anja Oebels
Munich

Anja visited the projects in August 2018

The complete visitor report can be found under <https://nepalhilfe.de/index.php/besucherberichte.html>

Kumari organized the second Alumni meeting. In between she has become a teacher at our Children's Village.



ALUMNI FROM THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE AND YOUTH HOSTEL OFFER EACH OTHER MUTUAL SUPPORT

Group photo from left:

*Basanta Lamichhane
Madan Bastola
Japendra Gurung
Balaram Adhikari
Rahool Lamichhane
Rekha Bista
Sangita Gurung
Sagar GC
Rudraa Gurung
Nobin Adhikari
Dil Bahadur Khadka
Bimat Gurung
Binaya Adhikari*

The FWHC (Forum for the Welfare of Him-alayan Children) was founded in 1995 with one goal in mind: the betterment of orphans, street children, and others in dire need (see pp 16-17). We, the residents and pupils of the Children's Village and Youth Hostel in Kathmandu, were recipients of that ambition.

After the 10th grade, and with the support of FNH/ FWHC, we began to structure our own lives. By now we could to a degree pursue our own aptitude, our own way; after all that is how we were raised at the village and 'hostel.'

As we are now scattered throughout Nepal and occasionally to the four winds abroad, it is difficult to meet together or with friends. Sometimes now having left the warmth and security of the village

and 'hostel' there is a sense of solitary sadness. We miss every single moment there, missing the care-free moments of childhood that we experienced there.

Ergo we began to search for our 'siblings' and use social networks, to link up friends with friends. Ultimately we wished to launch a club of ex-students under the auspices of the FWHC. 'Siblings' of various grades, Raju Tamang, Madan Bastola and me, Kumari Gurung, founded the FWHC's Ex-Students' Club. In the meantime many of the former 'siblings' now participate. Our club is motivated to support and bind those children leaving the village. In the future we hope to join the scrum with the FWHC so that we can give a little back of that which we were allowed to enjoy.

Kumari Gurung
Pokhara



TEACHER TRAINING AT THE SCHOOL OF THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

For the third time, from 26 February to March 23, 2018, I carried out an elementary teacher training program. My focus in this teacher formation was on those children who needed more time and individual help in learning. Still as they say in Nepal, "Same, same, but different," what actually transpired was different.

First the teachers had a chance to ask questions and relay concerns which I then oriented the program to. Although I wasn't able to offer a recipe but from my experience I could offer various possibilities in which to approach the children. There was little theory but much time spent discussing possibilities with practical material. Together we differentiated the categories of fast and slow learners.

Together with Kumari, the youngest teacher and ex-pupil of the Children's Village, we crafted a one-hour lesson to demonstrate to teacher and guest the learning possibilities. All of us also enjoyed ourselves in buying different school material and new sport equipment. At the end of the program we established who was responsible for what material and what were realistic goals to foster learning.

On a two-day trekking tour I had a chance to get to know the teachers in a different perspective. I had much joy in being able to share the ideas and experience with one and all.

Ingrid Patzsch
Chemnitz



Ingrid trying out a new instructional game with the teachers



FINALLY: A PROPER ROAD LEADING TO THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

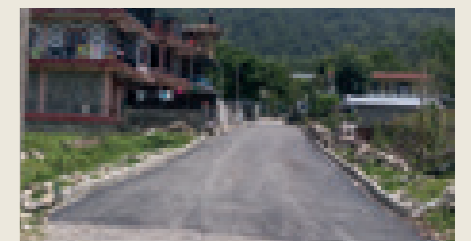
When in 1997 we purchased the property for our Children's Village in Bhakunde, six kilometers from Pokhara's portal, something offer than the village was missing: a road. It was arduous but a committee tasked wild road building managed to construct a somewhat improvised tarmac farm track to the village and another 12 km down into the valley. A toll booth

helped defray the costs a tad. Still the proceeds never could cover the repair costs or building a conventional road.

About a year ago under the auspices of a new federal political restructuring, Pokhara expanded its territory. Our Children's Village no longer belonged to Sarangkot municipality but district 18 Pokhara. Every ward was connected

to the city center with a wide asphalted street. As residents we paid 3,200 Euros for a solid road that reached the village and continued on. All other residents shared in the cost. One can now drive from village to Pokhara center on a road free of potholes. We hope this wonderful mint condition remains.

