



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES

50

Years in Nepal







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Truly bonding with a child has the power to change the world.



1. Messages



The President

Rashtrapati Bhawan
Maharajgunj, Kathmandu, Nepal.

17 October 2022

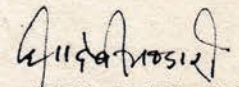
Best Wishes

I am glad to learn that SOS Children's Villages Nepal is publishing a 'souvenir' on the occasion of successful completion of its 50 years of service in Nepal. I am aware of various programmes of the organization that are run with a special focus on the protection of children and young people who have lost their parental care due to several reasons. Particularly, the family-like care of SOS Children's Villages Nepal is unique and is well recognized for its holistic support to children and young people until they become self-reliant and independent citizens.

In addition to this, the actions taken by this organization during emergency situations are exemplary. Works such as the reconstruction of physical infrastructures, livelihood programs, and restoration of community buildings for children and their families who were highly affected by the devastating earthquake of 2015 are commendable. I fondly recall the moment of 29 April 2018 when I was present as the Chief Guest at the 'Special handover programme of newly constructed schools, community buildings and private houses' organized by SOS Children's Villages Nepal.

I am confident that this publication will highlight the accomplishments of SOS Children's Villages Nepal and its positive impacts on society. I am certain SOS Children's Villages Nepal will receive the required resources and support from the government and various sectors of society for the betterment of the children, young people, and vulnerable families.

I take this opportunity to wish SOS Children's Villages Nepal a very promising future to enhance and expand its services.


Bidya Devi Bhandari



प्रधानमन्त्री

काठमाडौं, नेपाल

Message

It gives me immense pleasure to note that SOS Children's Villages Nepal is publishing a **Souvenir** on the auspicious occasion of its 50th anniversary. On this happy occasion, I would like to congratulate and extend my best wishes and greetings to entire family of SOS Children's Villages Nepal, and wish the publication a grand success.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal has been working dedicatedly for orphan and those children who are deprived of parental care due to different reasons, to provide safe, responsive and nurturing environment across the country. It is highly commendable to see the strong commitment of the hardworking team of SOS Children's Villages Nepal working for the children through its various welfare projects and programmes. Through the generous support of the SOS, many orphan and socio-economically weak children, have been able to acquire basic humanitarian care along with education, health and other life supporting skills. This has helped many children and many vulnerable families to become self-reliant.

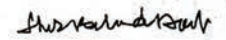
Besides providing family care, education, health and other life supporting skills to deprived children, it is also admirable to see SOS Children's Villages Nepal's support to provide necessary relief and assistances to the victims, in particular children, facing humanitarian crisis during earthquake and at the time of COVID-19 pandemic. This kind of support proves SOS Children's Village Nepal's constant commitment and dedication to serve our society during any kind of humanitarian crisis.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the SOS Children's Villages Nepal for its five decades' long continuous and unselfish contribution to the vulnerable families, children and young people in Nepal. I am confident that SOS Children's Villages Nepal will be able to continue and further expand its welfare activities in the future and serve more needy people.

Lastly, I wish to extend my best wishes for every success in the future activities of SOS Children's Villages Nepal.

Jay Nepal !

6 November, 2022


Sher Bahadur Deuba



नेपाल सरकार
महिला, बालबालिका तथा ज्येष्ठ नागरिक मन्त्रीको निजी सचिवालय
सिंहदरबार, काठमाडौं, नेपाल

उमा रेग्मी
मन्त्री

फोन नं.: ४२००२८०/४२११९९२/४२००१५३
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पत्र संख्या :
चलानी नं. :

GREETINGS!


It is a pleasure to know that SOS Children's Villages is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. I would like to share my greetings and warm wishes to SOS Children's Villages Nepal.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal has come a very long way in providing one of the best alternative care services to children and young people who have lost their parents owing to various reasons through its Family-like Care approach in Children's Villages. I am also fully aware that SOS Children's Villages Nepal has not only provided care to vulnerable children and young people but is equally supporting those children who are at risk of losing their parental care through its Family Strengthening Programmes. Additionally, we acknowledge the support the organization has been providing to vulnerable families through its community support interventions.

Over the years, we have witnessed the various activities of SOS Children's Villages Nepal. The interventions made by your organization have had a very positive impact on the lives of so many children, young people, and families. It is no doubt that SOS Children's Villages Nepal has been significantly contributing a lot in creating a warm and loving environment for children and young people for their overall growth and development in a family-like setup. Similarly, SOS Children's Villages Nepal has also proactively responded to emergencies our country has faced over time.

Finally, I would like to thank the whole team of SOS Children's Villages Nepal for your hard work and dedication. The activities of SOS Children's Villages Nepal are truly commendable. I would also like to send my best wishes for the publication of the souvenir, which highlights the achievements of SOS Children's Villages Nepal in the past 50 years.

Wishing SOS Children's Villages Nepal many more years of unparalleled success!



Uma Regmi
Minister of Women, Children and Senior Citizens





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Mr. Jyoti Ratna Dhakwa
President of the Board
SOS Children's Villages Nepal

23 September, 2022

Dear Mr. Jyoti,

Very warm greetings!

I am reaching out to you today to congratulate you and SOS Children's Villages for reaching 50 years of work in Nepal. This is an important milestone which invites us to take stalk of the work done and to renew our unyielding commitment to children without or at risk of losing parental care.

I would like to take this opportunity to share some words of appreciation, and convey to you the important work you carry out in advancing the rights and wellbeing of all children living under vulnerable conditions and in need of our support and advocacy. Families, young people and children you have served throughout these years, and continue to do, are forging better futures thanks to the support and nurture they receive from your teams in the field.

I had the opportunity to learn about your good work through our last virtual visit in November 2021. The challenging circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic that inhibit us from meeting in person did not stop you and all the management team, colleagues and co-workers to proudly share your achievements and convey to me the pride with which you commit to our common cause. I want to thank you one more time for allowing me to visit your programs, and more importantly, to listen and learn directly from the children, youth and families under your care. I also want to specially highlight the work you do in supporting and nurturing children with special needs. You are realizing our mission that no child should grow up alone.

Your path may not have been always easy, nor free from challenges. As stated above, these last years have tested all of us. Multiple and compounding crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters intensified due to climate change, armed conflicts, forced migration, economic hardship and hunger have exacerbated the breakdown of families and left many more children and young people without suitable care worldwide.

Therefore, despite major progress since 1949, when our organization's founding father Hermann Gmeiner established the first program in Imst, Austria, challenges remain. Today, more than ever, our work is critical and we need to contribute with solutions and expanding our reach to positively impact the life of as many children in need as possible.

I am convinced that every corner of the country in which you operate is better off because you are there. On behalf of our worldwide Federation, I want to thank every co-worker, every caretaker, the management team and the national Board, as well as every partner that has contributed to all your achievements. The foundation of an effective organization is built upon committed and competent staff at all levels, strong management and good governance bodies.

Together, I am convinced we can continue advancing our promise that no child is ever left behind and no child grows up alone.

With my best wishes,

Dereje Wordofa
President, SOS Children's Villages International



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November 23, 2022

Best wishes!

On the auspicious occasion of the 50th Anniversary of SOS Children's Villages Nepal, we take this opportunity to extend our cordial salutation to the entire SOS Children's Villages Nepal family specifically our programme participants, all the employees, well-wishers, donors and those who have been providing support and cooperation in this entire journey of five decades. To commemorate this beautiful occasion and to reminisce the achievements of SOS Children's Villages Nepal over the last 50 years, we are pleased to share with you this beautiful publication.

The movement of SOS Children's Villages International began in 1949 with Dr Hermann Gmeiner's vision of providing a loving home in a family-like care setting for those children who had lost their parental care. Instead of placing children into traditional institutional care, SOS Children's Villages pioneered a new care solution by creating families ensuring that the children were provided with an opportunity to stay together in a small family house with a committed caregiver generally termed as 'SOS Mother'.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal started its service 50 years ago with a goal to provide children and young people with a loving and supportive environment for them to grow and develop to their full potential. By now, we have extended our programmes in many locations across the country. The journey of these five decades has not been easy for the organization, however, despite all the challenges, SOS Children's Villages Nepal has remained strong and determined towards its vision, mission and values. As a responsible organization working with children, young people and vulnerable families across the nation, our aim is to ensure every child gets an opportunity to grow and develop in a secure and loving family environment.

This is a very proud moment for SOS Children's Villages Nepal that we have been receiving support and cooperation from all the relevant agencies and institutions of the Government of Nepal. We are indeed very pleased to receive the messages from the Right Honourable President Bidya Devi Bhandari, Right Honourable Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and Honourable Minister Uma Regmi, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens. We have taken these messages as a testimony that our efforts have been well received and recognized by the Government of Nepal. Thus, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude for this.

We take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to thousands of children, young people and families that we closely work with. We also sincerely express our thanks to all the caregivers, co-workers, General Assembly members, Board members, our partners, donors, federal, provincial and local governments for their support and cooperation. Our special thanks go to the Honourable President of SOS Children's Villages International, Dr Dereje Wordofa and his team at International Office for the guidance and support the organization has been receiving. Similarly, we extend our sincere gratitude to former leadership team at International Office for their continued support. Likewise, our special thanks go to CVI Representative, Mr Rajneesh Jain and colleagues from International Office Asia. We also send our thanks to all our Promoting and Supporting Associations (PSAs) viz. SOS Children's Villages Austria, SOS Children's Villages Germany, Hermann Gmeiner Funds Germany (HGFD) and SOS Children's Villages Switzerland for their continued support to maintain the quality of care and expand and enhance our services. We are committed to expanding our impact with more enthusiasm and motivation so that 'No child is left behind and no child grows up alone.'

Cheers to the 50 beautiful years of SOS Children's Villages Nepal!

Dr Ganga Bahadur Gurung
National Director



Dr Jyoti Ratna Dhakhwa
President





2. Introduction



Dr Hermann Gmeiner, Founder of SOS Children's Villages and Honorary President (Past President 1985-2012) Mr Helmut Kutin.

SOS Children's Villages started in 1949 with an innovative idea. Dr Hermann Gmeiner, a child welfare advocate from Austria, recognised a problem: thousands of children in post-war Europe had lost their families, and orphanages presented them with the prospect of a grim institutional childhood. His solution was to develop a model of family-like care – providing children with security and a sense of belonging by building reliable and resilient relationships.

Today, this individualised, holistic approach remains the basis for our unique expertise in care. We embrace our origins in social innovation and activism by constantly seeking to adapt and improve our work to meet the best interests of each child, family and community by advocating for child rights.

More than 70 years later, SOS Children's Villages' presence has grown to more than 135 countries and territories around the world.

With the generous support of donors, partners and friends, SOS Children's Villages helps hundreds of thousands of children each year through alternative care, family strengthening, schools, health centres, and other community-based work. No other organisation shares our singular focus in working directly with children and young people who have lost parental care or who stand at risk of losing it.



