

YOUR CONTRIBUTION HAS MADE A BIG DIFFERENCEMs. Sulakshana Rana
President, BVS Nepal

On behalf of BVS Nepal family, we would like to thank, most sincerely our donors, volunteers, partners and well-wishers and hope that they will continue to support our efforts in the future.

We would particularly like to convey our gratitude to Mrs. Barbara Datson from C.H.A.N.C.E For Nepal (UK), who has loyally supported our programmes with many surgeries, physiotherapy, counselling and nutrition baskets. Also 'We Help Nepal' and Alison Marston fund NERA who are assisting with costs this year due to the many additional patients burnt

because of the total inadequate conditions they are living in since the earthquake.

Once again very many thanks for your generous help and we are more than happy to receive any suggestions or comments which you may have

Yours Sincerely,
Ms. Sulakshana Rana
President of BVS Nepal



His Royal Highness Prince Harry gave an excited 4-year-old Bipod Puri from Kavrepalanchowk, a knitted doll donated by C.H.A.N.C.E. For Nepal (UK). Bipod is being treated for severe burns having spilt a bowl of hot oil on himself. He has already had one surgery but with ongoing treatment requirements will need to remain in hospital.. The visit was organised in collaboration with the British Embassy, Kanti Children Hospital and the co-founders of BVS Nepal, Wendy Marston.



Recovered and back to school, Biplov Puri receiving a student kit in July 2016 from Asman and AWON

Visit of Prince Harry to Kanti Children's Hospital Burns Unit

Prince Harry chatted with 4-year-old Pemba Sherpa from Dolakha who was burned when he fell into an open cooking fire in a temporary shelter. In the past three months Pemba has had four surgeries and 6 toes amputated but was very excited as he was to be discharged a few days after this photo was taken.

BVS-Nepal and Kanti Childrens' Hospital became the focus of international and national media when Prince Harry came to visit as part of his official tour to Nepal. Many of the eighteen young survivors Prince Harry met were burnt while displaced from their homes by the 2015 earthquake. BVS-Nepal has provided financial support for medicines, surgeries, nutritional supplements, and counselling THANKS TO C.H.A.N.C.E. For Nepal (UK) and other donors.

PLASTIC SURGEON DISCUSSES BIR HOSPITAL'S BURNS WARD ISSUES POST 2015 EARTHQUAKE

Forty-seven year old Dr Piyush Dahal has been a medical practitioner for sixteen years and a plastic surgeon for seven. Based at the Burns Ward at Bir Hospital, Dr Dahal has worked closely with BVS-Nepal and is very complimentary about their work with the vulnerable.

The Burns Ward has faced numerous challenges post the 2015 earthquake. The Intensive Burns Ward at the Government BIR Hospital with nine beds was damaged during the earthquake and in the immediate aftermath the ward operated from a corridor prior to being moved to an unoccupied Trauma Emergency Centre. The Burns Unit suffers from a lack of doctors, psychotherapists, physiotherapists and rehabilitation programmes. Burns patients are unable to finance their own care. Prior to the 2015 earthquake, the Government provided free anaesthetics but post the earthquake this was discontinued.

Although no robust statistics have been kept, Dr Dahal believes that BIR Hospital has approximately five hundred minor and major burns over the past two years. These have included burns caused by flame, chemicals, kersoene, electricity, and scalding. Although the number of burns cases is increasing health resources dedicated to their treatment have not.

Dr Dahal also values the work BVS-Nepal is doing to promote the prevention of accidents and burns violence. He considers BVS-Nepal as the 'go to' organisation when faced with the financial burden of burns patients and is complimentary of the fact that we help burn patients irrespective of gender, caste or background. BVS-Nepal's financial support assists with their medical treatment, medical equipment, counselling, physiotherapy and nutrition.

Dr Dahal is keen that BVS-Nepal lobby Government to recognise the magnitude of burns in Nepal and advocate for some free services to alleviate the patients financial burden.

AGAINST THE ODDS



Janaki Joshi had been married for twenty unhappy years during which time she has been subjected to relentless domestic violence. Janaki and her mother-in-law never got on and as a consequence Janaki and her husband were living with his brother. Her mother in law manipulated her son so that often he would return home in a drunken rage and attack Janaki. Her own parents became aware of the situation and filed a case against the husband which led to his imprisonment, but somehow he

managed to get out.