Alexander Schmidt



NEWS FROM THE YOUTH HOSTEL

... IN NEW RESPLENDENCE

In 2006 we built our Youth Hostel in Kathmandu on our own property. The goal was to accompany the youth as they left the Children's Village and prepared to step out on the world's stage as a self-reliant adult. To sum up, after 12 years, thanks to the career guidance of the CDN (see next page), the project was bearing fruit.

In 2017 after the earthquake damage was repaired, the FWHC decided the complex needed painting. At first we hesitated as the widening of street in front of the building threatened to demolish the front. Still the city's grandiose plans may not be so easily executed. And so in spring 2018 the Youth Hostel received a warm shade of red. It shines in its new sheen.



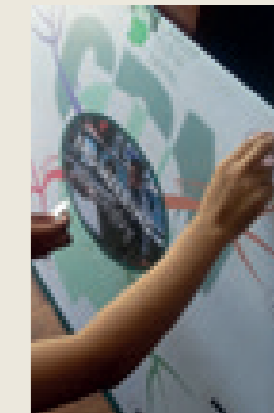
The 'hostel' in new luster



and our proud residents



The doors to our woodworking, electrical and metal bashing workshops also were newly painted



CAREER COUNSELING – DREAMS MEET REALITY

With the completion of grade 8 (District Level/Primary School Graduation) our children leave the sheltered life in Pokhara and transfer to the Youth Hostel in the nation's capital in Kathmandu. There they continue their education in grades 9 and 10 and prepare for the test leading to the SEE (Secondary Education Examination) Certificate. Due to the school system, the young people have to decide after the 10th class on a career in which they want to graduate to get a professional intermediate diploma. However this is only offered in few selected expensive private schools

With the SEE Certificate in hand and depending on their exam score, students then choose the specific direction for grades 11 and 12. With good marks, one can strive for the intermediate diploma the SLC (School Leaving Certificate). Unfortunately successive Nepalese governments have lowered the requirements so this certificate has less drawing power than before. Yearly 500,000 certificate holders search for employment. Frustrated at not finding the job of their dreams, many youth try their luck abroad.

Seven years ago we launched career counseling that builds on efforts in the Children's Village to identify and encourage individual talent. As to the existing job market, we try to gently match dream with reality. For two years now we liaise with Career Disha Nepal (CDN), a professional career guidance organization in Kathmandu.

As much as social mores allow, all our young adults attempt the intermediate diploma. We truly

hope that the path chosen for grades 11 and 12 will be taken into consideration when interviewing for job placement.

What assistance does the CDN offer?

In 12 sessions, youth learn to discover their individual interests, strengths and motivation, and are individually coached by qualified trainers. Rather than waiting for the diploma, this counseling begins immediately after the SEE certificate. The sooner young adults are coached in becoming adults the better they can match dream with reality, i.e. technician rather than engineer.

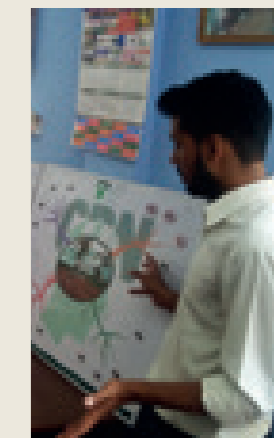
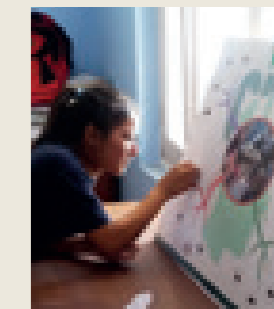
CDN gears itself to guidance on the non-academic level. Participants are motivated to endeavor to find a profession that exists in Nepal and is realistically achievable. With this perspective a better chance arises that one can and will stay in Nepal, employed. One doesn't have to travel overseas and 'enslave' themselves as an unskilled worker.

How is career counseling conducted?

We began this way

In grades 9 and 10 adolescents participate in 12 workshops each three to four hours to discover their potential and what their heart yearns for. In addition they are informed about roughly 300 professions that exist in Nepal, employment outlook, the necessary qualifications, and what it costs to qualify. In an individual interview each juvenile will receive one to three suggestions for a profession.