What we do

Give children a loving home



Make families stronger



Promote children's rights



Protect children in emergencies





SOS Children's Villages Nepal

SOS Children's Village is a child-centered development organisation that has been active in the field of child care, child protection and child rights. It is committed to providing a range of care solutions to children and young people. SOS Children's Villages Nepal believes that all children and young people belong to a family where they grow up with love, respect and security. Our mission is to build families for children in need, help them shape their own futures and share in the development of their communities.

SOS Children's Villages Movement in Nepal started with the visit of Dr Hermann Gmeiner to Nepal in 1968 AD. In 1970, sites were selected for SOS Children's Village Sanothimi, the first SOS Children's Village in Nepal, and the foundation stone was laid in 1971 A.D. The first group of Mothers was selected in the same year and late Ms Edith Pohl from SOS Children's Villages International took the keen initiative to train the Mothers and started the very first family houses in 1972 A.D. Likewise, SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Sanothimi, the first SOS Hermann Gmeiner School in Nepal, was established in 1973 A.D. Since its establishment, SOS Children's Villages Nepal has expanded its programmes across various locations in the country.

Programme Locations

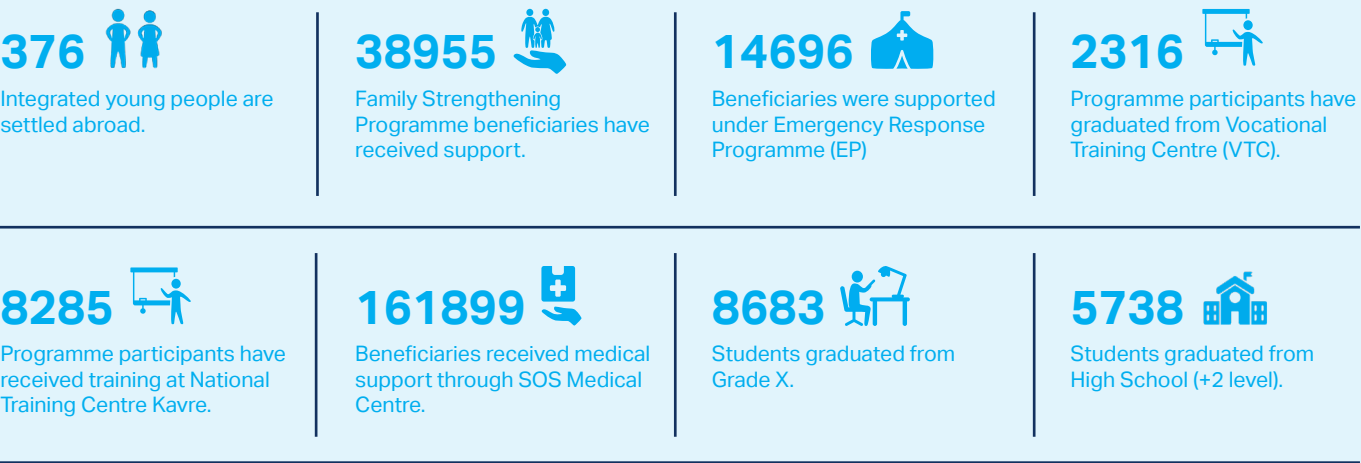
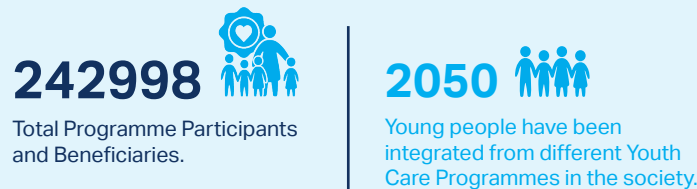


10 Children's Villages	10 Youth Care Programmes	12 Family Strengthening Programmes	7 Hermann Gmeiner Schools	1 Kindergarten
1 Vocational Training Cente (VTC)	1 National Training Centre (NTC)	2 Emergency Response Projects (Promoting Educational Resilience of Schools on Equitable Access to Education amid COVID-19; Breaking the Barriers of the Digital Divide)		

Our Programmes



Impact





Our Vision

Every child belongs to a family and grows up with love, respect and security.



Our Mission

We build families for children in need, we help them shape their own futures, and we share in the development of their communities.

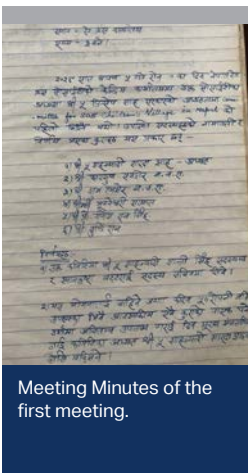
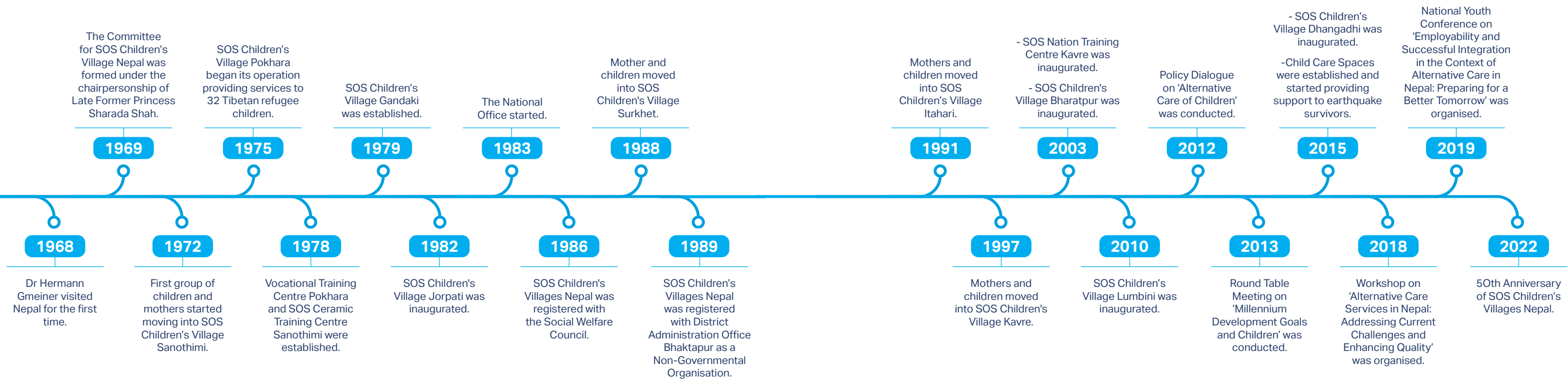




Inauguration of SOS Children's Village Jorpati by Late Former Princess Sharada Shah and Dr Hermann Gmeiner in 1982.

3. Historical Milestones

Historical Milestones



Meeting Minutes of the first meeting.



The First Programme, SOS Children's Village Sanothimi in 1973.



Late Former Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala with officials during the inauguration of SOS Children's Village Itahari in 1991.



Inauguration of SOS Children's Village Kavre by Late Former King Birendra and Late Former Queen Aishwarya on March 8, 1999.



Policy Dialogue on Alternative Care of Children held in June 2012.



SOS Children's Village Lumbini was inaugurated by Former President of Nepal Dr Ram Baran Yadav in 2010.

Chairperson	Duration
Late Former Princess Sharada Shah	Since its Inception - June 1, 2001
Prof. Dr Hemang Dixit	June 22, 2001- May 05, 2009
Prof. Dr Bishwa Keshar Maskay	May 6, 2009 - May 25, 2017
Dr Jyoti Ratna Dhakhwa	May 26, 2017 - Current



4. Alternative Care

(Family Like Care in Children's
Villages and Youth Care
Programme)



Standing true to our core value of offering 'A loving home to every child,' SOS Children's Villages Nepal has been relentlessly working towards providing a family-like environment with complete love, care, respect, security and protection to children who have lost their parents or are deprived of parental care. We are committed to putting each child's needs and best interest at the centre of our work to care for children.



Amit* (name changed)
SOS Children's Village Bharatpur

Amit is popular among his peer groups for his football skills. 11-years-old striker under the care of SOS Children's Village Bharatpur is unstoppable when he is on the football field, tactfully passing the ball and running towards the goal post. Amit is also part of football training team where he is getting an opportunity to learn new techniques and skills.

"I am glad to be part of the training. I go for training every morning during weekend and in the evening during the school days. Everyone including my coach acclaims that I am the best player in my group," Amit proudly says.

Amit grew up enjoying the sport every time his senior brothers at SOS Children's Village Bharatpur used to play football during their playtime. In those moments, Amit says, he knew football was his passion. As a result, Amit started playing football at the age of six.

Amit is determined to focus on improving himself as a professional football player. He also gives credit for the support of his family at SOS Children's Village Bharatpur and his coach in helping him realise his passion for football. "Ronaldo is my favorite footballer and my dream is to become a football player like him," Amit reveals his dream.



Karma* (name changed)
SOS Children's Village Pokhara

"Ama, please hurry up. My friends are waiting for me. We have a football match today," says Karma while his mother, Lhamo, ties his shoelace. Karma rushes down the lane to join his friends, and they play for hours tirelessly.

"I can vividly remember the initial days of Karma when he first came to the house. He looked delicate and fragile, with no spark on his face, but I knew instantly that he would be normal like other children here within a few months," Lhamo recalls.

Karma was welcomed to SOS Village Pokhara when he was only three years old. He hails from a remote village in Nepal where they need to take an hour's bus ride to reach the nearest market.

Now, Karma's life has turned into a completely different angle. He is placed in a house where he is loved and cared for by all. He has become a very energetic and outspoken child. He has many friends and loves running around the village with his friends.



Santosh* (name changed)
President, Golden Horizon Child Club
SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi

I am growing with my brothers and sisters with the love and care of our mother at SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi. We all learn and explore mutually in our house and in the village. We have all the required facilities and get every opportunity to expand our knowledge. I am optimistic about my bright future. One day, I will make my family proud by becoming a successful person.

Pramila* (name changed)
SOS Children's Village Itahari

Pramila is a daughter of SOS Children's Village Itahari who is often seen with her books. Her mother, Rukmaya, shares, "from her childhood, Pramila has enjoyed studying." She is not only interested in reading books but is also involved in extracurricular activities and has many certificates and awards under her belt. "I love to participate and try new things. It is both challenging and fulfilling at the same time. Similarly, I also get to explore a new set of skills I never knew before," says Pramila.

Pramila stood third in the Inter-Provincial Speech Competition organised by the Ministry of Social Development, Province 1, to mark the 57th National Children's Day. 'Education during COVID-19' was the subject of the competition. Likewise, on the occasion of the 36th International SOS Day 2022, SOS Children's Village Itahari organised a Secondary Level Essay competition in which Pramila secured second position. "I always feel proud of myself for participating in different programmes and show my talent," says Pramila.

SOS Children's Village Jorpati





SOS Children's Village Jorpati (one of the ten Children's Villages) which started in 1981 is located in Kathmandu district and provides care to children with disabilities. Five families in Jorpati provide all the support, affection and attention the children need. In each family, they live with their brothers and sisters, cared for by their mother and required caretakers. The family homes are specially designed to meet all the children's needs. The children receive extra classes to help them with their learning difficulties and cognitive development, and there is also a therapy room with a small pool for physical therapy in the village. An extension of SOS Children's Village Jorpati will start its operation from 2023 from the premises of SOS Children's Village Sanothimi.





