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PSD Connect: A Quarterly Newsletter

The PSD Connect is a quarterly e-newsletter published by the Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD) Nepal to inform all their partners, ex-volunteers and supporters about our activities and news. PSD Nepal is a non-profit social development organization dedicated to the alleviation of poverty of Children and youth of rural Nepal. For more information please visit www.psdnepal.org.

MESSAGE FROM the EDITOR

Namaste Friends!

With great pleasure we present you our quarterly newsletter!!! Please read our newsletter Issue 3 from year 12, only designed to keep you updated on PSD and the activities, successes and future plans! Any questions and/ or comments regarding the newsletter or about PSD-Nepal are more than welcome. Please forward this newsletter to all the friends who have worked with us and help to raise our profile. We are looking for some news from you people also; please send us any news or materials which we can publish in our next issue. We heartily welcome your views, comments, and queries regarding the work of PSD-Nepal and/or regarding the improvement of the newsletter! You can send us an email to psdnepal@mail.com.np or call us at (9771)-4411648

Bishnu H. Bhatta

LATEST PSD NEWS

Alliance for Early Childhood Development Nepal (AECDN) has been formed with the aim of bring together all the relevant stakeholders working in the field of early childhood in Nepal. It is a professional membership organization that provides a platform for sharing ideas, experiences and evidences among all the stakeholders, and it focuses on undertaking coordinated actions. General Membership of the organization is open to all. Any individual interested and working in the field of ECD can apply for the membership. Please visit its website (www.aecd-n.org.) for detail description of the membership and apply online by filling up an application form (either in English or Nepali language).



PSD is proud to be a founding member of AECDN.

Recently, Hon'ble State Minister for Education Mr. Shesh Nath Adhikari as the Chief Guest of the program launched its website (www.aecd-n.org).

Prof. Dr. Kishor Shrestha, Chairperson of AECDN, chaired the program. Mr. Bishnu Hari Bhatta, Treasurer of AECDN spoke on the rationale and upcoming major activities of the Alliance. He also expressed sincere thanks to Hon'ble Minister and all other participants for their gracious presence in the program.



Mercer on Mission Project:

We have received 12 international volunteers (8 Early Childhood students, 2 journalists with 2 Professor) from Mercer University, Atlanta, Georgia, USA carried out the project with us at Tri-Ratna Secondary School, Bungamati for 3 weeks. They implemented this project through the PSD as per the need of the school and PSD's aim as well, however project main motto is also similar as schools and PSD. This time PSD only focus to education and an environment used by holistic approach where our volunteers help to the applied the approach



run by different activities such as teachers training, Science lab management, Library management, Painting and teaching, which are overall motto is to provided the quality education. Regarding teachers training; provided by professor to the teachers of Tri-Ratna cooperative schools where they facilitate the teaching technique, behaviors of children, counseling etc. Teaching technique is the main key of the quality education, which can spread by the teachers. In addition, Mercer students and local teachers taught to the students, simultaneously they learn from each other too. Moreover, they have done Emerald painting in the school for the primary students which they can learn by pictures.

Dental Health Camp at Bungamati:

PSD Nepal organized three days dental health camp in August 20 to 22, 2017 in partnership with Bungamati Cooperative Society and Bungamati health post. All the people in the Bungamati community get benefit from this health camp. There were large number of students from surrounding areas also get treatment from the health camp. There were 13 international dentist and two national dentist helped in this health camp. We provided free check up, Extraction, filling, scaling and required medicine for the patients.



There were 270 people benefited from this health camp. Moreover, we provided

medication, tooth paste and brushes and also provided half day awareness session of dental health and its importance and effects. We are very much grateful to Dr. Ahmad Almanhal and his wonderful team for their generous support for this health camp. They provided all the required equipment and medicine for this camp.



HeiSDA Project - Germany

We have received 13 Students from Heidelberg Sustainable Development Abroad, HeiSDA and two national counterparts, first time. Now we are working in partnership and hoping that this partnership will go for long time. They went through week orientation program in Dhulikhel where they received Nepali language lesson, cultural orientation, teaching techniques, education system of Nepal, logistic information, personal safety etc.



We divided them in two group, one group went to Ilam working with women group and another one is in Gram Sikshya Secondary school in Kathmandu. Volunteers helped to build the building in Suryodaya Women group in Ilam. Besides building they were also worked in different activities e.g. teaching in school, women group, awareness campaigns, etc. In the Gram Sikshya School, they

helped to renovate classrooms, provided furniture, help on play ground, white board and painted most of the schools rooms. Volunteers are also getting chance to exchange their culture, knowledge and experience between teachers, students, local stakeholders and as a whole community and that make to build good relation within the community as asset.



NAFA Nourishes Program update

Beginning of the year 2017, NAFA has enrolled 2 different children homes and treated more than 60 new cases of malnourishment in children by providing plumpy sup supplementation and Multivitamin. As we mentioned on the earlier newsletter regarding provided services such as personal hygiene, health and sanitation and awareness as well as counselling that we are still doing regularly. Regarding our field nurses, one has resigned to job on June 2017 for her personal reason so we need to replace on her position to provide the quality services. NAFA does not looking after only for the nutrition it is also look for sustain of the children home, with this regards, NAFA has provided fund for chicken farming in one children home at the moment to see the outcomes , if success this will be replicated other homes too. This farming program's motto is to get foods without pesticide and way of income generation, as a whole to get sufficient nutrition from the food. Regarding Chicken farming, our nurses visited time to time to see the outcomes. It is just started to get the eggs for the children.