On posters youth gather together their individual interests, strengths, motivation and skills



Our initiative supplemented job training

Along with theory, the workshops and individual advice, comes the practical perspective: visits to companies. As actual on-the-job training takes place after class 12 (the diploma), the graduates participate in another job coaching weekend. Organizing this is time-consuming as after the 10th grade the teenagers leave the 'hostel' and are strewn across Nepal. Successful job preparation, though, is extremely important and cornerstone for a thriving independent existence. Taking part in the weekend seminar is therefore required for an application for a FNH study stipend.

What costs are incurred?

Sixty Euros per person were paid in the school year 2017-18 for career counseling.

What do we hope to achieve?

It would be wonderful if all our charges would choose professions that tests show they have an aptitude for and move seamlessly from school to full employment. Such expectations, though, would be unrealistic. Especially in Nepal, a general mentality of living for today exerts a tremendous hold. Choosing a line of work and finding a workplace is something that lies in the future. And this outlook is only one of many factors influencing the young adult's future. We can only have faith that the knowledge we instill and that is gained will have a long-lasting subliminal impact. In light of the future, perhaps it may move someone to more actively taking matters in their own hands, In any event, and not cynically meant, at least their self-assurance should be given a boost. Chhabi Lal Chettri's report below corroborates our hope that the CDN has a positive effect.

Irmgard Schlaeger

Career Disha Nepal (CDN) www.careerdishanepal.org is the first career counseling organization in Nepal with an integrated approach. CDN developed the first data bank with information on over 300 professions in Nepal. A Nepalese organization, since

2014 CDN works as a social business, that is, original equity can be recouped but no more. After that social objectives are on the agenda. Ethical, ecological and sustainable values take precedence. CDN adapted a German model of career counseling to the needs of Nepal.



CHHABI LAL CHETTRI'S WITH THE CAREER DISHA NEPAL'S CAREER COACHING

Now 20, Chhabi came rather late to our project at the age of eight. Surprisingly fast he demonstrated he was a sharp pupil. Early on it was clear to him that he wanted to study to become a medical doctor, a goal that his grades showed was realistic. Similar to Germany's "closed number" restricted university admission system, grades in Nepal are existential in choosing a career.

With 17, Chhabi arrived at the 'hostel' to complete the 10 grade and get ready for his SEE (Secondary Education Examination). It was in a workshop led by Career Disha Nepal (CDN) that he learned the true cost of medical study. Like a soap bubble his dream burst.

Chhabi had invested much time in the seminar, attending on Saturday when

FRAMEWORK OF CDN'S OCCUPATIONAL COUNSELING

1 Job market orientation

Being introduced to the 300 professions available in Nepal in six sectors tends to create an immediate 'aha' effect. Until then the participant's vantage point has been rather restricted. Another important objective is to stress the consequences of choosing a wrong profession..

2 The individual's future

In this part the youth deal with the need to make tangible their interests, needs, abilities, talents and predilections by writing their thoughts down in a workbook. The workbook in turn becomes a Venn Diagram as it were where trainer and youth map out a space between the ideal and reality.

3 Competence Assessment

Using 11 to 13 points, the youth are given individual assignments with various tasks and grade the outcome themselves.

4 Online Psychometrics

An assessment instrument with more than a hundred questions help to divulge the individual's dominant personality traits which in turn will play a decisive role in planning one's profession and in the appropriate training. Important factors include level of motivation, attention to detail, and the drive to succeed. Many are surprised, sometimes proud, at discovering new facets of themselves. Always at hand are personality tests, the CDN's Databank

on professions, training possibilities, employees, jobs and much more that trainees can avail themselves of.

5 Individual career counseling

All together all facets discussed above are brought together for analysis. Results are distilled into three possible professions and training approaches. Decisions, however, always remain with each individual.



and values. An occupation profile was generated along with ten vocational suggestions. Further discussion with the trainer reduced this to three. Chhabi decided against medical study, opting instead for a three-year automotive mechatronics technician program. His good grades on the SEE Exam as well as his Intermediate High School Degree gave him entry as well as providing him with a government stipend.