Binita* (name changed)
SOS Children's Village Jorpati

I was very small when I came to SOS Children's Village Jorpati with my elder sister. In the beginning, I found it quite challenging to adjust to the new environment. But now, I am very happy. I have a family with a loving mother, brothers and sisters.

I go to school regularly and am studying in grade X. I am one of the good students in my class. I hope that with my dedication, hardwork and the support that SOS Children's Village Jorpati provides, I will become a successful person in my life.

Prinshi* (name changed)
SOS Children's Village Jorpati

Prinshi came to SOS Children's Village Jorpati at the age of five. She was born with Cerebral Palsy (CP). Therefore, she could neither move her limbs easily like others nor could she do her daily routine on her own. She was completely dependent on the caregivers. She used to walk with the aid of a wheeled walker and even had a problem with her speech. Even though she had difficulty with speech, she tried her best to communicate with others.

As per the doctor's recommendation, Prinshi has received extensive physiotherapy to improve her mobility. She has also started using callipers to improve her walking ability. The encouragement from the doctor and her mother in the village has helped her push further, eventually enabling her to stand independently and walk alone. She is gradually developing a sense of self-confidence in herself. She stays focused on her studies, which has helped her develop her problem-solving skills.

Prinshi has become a role model for all the children who are still trying to walk independently. Her mother is so proud that all the efforts Prinshi has put in have positively impacted her health. Prinshi is still trying her best to improve her speech and her mobility.

Atul* (name changed)
President of Lumbini Child Club

I spent my happy childhood days with my biological brother and sister at SOS Children's Village Lumbini. We live here with other children in our SOS family. I love to live in this place, and I am proud to be the President of the Lumbini Child Club.

Pasang Dolma* (name changed)
SOS Children's Village Pokhara

I came here as a girl without a mother. But I found a motherly love at SOS Children's Village Pokhara. I will never forget SOS Children's Village Pokhara in life. This Village is an abode that offered me a mother's love and complete home.

Sunita* (name changed)
SOS Children's Village Sanothimi

I was brought to SOS Children's Village Sanothimi along with my four siblings. I am glad I could live with all my siblings in the same home. Now, I have a big family with a caring mother.

I am also delighted to study at SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Sanothimi, one of the country's reputed schools. At present, I am working hard to excel in my studies so that, in future, I can serve my community in the field of education.

Apart from studies, I have also participated in workshops and training related to Cyber Safety and Good Touch/ Bad Touch. I am eager to learn more about children's safety.





Children and young people have the right to be listened to on all matters affecting them so they can actively contribute to shaping their own lives and participate in the development of their communities. We encourage and support young people to have a voice and become active participants in decision-making processes.



Niyasha Thakur learning to ride two-wheeler

Niyasha Thakur
SOS Children Village Itahari

Niyasha Thakur joined SOS Children's Village Itahari at the age of nine along with her younger brother after losing her parents in an accident. "Going to school, playing with friends, doing homework, and going to market with mother are some beautiful moments to cherish forever," says Niyasha.

After completing high school, Niyasha got enrolled and then graduated with Bachelor's in International Business Management. While pursuing her Bachelor's Degree, Niyasha started working as an insurance representative in a reputed Insurance company in the town. Simultaneously, she also passed International Computer Driving License (ICDL) test. She was Social Service Club's President during her youth care stay.

Currently, Niyasha is pursuing her Master's in Business Administration (MBA). She has also managed to learn to ride two-wheelers. "I feel the necessity of learning two-wheeler for my job. Two-wheeler license is a must in every job requisite these days," says Niyasha.



Sudeep Gurung
SOS Children Village Bharatpur

18-year old Sudip from SOS Youth Care Bharatpur loves photography. His journey into photography began after he made the acquaintance of his senior at school, who inspired him to discover his love for photography. "My senior would lend me his camera so that I could explore the world of photography. He even taught me basic photography skills, which really helped me hone my skills," says Sudip.

After the completion of his SEE exam, Sudip utilised his break time by taking three days training on photography and videography. "I have always loved taking pictures of everything that fascinates me and I am passionate about it. This training has further enhanced my photography skills. At the same time, I have also learned to be a good storyteller and express myself through pictures that I take. I wish to become a professional photographer in future," Sudip shares his happiness.

Satya Narayan Maharjan
SOS Children's Villages Kavre

Being the smallest member of the family, I was loved and cared for by everyone. Everyone would lovingly call me *Babu*, a small brother in Nepali. As time passed, I graduated from high school, and after that, I joined BALLB, a 5-year course, at Kathmandu School of Law to pursue my Bachelor's Degree in Law. Since the first day, I have worked hard and focused all my concentration on my studies.

After completing the programme, I passed Nepal Bar Council written examination with a very good grade and obtained the license of an advocate. From that day, my nickname changed from *Babu* to *Wokil Saheb*. Being a Wokil Saheb was an honour for me, but more than that, it was an even bigger honour for my mom, my brothers, my sisters and the entire SOS family, which had always been there in my entire journey. I became the first person to become a lawyer from SOS Children's Village Kavre.

Currently, I am doing my LLM in Criminal Law and Justice. I will always fight for justice and never forget my roots wherever I go or whoever I become."



Sita Khadka
SOS Children's Village Sanothimi

22 years old Sita from SOS Youth Care Kathmandu is pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. At the same time, she is also determined to pursue her passion for baking. "I have always been interested in bakery items. For a long time, I really wanted to enroll myself in baking classes," says Sita. Recently, Sita finally got an opportunity to attend a course in baking and she says that by the end of the course, she grew confident in her baking skills.

"During the course, I realised that baking is something that actually gives me a lot of joy and I am in love with the creativity baking offers. If I work hard, I think I have a potential to become a professional baker. Along with completing my studies, my plan is also to hone my baking skills by taking more advanced training," says Sita.

Jay Krishna Timilsina
SOS Children Village Bharatpur

Jay Krishna Timilsina, youth from SOS Youth Care Bharatpur, has been a member of the International Youth Coalition (IYC), the highest body of young people programme by the Senate and the President of SOS Children's Village International, for the last two and half years. IYC offers a forum for young people like Jay to help educate their peers on today's most important topics and challenge cultural norms that attack the dignity of human beings. As a coalition member, Jay actively participates in the meetings, workshops and seminars organised in a virtual platform where he presents his ideas and opinions. "IYC has been an incredible source of learning for me. Through this platform, I can connect and learn from the experiences of many young people like me from all over the world," says Jay. On the academic front, Jay is pursuing his Bachelor's Degree in Law as he aspires to become a corporate lawyer.

Navaraj Basnet
SOS Children's Village Lumbini

Navaraj Basnet is a national level taekwondo player and he has participated in national and international tournaments and has also won the medal. He won a silver medal in India's Fourth International Taekwondo Championship in 2014. Likewise, he bagged a bronze medal in the Eighth South Asian Federation Games (SAFG) held in 2019. He also successfully won a gold medal in the Seventeenth National Taekwondo Championship. In the same championship, he was also declared one of the best players in the senior category. He became the first player ever in Rupandehi District to receive the best player award in any national level taekwondo tournament. Furthermore, he bagged five gold medals in respective tournaments i.e. Seventh Korean Ambassador Open National Taekwondo Championship, First NECOS National Taekwondo Championship, First National level Mayor Cup Taekwondo Competition, First Junior Inter School National Taekwondo Championship and Province Level Taekwondo Championship held in Dang.





Bandana Khadka, Youth from SOS Youth Care Kavre, receiving Duke of Edinburgh's International Award from Late Former British Ambassador to Nepal, Richard Morrish.



SOS Children's Villages Nepal organised a three-day National Youth Conference on 'Employability and Successful Integration in the Context of Alternative Care in Nepal: Preparing for a Better Tomorrow' in 2019 for young people receiving care in alternative care settings. The programme provided opportunities for the young people to participate in various issues of youth care and development and employability in context to successful community integration of the young people living in alternative care settings in Nepal.



Dr Punam Thapa
SOS Children's Village
Surkhet

Dr Punam Thapa is a member of the International Youth Coalition, the highest body of young people recognised by the Senate and the President of SOS Children's Village International. In addition to this, she was also a panel judge for Generation Unlimited (GenU) to assess and contribute to the GenU Youth Challenges. Dr Punam recently graduated from Tribhuvan University and started a career in medicine. Punam joined SOS Children's Village Surkhet at an early age along with her elder brother after the demise of her parents. After joining the SOS Children's Village Surkhet, she received a second home, a loving mother and a family with brothers and sisters. "Peace of mind is the greatest achievement that comes from helping others because we are born to give. I want to be a good doctor and give back to the society," says Dr Punam.



Rekha Kumari Malla
SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi

I would like to thank SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi for providing me with all the opportunities that I require to attain a better future. Along with graduating from high school, I've also completed the Land Surveyor technical education course. In addition to preparing for the Public Service Commission Examination, I am also planning to join a Bachelor's programme in education.



SOS Children's Villages Nepal, in coordination with C-NET Nepal and Care Leavers Association Nepal (CLAN Nepal) and in solidarity with NACG Nepal, launched Nepali translation of 'The Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children' on 10th July 2022. The translation the Guidelines was done with an objective of making it accessible to everyone. 'Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children' is a set of international standards that would ultimately give expert guidance to the government of Nepal and duty bearers on the implementation of the UNCRC.



Bina Neupane receiving *Maha Ujjwal Rastriya Deep* Award in 2022 from Rt. Hon. President Bidhya Devi Bhandari.

Bina Neupane
Care Leaver
SOS Children's Village
Sanothimi

Bina Neupane is a nurse who is Birthing Centre In-charge at Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, Maharajgunj, Kathmandu where she has been working for the last 31 years.

As a health worker, Bina had a hectic time during the COVID-19 pandemic. "Due to the short-staffed crisis amidst the pandemic, I had to singlehandedly handle five departments," Bina shared.

Bina's hard work paid off after the Government of Nepal recognised and appreciated her contribution. Bina was decorated with the title *Maha Ujjwal Rastriya Deep* in 2022 by Rt. Honorable President Bidhya Devi Bhandari.

Bina believes that SOS Children's Village Sanothimi has played a huge role in her life and has helped her reach where she is now. "While receiving the award, the first thing that came into my mind was my SOS family," Bina disclosed with a smile. "As soon as I received the award, I immediately called my SOS aunt, Goma Gurung, who took care of me while I was in the village."

Bina says that her SOS family members are important in her life. "My daughter visits the village as her Mama Ghar," Bina revealed with a smile. During holidays, she also comes to the village and spends time with her family. "We, the children of SOS Children's Villages Nepal, will always be a family, no matter where we go. The village has always had a family environment, and I hope it continues."