In a vengeful act in March 2016, her drunken husband poured kerosene on her private parts as she slept and set her alight, inflicting third degree burns on 35% of her body. Her sister in law came to her aid and helped to douse the fire. Initially she was being treated at home with herbal medicines but as her wounds became infected she was taken to Seti Zonal Hospital. Again her husband tried to kill her but with the intervention of medical staff, he was arrested and once again sent to jail. Janaki was referred to Teaching Hospital where she is still receiving reconstructive surgeries.

Janaki's case is ongoing. When she is not hospitalised for surgery she is sponsored by BVS to live at the Saathi Women's Shelter. BVS Nepal is assisting Janaki with medical, surgical, nutrition and advocacy support.

Street Drama on Violence Against women by BVS Nepal



*There is a girl,
She is wise and wary of flames but still,
She knows she will survive the fire
Life scorches sometimes
She has been a phoenix before,
And every time she burns to ashes,
She knows exactly how to rise again
- Jeannette LeBlanc*

Sponsored by Wen Giving Foundation and in front of a crowd of approximately two hundreds local people, students of L'Art en Poche residing in Saathi Shelter

are performing street drama on burn violence all year long around the Kathmandu Valley.

The street drama highlighted burn violence, perceptions and discrimination of victims and examined the psychological and physical damage that is inflicted.

Questionnaires about burn violence were distributed among the crowd before and at the conclusion of the performance, and organisers were very pleased to see that there had been a positive attitudinal change. The students also demonstrated how to prevent the spread of fire and were able to hand out leaflets at the conclusion of their performances. Programme Co-Ordinator, Ms Rumi Rajbhandari, said "This activity was very successful and reinforced the message against violence towards women."

Advocacy Program on Violence against Women with Sushma Gautam

"Police should have arrested the culprit and why didn't they do it?" pleaded a survivor of an acid attack.

"How does the law protect me?" said another.

"His family is threatening me not to go to the Police" said yet another.

These questions are uppermost in the minds of the vulnerable women who have been subjected to burns violence. Often the cases remain unsolved or no action is taken. To reduce the possibility of this outcome, it is important that women are aware of their legal rights and the obligation of the justice system to support them.

In addressing these issues, BVS Nepal conducted advocacy training followed by counselling to empower burns violence survivors. The majority of the thirty attendees were from Kathmandu, but there were also representatives from Nepalgunj, Hetauda, Dhangadi, and Janakpur. Conducted by Sushma Gautam from the Forum for Women Law and Development (FWLD), the program was held at Siddhartha Cottage, Dobhighat on 10 December 2014.

SOME NUMBERS

Through our researches, support programmes and press monitoring, we've been able to combine data regarding burn violence/acid attack in Nepal. However, most of the cases are not reported.

From 2010-2016, 218 cases of burn violence/ acid attack have been reported. Amongst them 101 are homicide attempts and 117 suicide attempts mainly due to domestic violence. The victims are mainly women (81.28%) and 19.72% are men.

5.50% are children (0-12 years old), **12.39% are teenagers** (13-18 years old), **73.39% of them are between 19 and 40 years old** and **8.71% are over 41 years old**.

The victims are mainly coming from the **central development region (59%)**, **Eastern Development Region (21.5%)** and **Mid Western Development Region (12%)**.

Main Reasons behind those heinous crimes are: **Domestic Violence (36.24%)**, **conflict within the family** such as love rejection, intercaste marriage, property disputes... **.48%**), **Dowry System (7.34%)** and **extra marital affairs (6.88%)**.



Initially the women were divided into groups and asked to brainstorm the answers to three questions. They were:

What is justice to you?

What are your rights as women?

What do you expect from the government?

These three questions highlighted the fact that the majority of the survivors were not aware of their rights. Sushma was able to provide the information the survivors had been seeking.

The session was very successful and one of the principle outcomes of the training was that some of the survivors have sought legal assistance to re-open their cases in an effort to seek justice.



LIVING LIFE POSITIVELY

On 22nd April 2013 a jilted male friend splashed acid in Bindabasini Kansakar's face and changed her life forever. The actions of Dilip Raj Kesari have caused Bindabasini to be subjected to endless medical treatments as every effort is made to improve her facial disfigurement.



Dilip used to frequently visit her home and had proposed on the phone. When she rejected him he started verbally abusing her. She told her father who warned Deelip to stay away but less than a month later he attacked her with acid.