The program he attended was at the Korea Nepal Institute of Technology in

Butwal, Tamnagar. After completing the three year program he will receive a diploma and can either enter the job market or continue on and finish his bachelor's degree. At the moment Chhabi has finished his second semester.

Hearty appreciation goes to the CDN which has helped not only Chhabi but others. Their occupational advice has helped strengthen young adults' confidence and given them concrete ways they can fashion their own effective careers.

Irmgard Schlaeger



100 EURO PROJECTS JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (JDP) – AN ANALYSIS

“Baby footprints” have been left in 47 projects since 2011 that our youth have put into operation in their villages. Upon graduating grade 10 (intermediate level) each student receives 15,000 Nepalese Rupees (which works out to about 130 Euros). With these funds the graduate is to develop his or her own and put it into action. In the beginning appropriated funds were first set at 100 Euros.

The new designation Junior Development Project (JDP) makes clear each individual is responsible for development and implementation of a project. They conceive of the goals, plan, carry it out and complete a project audit complete with simplified cost accounting.

The level of participation has fluctuated. In 2011 eleven young adults took part; that dropped to seven in 2012, plummeted to only three up to 2017 and

picked up again to eight in 2018. We'll report next year on what happened in 2018.

Animal husbandry in Nepal is existential, not only for self-sufficiency but for trade. For these reasons it is especially popular with JDP recipients. Poultry farming is tops (13 projects), generally with the purchase of hens at (1,200 NR) or chicks (75 NR) and/or the construction of a small chicken coop. Goats and fodder (9) are next in line but carry a hefty price: 7,500 NR. Preferably the goat is pregnant. One time a cow was co-financed for a JDP project and another time a beehive was purchased (see the 2016 newsletter).

Still sometimes a construction project was on the agenda: ten times either a toilet, solar panel, a residential lighting venture. Twice a greenhouse for tomatoes was built. What didn't work out

was a scheme to buy a goat and rent it out in order to generate income.

Regardless of the graduating class some projects were more fashionable than others. 2011 and 2012 construction projects were a hit and from 2016 only farming projects such as poultry and goats mostly for relatives in the youth's birthplace. Sagar GC's report (above and below) is one example.

We would enjoy relating more of these 100 Euro projects but information is difficult to come by. After graduating from 10th grade, the adolescent leaves the Youth Hostel and takes his life into his own hands. Often training and education is not near to where the project transpires. Since 2018 an incentive has been added: an additional €75 if report will be completed. We'll see if and how this plays out.

Irmgard Schlaeger



SAGAR GC'S JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (JDP)

I deeply appreciate all the assistance offered by FNH and FWHC which helped me to realize my future. After graduating with the SEE I used 15,000 NRs to design and construct a small chicken farm. Thirty chicks were purchased and released in a stall next to my mother's house in Sarangkot, Kaski District. While I was in Kathmandu studying further, my mother and sister were busy

raising the chickens. Three times a day the chickens were fed. I have to admit raising animals is not as easy as I had thought; there are so many diseases. In the two months that I have tried to care for these critters, seven chicks have died. Since then they receive daily medication. After one year my goal is to sell 20 chickens at 1,500 NRs each for a profit of 30,000 NRs.

Sagar GC



CASH ASSISTANCE	Amount
Received from FWHC POKHARA UND UMLAND*	Rs.12,000.00
Total	Rs.12,000.00

PROJECT EXPENSES	Amount
30 Chicken	Rs.6,900.00
Food grains for chicken	Rs.3,000.00
2 sacks of Bhus	Rs.700.00
1 Doko	Rs.400
Nails, net, Wood	Rs.1,000.00
Total	Rs.12,000.00

TECHNICAL TRAINING GIVE WINGS TO UNIQUE RAWAL

Unique Rawal lives in the Youth Hostel, attends the 10th grade and dreams of becoming a computer technician. In this context he values the skilled trades training he received at the training center.

“I would like to extend a word of appreciation to all the colleagues of the FNH and FWHC for making possible my fortnight's training at the Olgapuri Vocational Training School. I learned a great deal about electricity and other mechanical skills.

Also commendable were the workshops in electrical equipment and wood and metal working that our mentor Ratna organized on Saturdays and holidays. In these shop floor training all tools and material were provided that we needed in order to gather experience.