Suresh Poudel
Care Leaver
SOS Children's Village Gandaki

After the demise of his mother, Suresh Poudel was abandoned by his father, who disappeared from his life. Suresh was deprived of basic needs and quality education, but that completely changed after SOS Children's Village Gandaki welcomed him at the age of eight. "When I moved to the house of SOS Children's Village, I felt sad, confused and anxious. Everything was new and different for me and, at the same time, I was missing my mother and my friends. My mother and my brothers and sisters at SOS Children's Village Gandaki understood how I felt and listened to my opinion about things. With the love that they showered upon me, I gradually started to feel comfortable in my new home," shared Suresh. After completing high school, Suresh joined Bachelor's in Business Administration at Pokhara University, followed by a Master's in Business Administration, which he graduated in 2019. Suresh has been working as a Loan Officer for the past five years at NMB bank, one of the renowned banks in Nepal. "I am proud of myself for what I have achieved in life, and I owe it to my SOS family for the person I have become today," says Suresh.

Dr Dil Kumar Gurung
Care Leaver
SOS Children's Village Sanothimi

I was a 6-year-old boy, deprived of parental love and care when I came to SOS Children's Village Sanothimi in 1988. SOS Children's Villages Nepal has helped me shape my life in the best way possible. I received the best school, high school and undergraduate education in Nepal and earned my doctorate from Texas Tech University in the USA. I have been working as an Automation Engineer at T. Rowe Price for the past nine years and live with my dear family in the USA. I give all the credit for my success to SOS Children's Villages Nepal. I am forever grateful to SOS Children's Villages Nepal for providing me with such opportunities. Without SOS Children's Villages Nepal, all these achievements would not have been impossible for a person like me. I feel blessed to be a part of it.





Dr Dev Raj Bharati
Care Leaver
SOS Children's Village Surkhet

Dev Raj Bharati was around one and a half years old when his mother and father got separated and shortly after that, his mother remarried another man. One year after his parents' separation, his father died of tuberculosis, leaving him in the lurch. Ultimately, relatives of Dev brought him to SOS Children's Village Surkhet, a place Dev would call his home. Today, Dev is Dr Dev Raj Bharati. He is a 39-year-old Ophthalmologist and Cataract and Oculoplastic surgeon at Fateh Bal Eye hospital, Nepalgunj since 2012. He is also a Chief Medical Director at the hospital, where patients from the Himalayan region of Nepal and India, come to get treatment for their eye problems, mainly cataracts. "Watching patients express their happiness after being able to see post cataract surgery is a magical moment. I think I am fortunate that I get to experience this over and over again and this is also what motivates me to do better at my work," Dr Dev shares.



Ranjata Sharma
Care Leaver
SOS Children's Village Bharatpur

I joined SOS Children's Village Bharatpur at the age of seven, along with my two biological siblings, after the demise of my mother. Now, I am an owner of a fast-food restaurant, 'Belna', in Bharatpur. My SOS family equipped me with all the necessary skills to thrive in the real world. I grew up in a warm and secure environment with loving brothers and sisters. I learned to care for younger ones, respect seniors and work in a team which have greatly assisted me in surviving in a competitive market. After obtaining a Bachelor's Degree, I was looking for an opportunity to do something independently. Based on the market demand, I invested in establishing a restaurant business with the support of my SOS family. Belna has become a famous brand in its vicinity in a short time, and I diligently work every day to take the business to a greater height.



Inspector Subash Singh
Care Leaver
SOS Children's Village Gandaki

Subash was just a baby when his father left his mother and remarried another woman. To seek justice, his mother even filed a case against his father. Unfortunately, his mother was hospitalized around the same time and later died of chronic illness. Abandoned and neglected by his father, Subash was admitted to SOS Children's Village Gandaki, which eventually became his family for life. Today, Subash is Inspector Subash Singh of Nepal Armed Police Force (APF) Hospital, and he is determined to serve the community. Subash was selected as the best employee and was later honoured with the *Nepal Pratap Abhushan Award* in 2020. Rt. Honorable President Bidya Devi Bhandari presented the Nepal Pratap Abhushan Award to Subash on the occasion of National Constitution Day in recognition of his service to the society during the COVID-19 pandemic. "As it is said that hard work always pays off, I was also promoted to Inspector in April 2022 in Nepal Armed Police Force (APF) Hospital," says Subash with a smile.



Kedar Dahal
Care Leaver
SOS Children's Village Sanothimi

Kedar was born in a farmer's family in the village near Kathmandu. After his parents passed away, he was brought up in SOS Children's Village Sanothimi, where he got familial love and care in a conducive environment. Today, Kedar is a freelance artist who is specialised in portrait paintings.

Kedar has completed his Master's in Fine Arts, and his goal is to establish himself as an international artist, for which he works hard every day. He further says, "I am very happy for what I am today. I am thankful to the entire SOS family for their love and support," says Kedar.



Rajesh Pariyar
 Care Leaver
 SOS Children's Village Bharatpur

I am a football player. I got an opportunity to represent my country and SOS family in the 13th South Asian Games (SAG) held at Dashrath Stadium, Kathmandu in December, 2019. My team and I won the game against Bhutan and received a gold medal. It was like a dream come true.

I grew up at SOS Children's Village Bharatpur since the age of six with my two siblings. My father abandoned me and my siblings after the death of my mother. However, I find myself fortunate enough to receive a second home at SOS Children's Village Bharatpur. It provided me an opportunity to realise my dream and lay the foundation to hone the career of my choice. I am always grateful to my SOS family for all the support that I am receiving. I hope, one day, I would be able to play in an international arena and make you all proud.

Geeta Limbu
 Care Leaver
 SOS Children's Village Jorpati

I grew up at SOS Children's Village Jorpati which provides care for children with disabilities. I work as a counsellor and advocate to promote and protect the rights of disabled people. I support and provide counselling to people with disabilities and parents of disabled children. I am proud to say that I was a part of a successful campaign that lobbied with the Government of Nepal to provide personal assistance services to people with disabilities. I have a dream to see people with disabilities living their life freely and independently without any obstacles. All I am today is because of my mother. I was brought to the SOS family with a spinal cord injury at the age of two. I wouldn't have survived if my mother didn't care for me like her own daughter. I laugh together and share my happiness and pain with my SOS family. I was equipped with all the skills to face the world and achieve my goal of helping people with disabilities.



Amrita Gyawali
 Care Leaver
 SOS Children's Village Jorpati

I am Amrita Gyawali, a social rights activist endeavoring for a change in society. When I was three years old, I lost my parents and siblings in a bus accident while I survived with a spinal cord injury and complete paraplegia. At the age of five, I went to SOS Children's Village Jorpati, where I was raised. Since then, I have been using a wheelchair for my daily mobility. Despite the odds, I worked hard to gain my college certificate and completed a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Psychology. I carried out research project entitled 'Disabling Menstrual Barriers' in support of WaterAid and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in the Kavre district of Nepal. Recently, I got married and am living with my husband in Japan. Along with my husband, I aim to continue advocating for the rights of people with disabilities.



Rupesh Tamang
Care Leaver
SOS Children's Village Kavre

I joined SOS Children's Village Kavre when I was just five years old. During my school years, I always used to be the first to raise my hands for the drama shows, and most of the time, I used to be chosen too. I did my schooling at SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Kavre and completed my higher secondary education in the same school in management stream. I did my Bachelor's in Arts and Social Work. In the meantime, I was offered the role of co-actor, an old tribal man in the drama 'Ghodchadi'. It was my first debut. The drama was highly successful. The drama team and I got to visit different parts of the country.

I am living a life that I aspire to become. My faith brought me to SOS Children's Villages, where I received hope, a hope to conquer a dream. My dream is to one day go into movies and be the first Nepalese actor to win one of acting's highest honours, an Oscar.



Tsering during his field visit.

Tsering Ngodup Lama
Care Leaver
SOS Children's Village Pokhara

I am a feature editor at Nepal's The Kathmandu Post, one of the leading daily newspapers. All this is possible because of the unconditional love and support that I received from SOS Children's Village Pokhara. I was just a few months away from my fourth birthday when I joined SOS family and it was where I have had the most fun-filled years of my life from swimming in rivers to spending hot summer afternoons playing football barefoot. Similarly, new clothes, gifts and great food were what made it so special. As a child, I never felt that I had less in comparison to someone who lived with parents.



Every human being deserves love, dignity and respect. We support children and young people with care and compassion.



Parbati Gurung
Mother
SOS Children's Village Kavre

My connection with SOS Children's Village Kavre started from 24th September 1997. I came to SOS Children's Village Kavre at the age of 25, thinking of just completing a three-month training period and getting an experience certificate. However, it has already been 25 years since I started working here. The love of all children and the invisible power within them has made me even stronger. I went to Australia a few years back to attend my son's wedding. My other son was in the same place, so he called me to show me the hotel where he worked as a chef, and he even served me the food he cooked. I could not hold back my tears then. I still remember the days when he used to help me with the cooking in our tiny kitchen, and today, people from all over the world come to eat the food he cooks. All these years, I have learned to understand and accept the willpower of every child as it is.



Gita Upadhyay
Mother
SOS Children's Village Itahari

Being a mother of eight children was initially tricky but I accepted the task. At first, it was difficult for children to accept me as their mother, but I didn't give up. I tried my best to win their hearts. I became their friend and started to think from their perspective. Now, my children love and respect me as their mother and friend. I feel I have won everything whenever they run towards me and give me a hug. The special bond mothers at SOS Children's Villages Nepal share with their children cannot be explained in words. I learned to be a mother from my children. Motherhood is all about learning and understanding them.



Saraswoti Maharjan
Retired Mother
SOS Children's Village Jorpati

When I see young children become self-reliant and go to school by themselves, I remember their early days when they first came to my house. They would be helpless, unable to do their own daily stuff. As I compare those two situations, I feel so much joy inside.



Children celebrated their mother's Chaurasi Puja at SOS Children's Village Gandaki

It was a bright, sunny morning in May, a day of celebration inside the premises of SOS Children's Village Gandaki. Everyone was busy decorating a place with beautiful fabrics and florals, where retired Mother Om Kumari Thapa celebrated her 84th year of a blessed life, also known as 'Chaurasi Puja.'

According to the belief of Hindus, a human, after crossing 80 years, is considered a form of God. Thus, Chaurasi Puja or ceremonial worship is generally conducted at the age of 84, which is one of the unique traditions in Nepalese society where an elderly person is celebrated and worshipped as a mortal god. Usually, family members, specifically children, arrange such Chaurasi Puja with a whole festive mood to celebrate their parent's life.

Om Kumari, who stayed single her whole life, thus, did not have any biological children of her own. However, she worked as a Mother at SOS Children's Village Gandaki for about 28 years, providing nurturing care to 23 children during her tenure. Since her retirement in 2006, Om Kumari has been living in a special house for retired Mothers. However, she is still very much involved in the lives of the children she raised and her 26 grandchildren. On the day of her Chaurasi Puja, Om Kumari was beaming with joy as her children and grandchildren surrounded her.

"I feel blessed, and, at the same time, I am overwhelmed with happiness," said Om Kumari.

The ritual was equally very special and memorable for the entire family of SOS Children's Village Gandaki since it was the first time children arranged 'Chaurasi Puja' to honour their Mother. Om Kumari's journey with SOS Children's Village Gandaki began in 1975 when she decided to devote her life as a dedicated Mother. Reflecting on her 28 years of service, Om Kumari says she is proud of what she has achieved, especially how her children are doing well in their respective lives. "As a Mother, I raised nine daughters and fourteen sons. Even today, they look for me and are protective of one another," said Om Kumari. "I feel proud of them. It gives me great joy to be their mother. The way motherhood comes to you is a blessing."



