

NEWSLETTER 2020-2021

THE BURNING ISSUE

BVS-Nepal
Burns Violence Survivors



I would like to acknowledge the collective effort of our team in assisting burn survivors through treatment and rehabilitation. Our journey continues, and we strive forward with a common goal to encompass more burn survivors and minimize their suffering. Burn injuries are never fully repairable, but the effort our medical team puts into this work is commendable. BVS-Nepal works to keep hope alive for burn survivors to lead a dignified life. I am grateful to our patrons, donors, partners, and well-wishers for their generosity and continued support in this endeavor.

Kohinoor Dahal
President, BVS-Nepal

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

COOKING FIRE BURN: Krish Bista

Krish Bista was 6 months old when his legs got amputated due to an unfortunate incident. His mother had placed him near the open cooking fire and the blanket he was wrapped in caught fire. Krish sustained a deep burn injury.

Originally from Dadeldhura, Far Western part of Nepal, Krish's family is very poor. His father is a migrant worker and the only earning member in the family. BVS-Nepal has been providing monthly support to Kevin for his nutrition, clothes, and education since 2018 and is also in regular contact with his parents.

He is now 4.5 Years old and his parents have admitted him in ECDC in Kathmandu. He is doing well. Ms. Wendy Marston (our Founder) has been supporting Krish for his nutrition and his education. BVS-Nepal arranged for prosthetic feet for Krish Bista and was recently brought to Kathmandu for the surgery

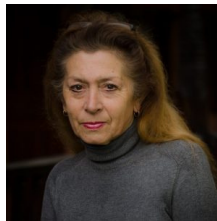


Krish at six months



Krish at present

FOUNDERS



Wendy Marston (B.E.M)
Founder



Alison Marston
Co-Founder

Who we are

Established in 2008. Burn Violence Survivors Nepal is a not for profit non-governmental organization working for:

- Accidents
- Violence such as attempted homicide using kerosene or acid
- Attempted suicide (self immolation) which often stems from domestic violence.

Our Objectives

- To improve the delivery of burns care in Nepal by establishing a network of countrywide hospitals providing a collaborative approach to medical treatment, psychosocial care and nutrition.
- To rehabilitate and empower survivors
- To raise awareness and educate the public with the aim of reducing the occurrence of burns violence and accidental burns

BVS Nepal Executive Board 2020-21

President	: Kohinoor Dahal
Vice President	: Bishaka Shah
Treasurer	: Poonam Shah
Secretary	: Urvashi Rana
Executive Members	: Binod Tuladhar
	: Dr. Sanjay Bhattachan
	: Dikila Lama

SURVIVOR STORIES

DOMESTIC ABUSE AND BURNT IN ANGER: Pabitra Karki



22 year-old Pabitra hails from Okhaldhunga. She lives with her sister in Kathmandu and works as an accountant to earn her living. Her father is a farmer and her mother is a housewife. Her economic condition is medium. Formerly, she worked with her sister at a garment factory owned by Mohammad Alam. Her elder sister has been working at Alam's garment factory in Dallu, Kathmandu for three years. Pabitra regarded Alam as an elder brother.

On the day of the attack, Alam offered Pabitra a ride on his motorcycle as she was headed to buy some groceries. He accompanied her to a nearby store and they snacked together. They went to a dairy on the motorcycle and bought yogurt and beaten rice. On their way back, he dropped her off midway and as she started walking away, another man standing on the road threw acid on her face. She cried for help and the by-passers informed the police. She was rushed to Manmohan Hospital and later referred to Kirtipur Hospital where her treatment was planned. She has undergone one debridement and one skin grafting under the support of BVS Nepal. She is still undergoing treatment.

According to the perpetrator's statement, his boss ordered him to throw it at the woman. It was a liquor bottle, so he thought it was some alcohol. But, with the heat on his wrist, he realized it was acid. He was told to flee to India following the incident, but the police arrested them before they could leave the valley.