We learned for example how to measure electrical currents, how to slice cables correctly and splice them together, how to wire switches and sockets. I am now in the position to instruct ninth graders in the theoretical and practical aspects of electrical systems. We tinkered with electrical applications. I made sure that my 'pupils' followed safety procedures.

I am happy because I am able to teach the basics and am also able to benefit from our training.”

Unique Rawal
Youth Hostel in Kathmandu



Unique Rawal



Our adolescents like to learn listening to radio music. Unique makes sure the donated radios are always functioning.





Samjhana already has won many medal, certificates and trophies

SAMJHANA SHAHI – OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL KARATEKA

The Child Protection Office brought Samjhana and her twin sister Sapani Shabi from the Humla District to the Children's Village in 2010 after both parents died one after the other in 2009. Today Samjhana is fourteen. The girls also have an older brother and sister, two younger sisters as well as two stepbrothers.

Since her advent in the Village, Samjhana has been smitten by karate. Later in the Hostel in Kathmandu where she now lives with her twin sister her dedication remained. Karatedō (Japanese for "way of the empty hand") was earlier simply called karate and even today is the most common designation. The addition of dō is used to designate the

philosophical background of the art form and its meaning as a way of life (Wikipedia).

This philosophy captures well Samjhana. Karate has taken the stead of her parents in setting her on a path. As no other in our projects Samjhana has blown the competition out of the water, winning one competition after another. Just look at the medals she's won. In the meantime she has earned the black belt in Shito-Ryu karate and was designated role model for orphans: see <https://www.khelkudmanch.com/news/765> in the Nepalese sports news. Samjhana has another goal, to be a lieutenant in the army. With her discipline and ambition it should be a snap.



Samjhana Shahi from Humla, Gothi lost her mother, father and her step mother in her early childhood. She was born on 18th March 2004 to Late Barsha Bahadur Shahi (Father) and Late Janakala Shahi (Mother). Samjhana Shahi grew up in a children's vil-

lage named "Forum for the Welfare of Himalayan Children" a common home to orphan children like her in Pokhara. She was introduced to Shito-ryu karate in the children's village by Mr. Dhan Bahadur Lama, Karate instructor in children's village. With his inspiration

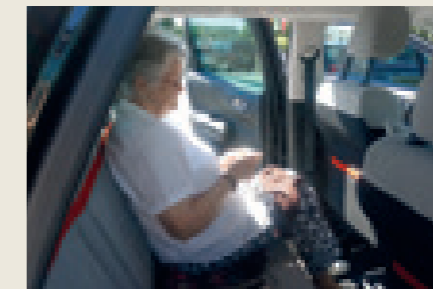
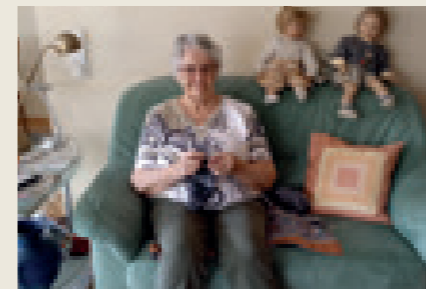
she is now a black belt in Shito-Ryu Karate. She has won dozens of medals in district level, regional level and now in national level competition also. At present she is continuing her study and sport simultaneously. She wish to join second Lieutenant in army.

Newspaper article
<https://www.khelkudmanch.com/news/765>



FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGNS

On behalf of our projects in Nepal, above all on behalf the children in our project, we thank you all deeply for your heartfelt and imaginative engagement. We wish high spirits and much success for those undertaking Advent fund-raising activities for our projects.



Gertrud knits almost everywhere

Knitting socks for the Children's Village

Our dear friend Gertrud Raviol seizes every quiet minute to knit socks, at home, on the way to the general meeting of members at Moers. Why? For our Children's Village! With an infinite zeal and perseverance Gertrud knits mountains of amazingly colorful socks. For years now they are all sold at our Nepal stand at various crafts markets such as at the Ettlinger palace and the Advent Market in Karlsruhe. Gertrud will even take on individual assignments knitting

to desired pattern. Another resourceful activity under way for many years now has been put into action the "Ettlinger Women" to bake cakes and sell them at weekly markets and Nepal talks.