Goma Basel
Mothers' Representative
SOS Children's Village Bharatpur

I joined the Village as an aunt in 2003. My job was to take care of the children in the family house in the absence of a mother. Working as an aunt for seven years enabled me to build a good bond with almost all the children in the village. In 2010, I was promoted to the post of mother. Since then, I have been closely observing the development of each child in the house. I have been dealing with each child by identifying their feelings. In my opinion, it is important to have a detailed understanding of the child and take care of them accordingly because every child joining our family has encountered one or the other setback. So far, I have taken care of twenty-four children. I feel contented when I see or hear about my grown-up children's progress.

Pema Gurung
Mother
SOS Children's Village Pokhara

SOS Children's Village Pokhara is a garden full of various flowers. These flowers are children who are loving, peaceful, and compassionate. I was young and naïve when I joined the Village as an aunt. Now, when I look back, I see many changes in myself. The village does not only serve children but also looks after the welfare of the staff and co-workers. I am incredibly grateful to this organisation.



Sharmila K.C
Mother
SOS Children's Village Surkhet

With a dream to dedicate her life to the children in need of parental care, 20 years old Sharmila K.C joined SOS Children's Village Surkhet as a mother 36 years ago. Before starting her journey as a mother, she attended eleven-month theoretical course followed by practical training. After completing her training at the age of 21, she was given the responsibility of eight children with the youngest one of six months. "My children are everything to me. Their happy faces give me energy. We dance, sing, read and dine together. I try to be their best friend so that they could share everything with me," shares Sharmila, now a mother of 30 children and grandmother of 15. She believes that proper guidance, love, care and support helps the children to forget their traumatising past. She feels happy when her children get integrated into the wider society and come to visit her.

Kalpana Koirala
Mothers' Representative
SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi

I am looking after six sons and three daughters and I am very happy to be their mother. It was from my children that I learnt about children's rights. Now, I am vocal about children's rights. I even provide information on children's rights to the parents of the nearby community. I feel honoured to work here in SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi."



Kanchhu Regmi with Dr Hermann Gmeiner at the inauguration of SOS Children's Village Sanothimi.



Kanchhu Regmi
Retired Mother
SOS Children's Village Sanothimi

After 35 years of service to three generations of children and raising 32 children, Kanchhu Regmi is now living a retired life in a retired mother's home in the premises of SOS Children's Village Sanothimi. However, she says that a mother never retires and her heart is always with her children. Kanchhu joined SOS Children's Village Sanothimi at the age of 25 as a mother in 1972, the same year SOS Children's Village Sanothimi was established as the first SOS Children's Village in Nepal. Kanchhu says she feels pleased to see her children integrate into society. "Some of my children received higher degrees while some hold prominent positions in their respective fields. I feel proud to say that all of them are involved in some professions and leading an independent life with dignity," Kanchhu shares.

Kanchhu further said that all her children have a special place in her heart. "Some even sing a song for me over the phone. My children visit me during special events and share their happiness with me. It always makes me emotional when they show gratitude toward me," says Kanchhu.



Named after the organisation's former president, the Helmut Kutin Award honors the commitment and dedication of caregivers at SOS Children's Villages. Chandra Kala Thapa of Nepal received this award in 2019 for her 40 years of devotion in caring for children at SOS Children's Village Gandaki, making her one of the longest serving mothers in the global SOS Children's Villages organisation.

"Being a mother for 40 years, I have understood that mothers play a significant role in shaping the future of their children," says Chandra Kala. "We are mentors for our children. We show and guide them towards their right path. With pure love and affection, we make them feel at home, help ease their journey to independence, and leave their pain behind."

To address the issues and challenges of the children living in alternative care settings, SOS Children's Villages Nepal hosted a National Workshop titled 'Alternative Care Services in Nepal: Addressing Current Challenges and Enhancing Quality' on 8-9 December 2018. The two-day event was held at SOS Children's Village, Sanothimi in collaboration with Plan International Nepal, Save the Children in Nepal and UNICEF Nepal. The workshop provided forum for the key stakeholders, both Government and non-Government, on alternative care services in Nepal to discuss on the issues of alternative care for children and provide ways forward to enhance quality care.



5. Best Wishes



राजेन्द्र कुमार राई
मुख्यमन्त्री, प्रदेश १

अभिभावक गुमाएका तथा पारिवारीक विखण्डनमा परेका बालबालिकाहरूको संरक्षण र उनीहरूको समग्र विकासका लागि एसओएस बालग्राम एउटा मायालु तथा नमुना घर बन्न सफल भएको छ । यसले सबै बालबालिकाको हुर्काई प्राकृतिक र पारिवारीक संरचना मै हुनु पर्छ भन्ने सन्देश विश्वभर नै फैलाएको छ । एसओएस बालग्रामले नेपाल सरकारको बालबालिका सम्बन्धी ऐनमा तोकिएका वैकल्पिक स्याहारको आवश्यकता भएका बालबालिकाका लागि अझ बढी सुदृढ र व्यापक कार्यक्रमसहित अगाडि बढोस् भन्ने शुभकामना व्यक्त गर्दछु ।



Prithvi Subba Gurung
Former Chief Minister of Gandaki Province, Pokhara

I am very impressed to learn about the service-oriented activities that the SOS Children's Villages Nepal executes for children's rights. The initiative SOS Children's Village Gandaki has been taking to protect and care for needy children from remote places outside and within Gandaki province is highly appreciable. Further, the skills that the young people acquire from the Vocational Teaching Centre of the organisation easily fetch them employment opportunities that, in turn, will contribute to bringing change and development into society. My assistance and good wishes will always remain with this organisation.

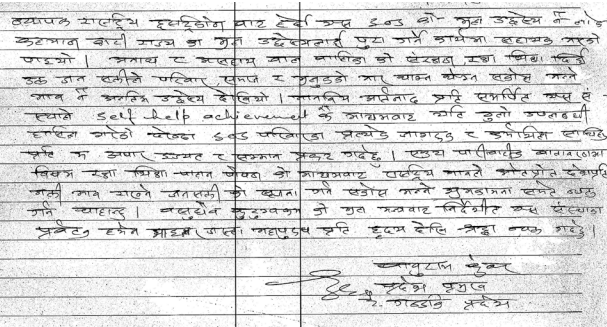


Krishna Bahadur Thapa
Former Assembly Member, Gandaki Province

I am fully aware of the services of SOS Children's Village Gandaki. Its dedication to supporting vulnerable children is praiseworthy. Furthermore, SOS Children's Village Gandaki's aid to the health post is highly regarded. In the coming days, if the Village wants any help or coordination related to the health programme from the Province Office, I will be happier to lend a helping hand.



Baburam Kunwar
Governor of Gandaki Province, Pokhara

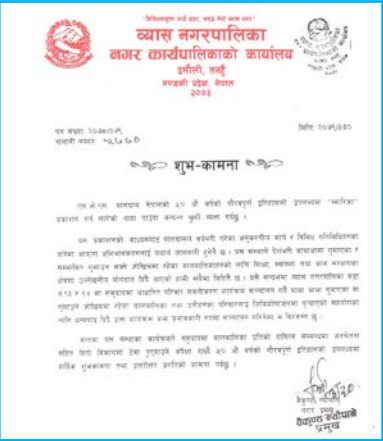


Hem Karna Poudel
Mayor, Itahari Sub-Metropolitan City

With the help provided by the SOS Children's Villages Nepal, I have seen many children who have had new lives and were established in society. As far as I know, SOS Children's Villages prioritise the family, advocate for family-like care, and promote the values of family relations in the natural setting. Therefore, I have found SOS Children's Villages truly loving homes for every child.



Baikuntha Neupane
Mayor, Byass Sub-Metropolitan City



On the occasion of 100th birthday of founder Dr. Hermann Gmeiner and 70th years of establishment of SOS Children's Villages International, on 23rd June 2019, SOS Children's Villages Nepal honored 11 eminent people from different walks of life with the Letter of Felicitation for their outstanding contribution and extraordinary service to child safeguarding and care.



Nilkantha Khanal
Deputy Mayor, Birendranagar Municipality, Surkhet

I have been associated with SOS Children's Village Surkhet since its establishment. If the SOS Children's Villages had not been established in Nepal, the condition of vulnerable children would have been even worse. The organisation is doing the work that the state should be doing. The work SOS Children's Villages Nepal executes is highly admirable.



Gopal Hamal
Mayor, Dhangadhi Sub-Metropolitan City

First of all, I am very happy and pleased to see SOS Children's Village facility right here in Dhangadhi Sub-Metropolitan City. It has given opportunities to children from all the nine districts of Sudurpaschim Province to look forward to a new and bright future. I have the feeling of pride to have SOS Children's Village in our city. The service provided by SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi is wonderful and appreciative. I assure you that I will allocate a token budget for SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi in the coming budget plan and will try my best to work at the policy level to provide continuous support to the SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi in the days ahead.



Anil Kumar Shahi
Assistant Chief District Officer, Kaski

SOS is a social organisation doing great work in the children's sector. It takes care of the children who have lost their parents. It also supports children who are deprived of education. I appreciate how it raises the children, without discrimination, in a family environment and helps them integrate into society. I extend my best wishes to this organisation for its 50 years of service in Nepal, and I want to congratulate all the people who are connected to this organisation.



Anita Gyawali
Officer, Ministry of Social Development, Karnali Province

SOS Children's Village Surkhet has contributed significantly to the care of children in this Karnali Province for over three decades. On behalf of the Ministry of Social Development, Government of Nepal, I extend my best wishes to SOS Children's Village Nepal for its cherished 50 years in Nepal. I hope these endeavours continue for several years ahead.



Lucky Chhetri
Tourism Social Entrepreneur and International Woman Peace Award Winner

SOS Children's Villages Nepal is a heavenly place for needy children. It is a place filled with unconditional love, care and joy. In my opinion, SOS Children's Villages Nepal is a national pride that works wholeheartedly to ensure the overall development of children in its care. I would like to pay my highest homage to its founder, Sir Hermann Gmeiner, on the 50th anniversary of SOS Children's Village in Nepal. In addition, I would like to extend my best wishes to all the dedicated staff, teachers, mothers and children associated with this organisation.



विकास बनेपाली
महासचिव, सरस्वती बालआश्रम धरान

बालबालिकाको सर्वाङ्गीण विकास तथा बालबालिकाको उचित हेरविचारका सन्दर्भमा एसओएस बालग्रामबाट धेरै कुरा सिकेका छौं र लागू समेत गरेका छौं ।




Bhupati Sanjel
Executive Director, Nepal Disabled Association

I would like to congratulate SOS Children's Village Nepal for its 50 years of continuous service in Alternative Care. We have been working with SOS Children's Village Jorpati for many years. Our collaboration with the Village will continue in the coming days, and we will keep extending our support to the organisation.