BURNT DURING CATTLE RESCUE: Ranjaniya Behena

55 year old Ranjaniya Behana is a widow. She lost her husband in a accident and lives with her son in Guleriya, Bardiya. They work in a brick kiln in Guleriya to earn their livelihood.

On March 2, 2021, Ranjaniya's house caught fire due to the dry weather conditions and strong wind. her cattle were trapped in the shed. She rushed to rescue them but unfortunately got severely injured. Her neighbors informed the police who came to rescue and admitted her in Bardiya District hospital. Due to lack of burn specific facilities in the hospital, she was referred to Bheri Hospital in Nepalgunj.

BVS-Nepal is supporting Ranjaniya with her treatment and rehabilitation activities.



SURVIVOR SUPPORT: Sujan Neupane



22 year-old Sujan Neupane from Dhading is an electrician in a private company. Sujan was out in the fields working with his friends in July 2020. He climbed up an electric pole to fix a cable wire but accidentally got electrocuted. He was rushed to the nearby medical shop

where he received first-aid treatment.

His left arm (below the elbow) had to be amputated. ,BVS-Nepal supported Sujan with Nrs. 50,000 for prosthetic silicone hands. BVS-Nepal also supported Sujan with other medical and surgical treatments. Currently, he is doing well.

SURVIVOR EMPOWERMENT: Renuka

BVS-Nepal believes in empowering burn survivors with vocational trainings, engagement activities and providing seed money to build resilience and confidence to face the world and live life on their own terms.

Trainings such as cooking, candle-making, tailoring, beauty parlor, computer classes, etc. have continuously been provided to the survivors based on their interests and capabilities to ensure a sustainable future for them. This year, BVS-Nepal handed over NPR. 25,000 as a seed money to Ms. Renuka who had been very passionate starting her own tailoring business and becoming financially independent.



BVS-Nepal team visited Nepalgunj Sub-metropolitan City for monitoring activities. They met three survivors: Hasta Bahadur Pun, Bibek Kuwar and Sushma Chaudhari for routine follow-up.

Their wounds were fully recovered except for minor problems like itching on the affected area. The survivors and their family appreciate the support by BVS-Nepal. According to Sushma, they would not have opted for routine treatment had BVS-Nepal not supported them. Hasta, a daily wage worker and Sushma are married. Mayor Singh Kuwar, who is also Bibek's grandfather, also applauded BVS-Nepal's efforts.

BURN WARD ESTABLISHED AT PATAN HOSPITAL

BVS Nepal established a six bedded burn ward at Patan Academy of Health and Sciences. Alongside ward furniture and equipment, a dermatome / meek skin mesher, and computer with printer and scanner were also handed over to the hospital. The equipment will aid burn surgeries and enhance the treatment and recovery of burn survivors.



More from COVID-19 relief and support...



FIELD MONITORING VISITS



COVID-19 RELIEF PROGRAM

As a preliminary aid to the emergency brought about by COVID-19, BVS-Nepal distributed ration packages and monetary support of NRs. 5,000 each to burn survivor.

As for the medical professionals working to manage burns during the pandemic, BVS-Nepal supported with medical gowns, bed sheets, face masks, gloves, and hand sanitizers. Among the beneficiaries were the burn wards in Bheri Zonal Hospital, Kanti Children's Hospital, Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital (TUTH) and Janakpur Zonal Hospital. The donations of supplies were made by Ms. Vidhushi Rana, Gold Star shoes and Mero Mask. Moreover, 18 sets of personal protective equipment (PPE) were provided to Kanti Children's Hospital and 10 sets of the same to TUTH through support of BVS executive member Mr. Binod Tuladhar.