Despite an immediate complaint to the Police, no action was taken. It was a month later that the Hetauda community in which she lived staged

MORE THAN JUST A CANDLE



Re-integration into communities following recovery from their physical injuries is problematic. This is further aggravated by a survivors lack of employment and economic opportunity. As part of BVS- Nepal's holistic approach to recovery and with the aim of empowering survivors, vocational training is offered. In line with their interests this has usually involved nail art, beauty therapy, hairdressing, sewing/tailoring, and computer courses.

Recently BVS-Nepal in conjunction with 'Clay and Candle' provided the opportunity for four survivors to learn to make beautiful candles of various shapes and sizes. With seed money provided by DFID-UK, BVS-Nepal has helped these budding entrepreneurs open a small business in the BVS-Nepal Offices.

They are learning transferable skills and addressing challenges relating to load shedding, transportation, marketing and sales. There are plans for the on-going development and expansion of this scheme.



COURAGEOUS YOUNG SURVIVOR

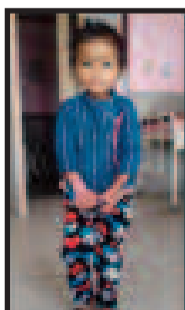


Three-year-old Smarika Chaudary from Ramche-11, Kailali suffered burns to twenty-five percent of her body when she accidentally fell on a vessel of burning liquid. When her parents found her, they rushed her to a nearby health post where treatment was immediately administered.

Despite the seriousness of her burns, Smarika showed amazing courage and determination. After initial treatment, she was referred to the Kanti Children Hospital where she has endured four surgeries.

Smarika responded well to the love and care given by the medical staff, played with BVS donated toys and listened to stories told by not only her mother but also our volunteers.

Having been hospitalised for two months, Smarika was eventually discharged with a smile on her face and with parents who had renewed optimism for the future. They are grateful to BVS Nepal for providing Smarika with medical and surgical support, nutrition, counselling and transportation. Thanks to Herrod Foundation, Reis met Mij and Agnes Jacquemin from Fonds Parvati.



a demonstration leading to a Police interview of Bindabasini at the Nagarik Samaj Community Hospital. She believes that Deelip is living in India somewhere and has not been made to account for his actions.

Supported by loving family and friends, some two years later Bindabasini is back at College. She also works with rape victims at the Andardristi Nepal Organisation daily. She is training as a Radio Jockey, helps out at the family shop, surfs the net and loves cooking and dancing. An inspiration to others, Brindabasini knows that her new life has imposed limitations on her. For example, she does not walk freely without covering her face and cannot cook in front of a flame or smoke for long periods.

Brindabasini became aware of BVS Nepal when she came to Kathmandu to support in the fallout from the Basantapur acid attack. She was interviewed by the Kantipur Channel, and met representatives of BVS Nepal. BVS has provided emotional and financial assistance to Brindabasini including sponsorship to complete a computer course.

BVS NEPAL PROGRAMMES IN NUMBERS

During the year 2015-2016, BVS Nepal developed several activities in 4 districts: Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Dhanusha and Banke.

- Medical and surgical support: **176 patients** amongst whom more than 70 are coming from the districts affected by the Earthquake.
- Counselling programme: **260 patients** received counselling sessions in 3 hospitals partners (Trauma Center, Kanti Children's Hospital and Teaching hospital) and rehabilitation sessions at the office.
- Physiotherapy: **75 patients** received regular physiotherapy sessions at the Trauma Center.
- Nutrition: **918 baskets** were (bimonthly/ weekly) distributed for all the patients at the Burn Unit of Trauma Center, Teaching Hospital and Kanti Children's Hospital.
- Rehabilitation of Burn Violence Survivors: Self Entrepreneurship for 9 survivors. (freelance nail art and beauty salon, beauty parlour, cosmetic shop, 3 tailoring shops and 3 survivors opened a candle making business)
- Trainings for survivors: Stress management training, health and hygiene training, 2 rights and skills training.
- Awareness: Radio programmes, broadcast of radio jingles, distribution and display of more than 1000 posters and stickers, regular articles in the local media, Burn prevention in schools and organizations, photoshoot of burn survivors, 6 street dramas in Kathmandu Valley.
- Materials: Distribution of blankets, wheel chairs, sanitary kits, crook handle, walking sticks, elbow cuffs, bandages, dressing creams, toys, .books, handsanitizers in 6 hospitals in 3 districts
- Student kits and scholarship: Distribution of student kit for **42 burn children** and management of **3 scholarships** programme for 3 children.
- Fundraising: Clothing Auction and Back to the future Party.
- Post Earthquake activities:
 - Distribution of students kits in Nuwakot for 265 students
 - Build 2 Schools in Dhading Districts