Krishna Gyawali
Nepal Abhinash Anath Asram, Kotihawa, Rupandehi

I extend my best wishes for wonderful services that SOS Children's Village Lumbini offers in the field of alternative care, and I also wish that it reaches every corner of the country so that no child has to grow in deprivation.



नेपाल रेडक्रस सोसाइटी

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय

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पृष्ठ सं.

शुभकामना

नेपालमा वर्षौंदेख अघाडि नेपाल रेडक्रस सोसाइटीको पहलमा एम.ओ.एस. बालगाम नामक संस्थाको गठन भएको थियो । सो बालगाम सगलै एम.ओ.एस. बालगाम नेपालले देशभरका अभिभावक विभिन्न, अर्थिक अवस्था कमजोर भई विधालय जान नपाएका बालबालिकाहरूलाई संरक्षण प्रदान गर्दै आइरहेको छ । यस संस्थाले स्वर्ण जडानी लगाउन लागेको हो भनी ज्ञापित भएका छौ । मानवीय सेवाका क्षेत्रमा कार्य गर्ने नेपाल रेडक्रस सोसाइटीको पहलमा नेपालमा यो संस्था स्थापित भई अग्रसर रूपमा आफ्नो दुर्दैवअनुकूल कार्य गर्दै स्वर्ण जडानी लगाउने अवस्थामा पुग्न अनेकौं अफिमा गौरवको विषय हो ।

बालबालिकाको विद्या क्षेत्रमा अघाडी भूमिका निर्वाह गर्दै यस संस्थाले गरेको कार्य उदाहरणीय छ । यस संस्थालाई आउको अवस्थामा ज्योति पुर्वाङ्कन विगतदेखि वर्तमानसम्म संलग्न सम्पूर्ण पदाधिकारी एवं सञ्चालक, कार्यकारी परिषद्, शिक्षक एवं शिक्षकानुसङ्गमा नेपाल रेडक्रस सोसाइटीकोलेगठ गरीएको क्षमता व्यक्त गरेको छ ।


यस संस्थाको सहयोगमा हालसम्म नेपालका हजारौं बालबालिकाहरूले उच्च विद्या हासिल गरेका, हजारौंका सङ्ख्यामा बालबालिकाहरू अध्ययनरत रहेका र समयमा रहेका बालबालिकाहरूले अभिभावकत्व प्राप्त गरिरहेको उपलब्धि एवं कार्यक ज्ञापि सहानीय छन ।

आफ्नो विरहभन्दा पनि धेरै, अफिमा र समयमा रहेका बालबालिकाहरूको पहिचान गरी विद्याको सुझारमा ज्ञाई सहाय्य कार्य गर्ने कार्यमा यो संस्था निरन्तर स्वीग रहोस् भन्ने शुभकामना व्यक्त गरेको छ ।


मानवीय सेवाका क्षेत्रमा कार्य गर्ने देशभर नेपालमा कार्यरत नेपाल रेडक्रस सोसाइटी सदैव एम.ओ.एस. बालगामसँग सहकार्यमा लागि तयार रहेको ज्ञापितगमेत उल्लेख गर्ने चाहन्थौ ।

एम.ओ.एस. बालगामले आफ्नामी विरमा आफ्नो दुर्दैवअनुकूल अर्का बालबालिका रूपमा कार्य गर्ने सकोस् भन्ने शुभेच्छासहित स्वर्ण जडानीको विशेष शुभकामना व्यक्त गरेको छ ।

मिति : २०७९/०५/२५



संस्थाकाउको प्रतिमा विद्यालय




केयर लिभर्स एसोसिएसन नेपाल (क्लान)

(Care Leavers Association Nepal)

एम.ओ.एस. बालगामले नेपालमा आफ्नो स्थापनाको ५० औं वर्षगाँठ मनाउन लागेकोमा सारे खुसी लागेको छ । अभिभावक गुमाई जोडिगमा रहेका लाखै बालबालिकालाई पारिवारिक वातावरणमा उनीहरूको शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य तथा सुखित आवास प्रदान गरि समाजमा योग्यता जीवन बिजन सक्ने सफल नागरिक बन्न खेलेको भूमिका तथा पुर्णिएको योगदान बोधमा धेरै भनिरह्नु न्थला । नेपाल जसरी मुलुकमा यस किसिमको सेवा सुविधामा रहि आफ्नो सुन्दर भविष्य निर्माण गर्ने कैसा सारी थोरै भाग्यमालीले मात्र पाउँछ ।

जीवनको कुनै कालखण्डमा म आफू एम.ओ.एस. बालगाम नेपालको एक पारिवारिक सदस्य भई यो असर पाउनुलाई म मेरो जीवनको सुवर्ण अवसर र अहोभाग्य ठान्छु । एम.ओ.एस. बालगाम नेपालले वैकल्पिक हेरचाहको क्षेत्रमा लिएको भूमि, मान्यता र व्यवहारलाई आजका दिन सम्म जोगाई राख्न सक्नु चान्दुने कुरा हैन । त्यसै कारणले पनि होला आज एम.ओ.एस. बालगाम छाडेको करिब २० वर्ष पछि पनि एम.ओ.एस. बालगाम र एम.ओ.एस. परिवार मेरो लागि सबै ज्ञारो र आत्मीय लाग्छ ।

एम.ओ.एस. बालगामको एक Care leavers को नबन्ना एम.ओ.एस. बालगाम नेपालले हुर्कंदै गरेका र हुर्किएर समाजमा स्थापित हुन सफल व्यक्तिहरू लखिब गर्नु पर्ने र गर्नु सकिने काम छ भनी देखिन्छ । CLAN Nepal बस्ती प्रकल्पाक वैकल्पिक हेरचाहको सेवा दिने सहृदयसंस्थामा बस्ती हाल समाजमा पुनः स्थापना भएका र सेवा छोड्ने क्रममा रहेका व्यक्तिहरूको हक अधिकारमा काम गर्ने साझा भन्ज भाइसले एम.ओ.एस. बालगाम नेपालको युवा लखिब विकास सुधार अभियानमा राम्रो अनुभवको साथ ,सहयोग चाहिएका सह-कार्यकर्तासित सबै वसा रहेको प्रतिबद्धता व्यक्त गर्दछु । अनिममा, एउटा एम.ओ.एस. बालगाम नेपालको यो यात्रा भविष्यमा अझ बढि सराक र प्रभावकारी हुने छ भन्ने विश्वास गर्दै ५० औं वर्षगाँठको शुभकामना व्यक्त गर्दछु ।



(अनपमा)

वीरक के. सी.

Care Leavers Association Nepal (CLAN)

सिबिन-नेपाल

नेपाल बालमजदूर सरोकार केन्द्र

Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre



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मिति : २०७९, भाद्र २२ गते


श्री एसओएस-नेपाल,
सानोटीमी, भरतपुर ।

विषय : **शुभ-कामना लख्ने पठाइएको बारे ।**

जोडिम परिस्थितिमा रहेका बालबालिकाको संरक्षणका लागि एसओएस-नेपालले विगत २० वर्ष देखि पुर्ण्यार रहेको योगदानको उच्च मूल्यांकन गर्दछौ । २० वर्षको यस अवधिमा एसओएस-नेपालले अभिभावक/परिवार बिहिन ठूलो संख्याका बालबालिकालाई अभिभावकत्व दिएर उनीहरूको जीवनमा आमूल परिवर्तन ल्याउन मद्दत पुर्ण्यारको छ । त्यसरी संरक्षण र सहयोग पाउने तत्कालिन बालबालिकाहरू अहिले देशको महत्वपूर्ण जिम्मेवारीमा रहेर देश र जनतालाई सेवा पुर्ण्यार रहेको बाहा पाउँदा हामी सबैलाई गौरवबोध हुने गर्दछ । यसरी अथाह सम्मानना बोकेका ती बालबालिक बाई एसओएस जस्तो संस्थाको रूपरेखा नपुगेका बाए आजको यो अवस्थामा पुर्ण्ये पुर्ण्ये भन्न सकिदिन । बसैगरी २०७२ सालको बिनासकारी भूकम्पका बेला एसओएस-नेपालले पुर्ण्यारको राहत सहयोग एवं मानवीय सेवा र पुनर्स्थापनको चरणमा विचलन भवन तथा पुर्ण्यारित परिवार/समुदायको बसोबासका लागि घरहरू निर्माण गरिरिएर पुर्ण्यारको योगदान अर्को उल्लेख पत्रका रूपमा रहेको छ ।

संरक्षणको आवश्यकता रहेका बालबालिकालाई निरन्तर सहयोग पुर्ण्यार रहेको यस संस्थाले पछिमा वर्षहरूमा अजिंक्यमूखी भूकम्पकोपनाई समेत आत्मसात् गरी बालअधिकारका बिभिन्न सञ्जाल तथा मन्त्रालयमा उपस्थिति बनाएर बालअधिकार मान्यतामा योगदान पुर्ण्यारउन थालेपछि बालअधिकारका क्षेत्रमा क्रियाशील सिबिन-नेपाल र एसओएसबीचको सहकार्यमा थप मजबुत भएको महशुस गरेका छौ । एसओएस-नेपालले स्वर्ण जर्वात मनाइरहेको यस अवसरमा संस्थाको उत्तरातर प्रगतिका लागि हार्दिक शुभ-कामना व्यक्त गर्दछौ

सधन्यवाद ।

भवदीय,

 प्रद्युम्न प्रधान
 अध्यक्ष
 सिबिन-नेपाल ।

Registered at Nepal Government, DMC/Kathmandu, No. 317/047/044 and affiliated with Social Welfare Council, SMC, No. 409, PAN No. 880773/8



बाल हेलपलाइन-नेपाल

Child Helpline-Nepal

१०८६

१०८६

सिबिन-नेपालद्वारा सञ्चाली, हरीद्वार, नेपाल, सार्वजनिक, निरन्तर र उपलब्धता बालबालिका

जसो जसको छिपेर बालबालिकाको अपाङ्गता





6. Family Strengthening

We work with families, caregivers, and communities to prevent crises leading to child-family separation. Our services strengthen and stabilise families and their social networks so that children are better cared for and protected.



Through the Family Strengthening Programme, we provide training, livelihood support and counselling to empower the caregivers so that children and young people receive the quality care and support they need to reach their full potential.



Kopila Sapkota

The ultimate demise of her husband led Kopila Sapkota and her two children into a life full of financial struggles. After assessing situation of Kopila, SOS Children's Village Bharatpur extended its helping hands to the family through its Family Strengthening Programme (FSP). The programme provided Kopila with the livelihood support of Rs. 50,000, which she used to open a small grocery store in a rented shutter space. Lately, Kopila's business has been going well because of her unwavering efforts, perseverance and hard work. Her children have been admitted to schools and are doing well in their studies. Her son studies at SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Bharatpur where he has been offered a full scholarship. "I am deeply grateful to SOS Children's Village Bharatpur for its support in making me an economically independent woman," Kopila proudly states.

Tenzin Wangmo

Tenzin was enrolled in the Family Strengthening Programme while studying in a Primary School. Although her parents did not get any opportunity to study, they planned to educate all their children.