All proceeds go to our children's village. A special loud hurrah to dear Gertrud from us all at the FNH and a softer hip-hip hooray from all the children in Nepal, after all it is all for their benefit.

Birthday donation

For a "triple birthday" in Heilbronn family Schönherr asked guests for donations rather than presents. A princely sum of €1,000 came in for the FNH's projects in Nepal.

Both the FNH and FWHC in Nepal send a wholehearted thanks.

Whether in Germany, Nepal or elsewhere, our group is always in need of expert advice, legal, tax, architectural, structural engineering, etc.. If you have any idea we would love to hear from you. The contact person is Irmgard Schlaeger, irmgard.schlaeger@nepalhilfe.de. She can also be reached by telephone at 0049 69 773 886.

FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGNS

Yoga for the Children's Village in Nepal

Every month I contribute an amount to the village. Still how could I raise more funds for the FNH? I am an enthusiastic yoga practitioner and in my village Maxen have launched a yoga group. Everyone who participates donates something to the village at the end of

the work out. As I am a member of the Maxen Youth Club I am able to use a room for my yoga group at the club for free. Each week I meet with others who use yoga to stay fit. It is a wonderful feeling to be in the position to do something for the children in Nepal

and at the same time help others here in Maxen. That thought fills me with vim and vigor when I first have to turn on the heat in the room in winter. My dream is to yet again visit the Children's Village.

Conny Himpel
Maxen Müglitztal



We are thrilled with our soccer youngsters in the Children's Village

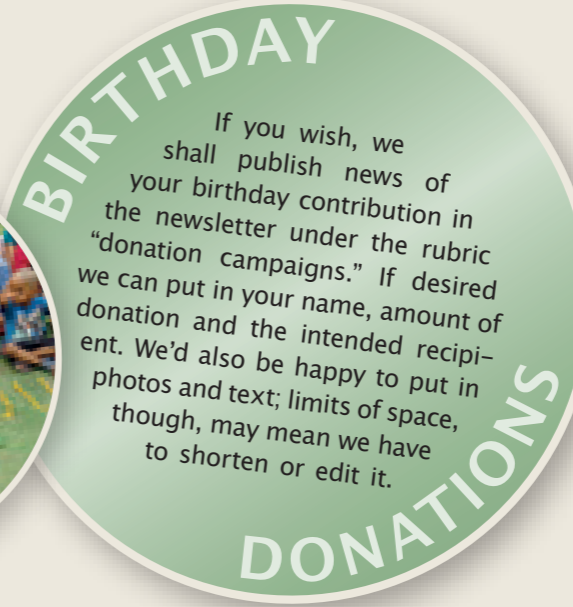
Those in the sports club Backnang-Steinbach e.V. (e.V. means registered association) knows how soccer mad the kids in the children's village are. When this summer, Lusitano Fernandes, a member of the sports club, won a new set of children's tricots, pants and socks in size 9-10 at a competition, he immediately knew who he could make very happy with the kit. The uniforms were dispatched with the next traveler to Nepal and once there, were immediately deployed. Our boys are elated; they pose here as a small token of appreciation for the donation.



Children who have compassion

This summer I informed the elementary school children in OGS Andreas school (OGS stands for open all-day school where in addition to instruction in the morning there is adult supervision in the afternoon). In my talk I introduced the pupils to the 80 children in the Children's Village, their caretakers and their teachers. This led to a donation campaign in which the pupils raised €400. During my discussion children commented "I know how I'd feel if I didn't eat for two days" or "sleeping in the woods is the pits, especially if it rains." Most responsive were migrant children, those from Syria, Afghanistan, Africa, those who came to Germany as refugees and enjoy and value their life here. The talk moved me.

Dr. Fred Prünte

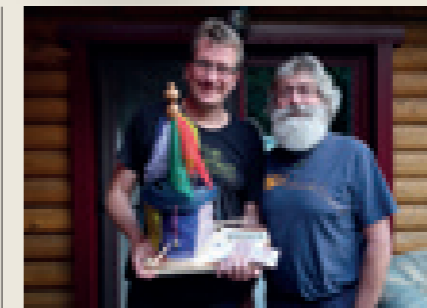


Donation box at the Dinova paint factory in the town of Königswinter

My doctor's office is decorated with posters of our Nepalese children and laid out with FNH brochures. A patient learned of our projects and spontaneously had the idea of putting up a donation box and photos at his work place, a paint factory and outlet. He then began to inform his customers of the FNH.