**BVS
IMPACT
METER
2020-21**



MEDICAL & SURGICAL SUPPORT
189 CASES

NUTRITION
SUPPLEMENTS



238 FOOD BASKETS

PHYSIOTHERAPY
644 PATIENTS



COUNSELING PROGRAM
698 PEOPLE



BURN MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS

59 frontline health workers
2 Districts
2 Provinces
3 Days



COVID-19 SUPPORT & RELIEF

Personal Protective Equipment



Handwash & soaps



Relief packages

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank Barbara and CHANCE For Nepal for their continued medical and surgical, nutrition, physiotherapy and counseling support to burn survivors through BVS-Nepal.

A special thanks to Katrin Hagen and Med Solution Foundation for their support especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.



POLICY ADVOCACY BY BVS NEPAL

On 16 Sep 2020 BVS Nepal along with Amnesty International Nepal, JURI-Nepal, FWLD, LACC, and WOREC, met the honorable Minister of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr. Shivamaya Tumbahangphe and submitted our recommendations in regards to the new legislation being drafted on acid burn violence. The recommendations have been taken into consideration and efforts have been made to issues laws accordingly.



After many years of continued advocacy by Civil Service Organizations (CSOs), activists and stakeholders, Nepal Government has finally issued two ordinances: "Ordinance Amending Few Acts Relating to Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure, 2078" and "Acid and Other Lethal Chemical Substance (Regulation) Ordinance, 2078" were issued by President to punish the perpetrators involved in acid attack and discourage such incidents. Moreover, it is also declared that the Government would bear the cost of treatment for the acid attack victims, their education and employment corresponding to their age and skill.

BVS-Nepal is an active component of advocacy for these ordinances which can be regarded as one of the greatest achievements of the organization's history. However, the ordinance could not cover other burn related violence such as flame burn that is committed by pouring

kerosene, petrol etc. to kill or harm body. It is also inhumane and heinous crime but the existing punishment provision is very little compared to the trauma a victim has to face for the rest of the life. The physical pain, the mental trauma, the impact on self-esteem and self-confidence suffered by survivors of acid violence and burn violence are similar in nature. Therefore, the other burn-related violence cases should also be addressed with strict punishment against perpetrators and proper compensation.

BURN MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

Burn injury requires specialized personnel and technologies that in many cases are not always readily available in many of the low-income countries, like Nepal. Records at BVS-Nepal show a large number of the burns patients hail from the rural areas, where with trained health personnel are lacking. Many burn victims lose their lives in the absence of timely primary care which can effectively reduce the severity of burn injuries and improve overall survival. Therefore, frontline health workers (FHWs) working in rural settings must be trained on burn care management such that adequate care is provided to patients before referral to tertiary care hospitals.

Two burn management training were conducted, in coordination with Health Office, Kavrepalanchowk District, Bagmati Province, and Dhanusha District, Province 2. A one-day burn management training was conducted in Kavrepalanchowk on March 6, 2021, and a two-day burn management training was conducted in Janakpur district on March 21-22, 2021 to improve case management and ensure access to immediate and effective treatment of burn injuries. The district was selected as the majority of burns cases that came in contact with BVS-Nepal were from Province 2 and district in the periphery of Kathmandu and further. A total of 59 Frontline Health Workers (FHWs) attended the training. The participants represented a diverse range of health workers including Staff Nurse, Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM), physiotherapists, and relevant health workers.



BVS TEAM

Executive Director	: Ms. Pratiksha Giri
Program Manager	: Mr. Shree Krishna Thapa
Program Associate	: Ms. Pramashree Karki
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Field Officer	: Ms. Indra Kumari Thing, Ktm : Mr. Surendra Karki, Nepalgunj : Ms. Siya Saheli, Janakpur
Asst. Field Officer	: Mr. Manoj Pulami, Ktm
Counselors	: Ms. Aasha Dangi (Nepalgunj) : Mr. Padma Pd. Ghimire : Mr. Bir Bahadur Lama
Physiotherapist	: Mr. Bibek Ghimire
Office Assistant	: Ms. Indira Maharjan

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DONATION DETAILS

Nepal Investment Bank Ltd.
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Account Name: BVS NEPAL
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Swift ID: NIBLNPKT

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