"I am blessed to get a scholarship from SOS Children's Village Pokhara for my studies. Today I am a postgraduate student working as a Deputy Manager in a reputed company. I also received an award in the Crossnomics held in my college," said Tenzin.



Jaumati Devi Kasera

"I have received financial support from the Family Strengthening Programme of SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi, and I am now able to take care of my grandson and can afford his education and other needs," says Jaumati Devi Kasera, who recently exited from the programme after being self-reliant.

Jaumati is taking care of her grandson, whom his parents abandoned. Jaumati had a small piece of land but no source of income. Her spouse worked as a daily wage earner. Since Jaumati showed her interest in goat farming, she was supported through a livelihood programme, and the child was supported in his nutrition, education, and health. "I am happy to see my grandchild studying at school, and it gives me pleasure that I can afford all expenses of my family and my grandchild," says Jaumati.

Misha Sharma* (name changed)

Misha and her family were going through a tough time. Her husband's income was insufficient to meet the household expenses, and there was no other source of income to sustain the family. After Misha's family received livelihood support from SOS Children's Village Lumbini, the family started their self-reliance journey.

At present, Misha rears goat, and she also runs a small tea stall. While her son and husband work as daily wage workers, her elder daughter has trained herself to become a tailor and earns money by doing tailoring work—her youngest daughter Sofi studies in the secondary level at a nearby school.

Misha is grateful to SOS Children's Village Lumbini for helping her family. She is now making her income, and her family members are doing well in their jobs. "What we are today is because of the support and guidance extended by SOS Children's Village Lumbini," says Misha.





Tulsa Giri

Tulsa Giri, a resident of Birendranagar-10, Surkhet, is a beneficiary of the SOS Family Strengthening Programme Surkhet (FSP). After the death of her husband in 2017, the burden of supporting her family fell upon her shoulders. Tulsa then migrated to Birendranagar-11 with her two daughters to make a living and take care of her daughters. She started living in a rented room and started a small shop with the support of her relatives. She used to sell items such as noodles, biscuits and other titbits.

However, she did not earn much from her shop since she only had limited items to sell.

When Tulsa came to learn about the help that SOS Children's Village Surkhet offers to single mothers, she visited SOS Children's Village Surkhet and requested aid to extend her shop. Her request was responded positively and was financially supported under SOS Family Strengthening Programme.

Within four years, Tulsa earned enough to build her own house, and she was also able to expand her business. She has also managed to save some money in co-operatives. Both of her daughters are doing well in their studies. One has appeared in the Secondary Education Examination (SEE) from SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Surkhet, where she received a full scholarship, and her other daughter is pursuing her Bachelor's degree.

"The change you see in our lives today is all because of SOS Children's Village Surkhet," said Tulsa.



Gita Bisunkhe

Gita and her husband started their business by opening a small shoe factory and a shoe shop in Balaju, Kathmandu. No sooner had they started their business than Gita's husband was diagnosed with colon cancer, which eventually caused his death.

Gita had to spend a huge sum of money on her husband's treatment which left her with no means to continue her business and support her daughter's education. She was in a state of dilemma.

Seeing her situation, Gita was referred to SOS Children's Village Sanothimi for assistance by the local government in 2020. The Family Strengthening Programme (FSP) of SOS Children's Village Sanothimi supported her with her daughter's education. SOS Children's Villages Nepal also extended its helping hand through its Livelihood programme to resume her entrepreneurship journey. Eventually, Gita was able to bring her business back into operation.

Gita is now on the right track to becoming self-reliant. Presently, Gita is making a stable income and is paying back the loan she had taken for the treatment of her late husband. "I was clueless about what to do and what would happen to my daughter. I am glad that SOS Children's Village Sanothimi stood by my side during the worst days of my life. Today we are selling our products in the local market. Things have become much easier for me now than before. We appreciate the love and support shown to us by the organisation."



Indira Subedi

After Indira's husband married another woman, he started humiliating her. Unable to resist everyday torture and humiliation, Indira left her husband and came to Pokhara with her two little daughters. She then began to work as a domestic servant to support their livelihoods.

When Indira learned that SOS Children's Villages Nepal offers support to people in need, she approached SOS Children's Village Gandaki for help and received positive response after learning about the difficulties she had been going through. With the support from SOS Children's Village Gandaki, Indira was enrolled in a four-month sewing training course, and her daughters were provided stationery and school uniforms.

Upon completing her sewing training, Indira opened her tailoring shop with a single machine. Her tailoring business gradually grew, enabling her to add six more sewing machines and employ six staff. In addition, she has also started providing beginner sewing courses.

As of now, Indira has built her own house where she stays with her daughters. Indira has also been a sponsor of the SOS Children's Village Gandaki for the past four years.



Mushroom farming training to Family Strengthening (FS) families as a part of income generating activity in Lumbini.



6. Emergency Response Programme

Children are most vulnerable during humanitarian emergencies. When disaster strikes, SOS Children's Villages Nepal acts quickly to protect and care for children. In times of 2015 earthquake, Koshi flood, COVID-19 pandemic and other natural calamities, SOS Children's Villages Nepal has launched Emergency Response Programme for children and families who need urgent assistance, including psychosocial support, providing cash grants and conducting reconstructions, etc to help them rebuild their lives.



In April 2015, a powerful 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal's capital, Kathmandu, affecting much of the city and many surrounding villages. It was the worst earthquake to hit the region in more than 80 years. More than 9,000 people were killed and 2.8 million people were displaced. With programmes in 10 locations, we were able to respond quickly to the needs of children in the immediate aftermath of the April 2015 earthquake.



In the Child Care Centre, young people from SOS Children's Villages Nepal organised a drawing and painting competition where children expressed their experience of the earthquake.



We organised Child Care Centres at a relief camps in Sindupalchok, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur. The relief camps provided a temporary refuge for the people, a third of them children who were the survivors of 2015 Earthquake.



Children participate in activities by Co-workers at the Child Care Spaces established by SOS Children's Villages Nepal at a health care centre in Harisiddhi in Lalitpur district.



We welcomed 53 children orphaned by the earthquake into SOS Children's Village Programmes. In those cases, the children had no relatives able to care for them.



Under Emergency Response Programme, 4847 children were provided with school uniforms and another 3839 children with education kits (bags, math box, exercise books, etc.) that included hygiene kits (combs, soap, hair oil, towel, nail cutter, etc.) to ensure that they attended school tidily at a time when their houses were collapsed and their parents were facing financial hardships.



We provided a financial support of rupees two lakhs for each of the affected and needy families for the livelihood support. Many of them were supported for various livelihood activities such as: goat and buffalo rearing, sewing machine, agricultural farming, cosmetic shops and some other entrepreneurial activities. All the participants expressed their gratitude for the great support provided to them.

Kaji Danuwar

Kaji Danuwar along with his brother Anup Danuwar of Sindhupalchok set up Poultry Farm with the financial assistance of the Emergency Response Programme of SOS Children's Villages Nepal.



Lal Bahadur Danuwar

With the support of Emergency Response Programme, Lal Bahadur Danuwar from Bhimtar VDC, Sindhupalchok was able to invest in his shop and kept stock of and sent basic supplies such as salt, soap, noodles, cooking oil, etc. to make a monthly income of Rs. 10,000.



Tailoring training to Family Strengthening (FS) families as a part of income generating activity.



2020 and 2021 saw an unprecedented outbreak of COVID-19. The lockdowns to curb the spread of COVID-19, brought public life to a standstill. It disrupted all walks of life. Many people lost their employment and livelihood.



The families of the Family Strengthening Programme were adversely affected by the pandemic. Many caregivers who were working as daily wage laborers lost their jobs and were facing difficulties managing meals for their children. In those difficult times, we provided the families support to manage the crisis for quality care of their children.

Dhan Bahadur helping his siblings with their studies.



Dhan Bahadur B.K.

Nineteen-year-old Dhan Bahadur BK from Kailali, a far western part of Nepal, was studying in class XI when the government announced the lockdown to curb the spread of COVID-19 in 2021. His life was normal except his school was closed.

During the lockdown, all the family members were at home with no work. They finished the little food they had in stock. Soon, Dhan Bahadur's mother faced difficulties in feeding her five children. "We struggled to meet our basic needs. Therefore, I decided to opt for foreign employment, dreaming of a better opportunity," added Dhan Bahadur.

In the meantime, SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi, through a Family Strengthening Programme, started providing livelihood support under the COVID-19 Response Programme.

Dhan Bahadur is grateful for the support he has been receiving from SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi. His three younger brothers and one younger sister are pursuing their education with the help of SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi. "This is a great start for my life. I am confident to take the responsibilities of my family and help my siblings in pursuing their dreams," said Dhan Bahadur.



Ishwori Dahal

I am Ishwori Dahal and I am a nurse. I grew up in SOS Children's Village Kavre. During the COVID-19 pandemic, I found myself at the frontline of Nepal's battle against the virus.

Working on the frontline during the pandemic was fearsome and stressful as we were unaware that we might carry this virus with us to our home and family. Being in the health profession, the most important thing for us at that time was to keep ourselves safe so that we could take care of the needy and sick people. Nevertheless, I am happy that I was able to help the people from my community during the difficult time.

Expanding our reach and impact to help families stay together during the COVID-19 pandemic

<div>1891</div> <div>FSP families were provided with one time cash support.</div>	<div>227</div> <div>FSP families benefited from income generating support.</div>	<div>3461</div> <div>Children benefited from distribution of essential food and material support.</div>
<div>455</div> <div>Pregnant and lactating mothers in Bardiya were supported with supplementary nutrition and food.</div>	<div>2665</div> <div>Children were provided with educational materials.</div>	<div>139</div> <div>Young people were imparted with employment training to upgrade their skills.</div>
<div>4263</div> <div>FSP Families benefitted from awareness and sensitisation campaign on COVID-19.</div>	<div>383</div> <div>Care Leavers were provided with support (i.e. Cash support/Income generating support/Equipment support).</div>	<div>301</div> <div>Children/young people were supported with Awareness/ Counselling sessions.</div>
<div>911</div> <div>Coworkers were imparted with awareness/capacity building sessions.</div>	<div>Medical support was provided to beneficiaries through SOS Medical Centre Bardiya.</div>	<div>Internal hotline service was operated to address child-safeguarding issues in the community.</div>



Sabita* (name changed), a peer counsellor from SOS Children's Village Dhangadi, has an open ear for children and young people, who want to talk about their mental health.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

Emotional and mental health is important in every stage of our life. However, many people in the community do not want to talk about it. Considering this, we have been providing Mental health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to children, young people, co-workers and families in the community.



7. Education

SOS Hermann Gmeiner schools (SOS HGSs) prioritise Learning Beyond Classrooms (LBC), foster critical thinking and teaching humanitarian values. Similarly, they promote gender equality, social inclusion, social justice, non-discrimination, and ecological awareness for sustainable development.



SOS Hermann Gmeiner schools are regarded as model schools in the country. They offer quality education to the children from SOS Children's Villages and the ones from surrounding communities. They follow the national curriculum and focus on academics and the character building of students to mold them into resourceful and globally competitive individuals. There are seven SOS HGSS in Bhaktapur, Kavre, Pokhara (Rambazaar and Gharipatan with its extension in Chhorepatan), Surkhet, Itahari and Bharatpur, offering pre-primary to secondary level education to students.