In July he presented me with €1,000 that he had collected. I'd like to compliment him for his initiative and send my thanks to all those who had taken part.

Dr. Fred Prünte



Donations instead of gifts

Celebrating my 60th birthday I asked my guests not to give a gift but rather donate a few coins to Friends of Nepal e.V. (FNH). With 60 I have what I need and don't really need more possessions gathering dust. My idea was to help others. As a member of the association I know that 99 cents of every Euro makes it to those in need. At the restaurant "Mühlentränke," at "Assmanns Mühle" a center for the old and dement, we celebrated my birthday. There I introduced the FNH. In what I called a prayer wheel (a donation box) we collected 885 Euros for the children of Nepal. I then rounded-up the sum to 1,000 Euros and passed it on to Alexander Schmidt for the FNH.

Norbert Pfeiffer
(IWES- Institute for Wind Energy and Energy Systems), Angelburg-Cönnern

AT YOUR NEXT BIRTHDAY WOULD YOU ALSO LIKE TO INVITE GUESTS TO DONATE?

The FNH would love to use your donation in the new year for the following items:

- Four residential buildings at Children's Village have to be painted;
- The caretakers' rooms in the village are in need of new carpeting;
- At the moment at the 'hostel' there is one common room for relaxing and watching TV, as well as for studying. We are planning on extending one wing of the 'hostel' for R&R (rest and relaxation);
- We continue our efforts to help mountain villages hit by the earthquake and still not completely repaired. Our first priorities are essential rebuilding, getting the school running and ensuring water, power and sanitation is functioning;
- Also in remote mountain villages we wish to persist with our 'Footprints' program to improve infrastructure and hence make such villages more attractive to live in. Our hope is that young adults will stay put and not migrate to big city shanty towns.

Whether in Germany, Nepal or elsewhere, our group is always in need of expert advice, legal, tax, architectural, structural engineering, etc.. If you have any idea we would love to hear from you. The contact person is Irmgard Schlaeger, irmgard.schlaeger@nepalhilfe.de. She can also be reached by telephone at 0049 69 773 886.

BRINGING IT TO A CLOSE

Accounts management and certificates of donation

Certificate of donation to 200 Euros as document for tax authorities

Qualifies only in connection with cash donations and receipt of bank transfer (bank statement)

Our purpose is to promote upbringing, education and occupational training, as well as helping students as pertains to the last notice of exemption of tax office Marburg-Biedenkopf, tax number 06 250 51011, from 04.01.2016 for the last assessment period 2014 according to § 5 Abs. 1 Nr. 9 of the Corporate Tax Act of the Corporate Tax Code found in § 3 Number 6 of the German Corporation Tax Act, in which we are exempted of such tax as we are directly and solely a tax privileged charitable organization established by § 51 ff of the general fiscal code.

It has been confirmed the sole purpose of the organization is upbringing, education, occupational training and helping students.

Freundeskreis Nepalhilfe e.V.
EINRICHTUNG ZUR FÖRDERUNG
NEPALESISCHER KINDER



FNH

Flurstraße 6, 35080 Bad Endbach,
Germany
Municipal court Darmstadt, VR 2600

We have a kind request to make. The majority of members of the FNH board are in the labour force full-time and only work unpaid at the FNH on the side. Therefore we would appreciate keeping accounting matters to a minimum:

- A new donor? If you could provide us with your complete address in the space for 'purpose' in the bank transfer form we'd be grateful. That way we can send off a donor receipt without having to search for the address;
- For donations up to €200 German tax authorities only require confirmation that funds were transferred, i.e. a statement accounting for the transfer and the Certificate of donation to 200 Euros (see above);
- For donations over €200, German tax authorities prefer a single once a year donation receipt. Most often we shall send off that receipt in January of the new year;
- It would be a great help if you gave us a rather long lead-time when moving or switching bank accounts.