Burn patient coming from district affected by the Earthquake



Among numerous victims, Taradevi, 56 years old, from Rasuwa, Dadahaun-4 lost her house after the Earthquake and has been living in a temporary shelter with her husband and 24 years old son.

When she was about to take the kettle she fainted and fell into the fire; burning severely 15% of her body including hand, chest and neck. In the meantime, her husband had gone to the field. When he came back, he found Taradevi unconscious and brought her directly to Teaching Hospital for her treatment. BVS Nepal with the support of WHN provided medical, surgical and nutrition support to Taradevi. After 2 months of treatment she returned back home safely.

Student Kit Distribution in Nuwakot

On Sunday 12 June, as part of the post-earthquake relief effort, a delegation from BVS-Nepal visited the remote Nuwakot, Jilinj VDC, which had been badly affected by the 2015 earthquake. Although UNICEF had provided a temporary learning centre for the students following the loss of the Shree Mahadev Lower Secondary School, there was very little equipment available.

With funds donated by N.E.R.A (UK), BVS-Nepal staff brought joy to the faces of the two hundred and sixty-five students when they were each

given a kit containing a school bag, water bottle, rechargeable lamp, uniform, notebook, pen, pencil, eraser, sharpener, and raincoat. Junior classes were also given a colour box whereas older students were given a geometry set. Additionally, the school was given educational teaching tools, educational games, and sporting equipment.

Approximately 500 people turned out to meet the BVS-Nepal staff. The Principal, Navraj Lama, thanked the staff for the gifts and was confident that the students would benefit from NERA (UK)'s generous gift.



Construction of 2 schools in Dhading District

During our assessment in Dhading District, Kalleri VDC, we realized that the schools in the districts were severely damaged. This shows the urgent need to make a safe and disaster resilient school buildings for children. In response to such a situation, BVS Nepal with the support of many donors decided to reconstruct the Dhading Lower Secondary School in Mullabari Ward N°9 and Panchakanya Primary School in Amdada Ward N°8 in Kalleri VDC, Dhading District for a total of 190 students.

BVS Nepal initiated the school construction with Volunteers for Change (VFC) for the reconstruction of the schools. VFC brought their expertise in architecture and evaluation of the damages made by the earthquake on the buildings as well as the material necessary to rebuild.

VFC Team brought the labor, expert and volunteers and they trained the locals to help to build up the school for their children. The school project was made according to the governments new policies. In November 2015, the construction started with the support of local community. Some of the materials were brought from Kathmandu but most of the construction materials were bought locally to contribute to the promotion of the local market.



By end of May 2016, the 16 classrooms (ECD to Grade 8) buildings, gabion wall and the renovation of the toilets were completed. Some volunteers also contributed by doing amazing painting on the buildings front as well as the classrooms. We would like to thanks Ms. Alison Marston through NERA, Ms. Sulakshana Rana, Prayatna, L'Art en Poche and Vanderstichelen - Eckelmans Family for their support.



Dhading Lower Secondary School -Mullabari



Volunteer painting in the new classroom



Panchakanya Primary School -Amdada

Student kits for burn children

Education is essential to create a better future. BVS Nepal is really thankful to ASMAN for providing student kits to 34 burn children and 8 children of burn survivors. Each child received books, stationary, an umbrella, a rechargeable lamp, a watch and nutrition complement. The handover ceremony was organised in BVS Nepal office on 1 July 2016.



BVS Nepal - Board Members

In August 2015, BVS Nepal elected a new board to implement their activities:

President:	Ms. Sulakshana Rana
Vice President:	Ms. Kohinoor Dahal
Treasurer:	M. Shamir Gautam
Secretary:	Ms. Bishaka Rana
Member:	Ms. Samjhana Kachyapati
Member:	Ms. Agya Pandey
Member:	Ms. Urvasi Rana
Advisor:	Ms. Pramada Shah
Advisor:	Ms. Wendy Marston

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