Mary Beth King and Victoria from USA are visiting Nepal for monitoring the program. In this time they will be stay a bit long time to see the progress and challenges, which is help them to make back up plan for running the long term and more project as well.

Bond Aid Program, Australia:

This is 2nd year working with Bond Aid program. In this year, there were 12 volunteers from bond university, Australia and 3 national volunteers who worked together in Harmi in Gorkha. All volunteers went through two days training in Kathmandu. They were in the community for two weeks. They helped in Secondary school, Primary School, Health Post, in the community of Harmi, Gorkha. They painted and decorated the primary school, help on construction in secondary school, teaches. They completed two weeks placement and had wrap up at the office which was really good to get feedback from all the volunteers.



Story from Volunteer:

Sarah White - Bond University

For the last two weeks, myself and 11 other volunteers from the Gold Coast have had the absolute fortune of being on placement in Harmi, Gorkha. Upon our first glance at Harmi we were all shocked by its beauty. With rolling hills, an abundance of rice fields and every so often a snowy peak in the clouds - we were in awe. But taking a step back from the scenery, the people of Gorkha are some of the friendliest I have ever met. Wherever we go we are greeted with smiles and waves, invited for tea and to dance. Nowhere in the world is quite like it.

But down to business - what have we been doing for the last two weeks? Well we have been fortunate enough to do a little bit of absolutely everything!! Let's start with construction - we found out that we were helping to rebuild the assembly hall for the secondary school in the region. This sounded a lot easier than it was! We helped level the floor with shovels and pick axes inside and out in order to re-enforce the walls. We helped shovel and bag all materials needed for cementing and plastering before we then moved it all down the hill to the construction site. The team and I definitely weren't physically prepared but we gave it our best shot and finished all the work we were able to in just two weeks!!!



We have taught 18 different classes across the Primary and Secondary schools on the topics of music, sport, English, careers counseling, women's health and reproductive health. In these women's health classes we have provided over 150 reusable sanitary pads to the girls across years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 and attempted to help normalize puberty.

We have helped paint the entire primary school of Harmi, providing the students with four newly painted classrooms. We also painted the outside of the school, all play equipment and some furniture. Further from this we have painted a fully labelled solar system in both the secondary and primary schools.



We ran a health seminar at the local health clinic with female volunteer health workers from 9 different villages and active members of mothers groups from 9



other villages. This means that we were able to have an impact on not just Harmi but people in surrounding areas as well. The seminar focused on hygiene and sanitation, water purification, women's health, family planning, baby's health and hygiene, menopause and breast cancer. It was an amazing discussion in which we learnt a lot from these Nepali women and hopefully they learnt just as much from us.

Aside from our work we have had the most incredible time with our host family. We have truly gained a new Baa and Amaa and multiple Didi (sister). Each and every day we are woken with tea and smiles in a house that radiates love. We have had the opportunity to learn to cook from them, to see two baby goats be born, to paint much of their house as a gift, to cook for them and to hear stories from them all. The wealth of knowledge our baa has astounds me every day and their kind hearts never fail to amaze. This is the second year that a group from our university has stayed with this particular host family and we were excited to learn that they remembered them all! Our baa even showed us a picture of them all from last year that he keeps in pride of place.



Unfortunately we only have a couple more days with our beautiful host family as our time in Harmi is almost over. But in just two short weeks we have achieved more than we ever thought imaginable! Aside from this we have learnt more than anyone expected from the beautiful people of Gorkha. Although we are all sad to leave we are excited to head back to Australia and share with everyone we know the amazing time we have had over here.

All in all we have had an amazing two weeks in Harmi and met some absolutely incredible people. Our experience has been like nothing else and we have learnt so much in our time. Thank you to the people of Harmi, PSD, our counterparts and our incredible host family - we have had an experience we will never forget.

Quote from volunteer;

"I cannot begin to describe how highly I will revive PSD and their work in Harmi. I would recommend this program in a heartbeat. It became very obvious in our farewells what an unimaginably huge impact PSD has had on the community in Harmi, and the main message was not only their gratitude, but also their desire to continue this relationship. I am very proud of the work we achieved, and have only PSD and Sarah White to thank for that. Please keep up the good work"!!

Global Giving fund raising

For the purpose of school reconstruction, PSD Nepal is raising funds through Global Giving. Therefore we, the PSD family, would like to request all our best friends to contribute to our cause. More details you can find here:

For US and Canada Donors please click this link:

<http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/rebuild-school-for-479-nepalese-children>

For UK based donors please click this link. We will be able to get gift aid as well.

<http://www.globalgiving.co.uk/donate/24756/partnership-for-sustainable-development/>

We are counting on your engagement and hope for your support. Your donation to our program will be recognized in the supporting community through the quarterly e-newsletter.

We have also initiated to raise the fund for "Nepal Vocational Training Project" below is link. Please visit this site and contribute to raise the fund.

<https://www.leetchi.com/c/project-nepal-vocational-training>

Vote of Thanks

PSD Nepal would like to express its thanks to all those who have contributed in one way or the other to make our relief programmes successful. So far we have successfully raised the funding to build 8 school buildings out of the 10 we have planned. We are still looking for funding to build at least another 2 school buildings. PSD Nepal is looking forward to work with all our well wishers and donors in future as well.

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