FNH TREASURER: Marco Hanßmann
E-MAIL: marco.hanssmann@nepalhilfe.de
or: info@nepalhilfe.de
SNAIL MAIL: Kleiberweg 13, 35745 Herborn,
Germany
TELEPHONE: 0049 2772 574362 evenings

Educational sponsorships

Here a short note to educational sponsorships

Those children designated for a sponsorship after they graduated the 10th will have it run out in the year 2020. We have decided to have one sponsorship pot so that all adolescents have an equal chance for an education. If you would like to continue to contribute to this vital effort you can find the program at

<https://nepalhilfe.de/index.php/patenschaft.html>

Closing words

As you may have seen in the newsletter, our outreach encompasses not only the Children's Village and Youth Hostel but also development of various needy communities and organizations throughout Nepal. This is not a form of welfare: we make sure that in every project there is some form of contribution from those involved in the project (material, labor, etc.).

Verily, verily, we say unto you, we are in the fortunate position to go forth and multiply our projects only because you stand with us in your donations, small and large. From us and from our project partners and in the name of the recipients of our support we send our gratitude and

a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!



This year's Christmas card was designed by Rishi Dhungana, a care taker at the Children's Village

From left:

- Dr. Fred Prünte (Associate member)*
- Marco Hanßmann (Treasurer)*
- Gerhard Hanßmann (Second in command)*
- Alexander Schmidt (Chairman)*
- Monika Volz (Board secretary)*
- Christiane Karsch (Associate member)*
- Michaela Jost (Associate member)*
- Ursula Herrmann (Associate member)*
- Irmgard Schlaeger (Associate member)*



IMPORTANT INFO

Please keep in touch with our website; there may be fast-breaking news

nepalhilfe.de > Aktuelles, Blog, Veranstaltungen

or in Facebook "Freundeskreis Nepalhilfe e.V." or "FWHC Bhakunde" and "Children Village Bhakunde, Nepal-Italians for FNH/FWHC"

If you have any questions or have a bit of news for us please write to

info@nepalhilfe.de

or use contact information provided in our homepage.

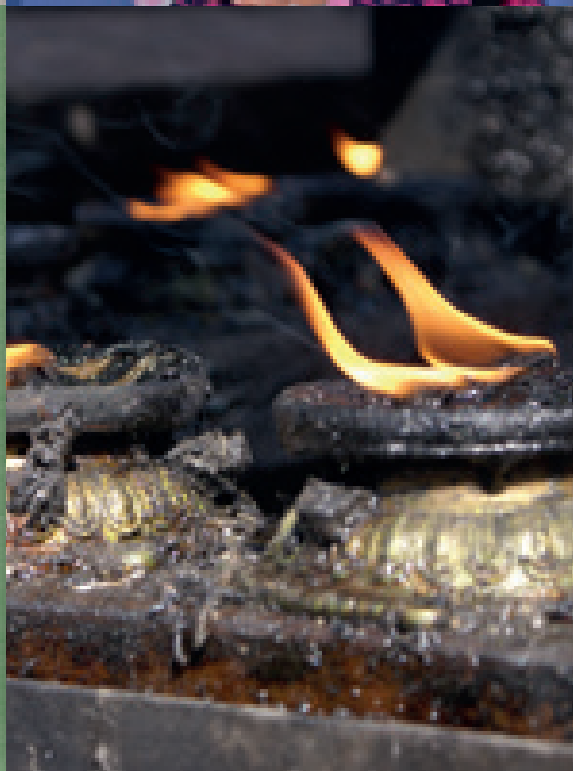
If you wish you can donate online:

nepalhilfe.de > Ihre Hilfe > Spenden

The FNH is registered to receive donations both at SPENDEN-PORTAL and with Facebook. Another support possibility is to make online purchases at

WeCanHelp! or Schulengel. The non-profit Freundeskreis Nepalhilfe e.V. (FNH) is registered at the municipal court Darmstadt in the register of association 8 VR 2600 and with the tax authorities Marburg-Biedenkopf (tax id # 06 250 51011) as a recognized charitable institution. It is authorized to issue tax deductible donation certificates.





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EINRICHTUNG ZUR FÖRDERUNG
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EDITORIAL OFFICER Christiane Karsch

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Adrian Draschoff, Frank Schmidt

LAYOUT Oliver Sprigade