कपिलमणि ज्ञवाली
भूतपूर्व शिक्षक, एसओएस हर्मन माइनर
विद्यालय सानोठिमी

जीवन-जोखिममा परेका बालबालिकालाई हर्मन माइनरले एसओएस बालग्राम स्थापना गरेर नयाँ जीवन दिने जुन कार्य गरे, त्यो मानवीय सेवाका क्षेत्रमा अद्वितीय कार्य हो । वहांकै प्रेरणाले गर्दा सधैं जीवन-जोखिममा परेका बालबालिकाको समग्र हितमा, शैक्षिक क्षेत्रमा रहेर उनीहरूको गुणस्तरीय शिक्षामा अझ राम्रो कसरी गर्ने भन्ने हुटहुटीले सधैं काम गर्यो ।





Children performing during the programme conducted at SOS Hermann Gmeiner school Pokhara.

Gyatso Tsering
Former Principal
SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Pokhara

Let me begin by taking this opportunity to felicitate SOS Children's Villages Nepal on its 50th anniversary.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal has come a long way from its first SOS Children's Village in Sanothimi in 1972 to ten SOS Children's Villages today, besides many other social, educational and vocational facilities.

One such educational programme is SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Pokhara, where I took up my first teaching job in 1987 as a young man in my late 20s till my resignation in 2014. By the time I left, many changes had taken place in our school, from its physical structure to student demography to stakeholders to communities. But what has not changed is its strong commitment towards its values, mission and vision with the children at its centre.

I have fond memories of many good times with my colleagues and children. At the same time, I also have not-so-fond memories of my good intention but bad actions of meeting out physical punishment in disciplining the children. I feel deep regret whenever some former students (including my children) narrate how I used to punish them to correct their behaviors. No matter how much I try to explain it by saying, "Sometimes, you have to be cruel to be kind," the end never justifies the means. Corporal punishment is linked to a range of adverse outcomes for children, including poor educational performance, and that's why it has no place in modern society. I now fully realise what our SOS founder, Dr Hermann Gmeiner, meant when he said, "All the children of this world are our children."

I feel fortunate and proud to be able to spend the prime years of my life serving SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Pokhara in various capacities. I have had the honour and privilege to teach many children from diverse economic and cultural backgrounds. I hold my head high to know they are making significant contributions in their respective fields. I look back with gratitude that I entered a profession dedicated to helping our children achieve their potential or find their best selves.

SOS Children's Villages Nepal has always been very close to my heart and will remain so no matter where I go. I am deeply grateful to this organisation for its invaluable contributions to shaping the lives of millions of children worldwide. May SOS Children's Villages Nepal continue to flourish in the years ahead and inspire others to lend helping hands to the needy.

Happy Golden Jubilee Celebrations!



Pema (name changed)
Student
SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Pokhara

Pema joined SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Pokhara in 2017 after completing her primary studies in a community school. Since she is from one of the remote villages of Nepal, her family could not afford her higher studies. However, she insisted on continuing high school and eventually joined SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Pokhara.

“My dream to achieve higher education was on the verge of falling apart as my parents could not afford it. However, my dreams came true after they enrolled me in a school that provides education in subsidised fee.” Pema expresses her happiness.

Pema completed her secondary school with good grades in 2020. She was the student leader of her batch. She also begged award for best female student of the year and represented the school in several inter-school programmes. Because of her academic excellence, she received a scholarship for her higher-level studies. Currently she is in the last year of her high school.

“My three years in this school have been my best academic journey. I also got an opportunity to participate in a leadership training programme in India facilitated by the school,” Pema says.

Asst. Prof. Basanta Kumar Regmi
Alumni
SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Surkhet

As I was gearing up to start my professional career, I realised how grateful I should be to the SOS Hermann Gmeiner School’s family. The contents I have learned, and the perspectives I have been carrying have helped me expand and grow professionally.

SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Surkhet is one of the best schools in Birendranagar. It encourages the students to explore their potential. The school is committed to honing academic excellence and fostering the holistic development of the students. I believe that our school will continue to flourish and keep the legacy that it has earned.

Awards



SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Sanothimi was honored with the Best School Award in institutional category on the occasion of 39th National Education Day and 52rd International Literacy Day from the Government of Nepal in September 2018.

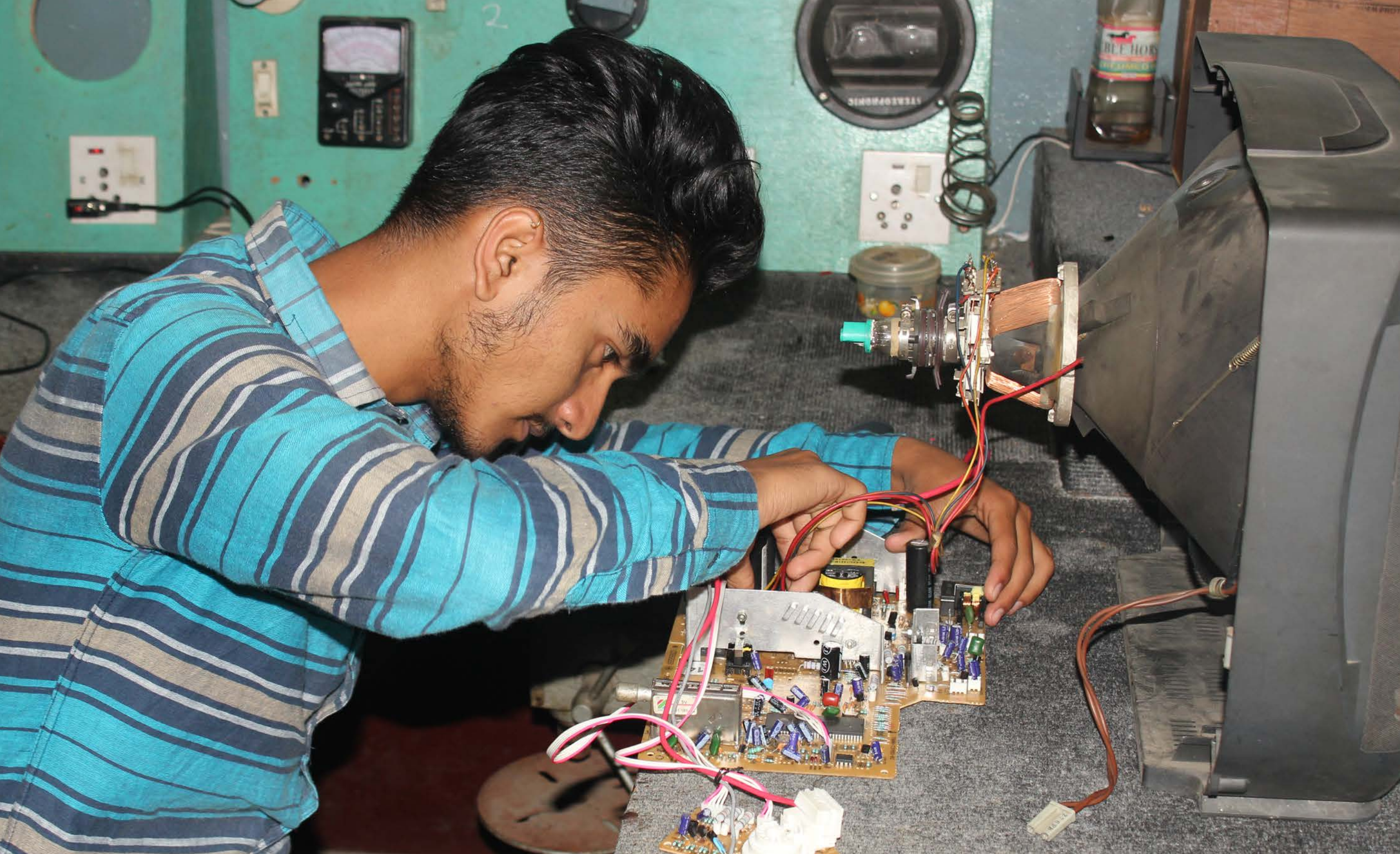


SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Gandaki was honored with the Best School Award in institutional category on the occasion of 40th National Education Day and 53rd International Literacy Day from the Government of Nepal in September 2019.



8. Employment and Entrepreneurship Training

We focus on and promote employment and entrepreneurship training in different fields for young people to help them compete in the global employment market. We have a Vocational Training Centre Pokhara, which was established in 1982 to equip young people to hone their skills.



Suresh Bohora
Youth
SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi

I was given an opportunity to join the SOS Vocational Training Centre at Pokhara where I completed a course in electrical wiring. At present, I am working as an apprentice with a CCTV camera supplier and installer at Dhangadhi. During the day I am occupied with the wiring and setting up the camera while in the morning, I am taking driving lessons from diving school. My apprenticeship is coming to an end, and soon I will start to earn.



Care Training (CT)

Care Training (CT) of SOS Children's Villages Nepal has been conducting various training to make a lasting impact in the lives of children, young people and their families. Generally termed as National Training Centre (NTC) located in Panauti, Kavre, it is operational since 2003 through a dedicated team, well-equipped training halls and accommodation facilities.

NTC conducts different programmes for young people, co-workers including teachers and care professionals aiming to teach new skills and hone their existing ones in relation to their professional development.

Ram Kumar Rai (Sangay)

Sangay joined the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) a decade ago in Carpentry Trade after completing high school in India. During his training, he showed a keen interest in vocational skills even though he had to learn English, workshop calculations and engineering drawing for three years.

After completing his training, he worked in partnership with a few ex-trainees for a few years. After working with his friends, he planned to diversify his career as a contractor by closely watching renowned contractors in his hometown.

Eventually Sangay worked as a contractor on field sites of construction in India. Currently, he is a licensed holder in construction and can give employment to others. Now he is doing large construction work in India. He is fully settled with his family and expresses his gratitude towards the organisation for shaping his life.

"I am living a decent life with my family, and it is all because of the opportunity provided by SOS Vocational Training Centre (VTC). They have provided me with an immense knowledge of life skills. My three years of training have been fruitful; as you can see, it has also reflected in my life. I do not have enough words to express gratitude to this organisation for believing in me and shaping my future," shares Sangay.

National Child Safeguarding and Leadership Development Training was organised in October, 2022 at National Training Centre where the session on leadership development was carried out by Former Miss Nepal 2005 Ms Sugarika K.C.

Awards



The Dare4Care Award acknowledges SOS Children's Villages for innovative thinking and successful ways of implementing our care solutions. It is about inspiring other programs with these living examples of putting our SOS Care Promise into practice within different contexts. This international Award started from 2017 was received by SOS Children's Villages Nepal in same year.



Since 1991, the Hermann Gmeiner Award has honoured individuals who as children were cared for in any SOS Children's Villages programme and have grown into adult role models in their community. Recognising the outstanding achievement and contribution, this award was given to Senior Nurse Rama Karki and Engineer Deepak KC both from SOS Children's Village Jorpati in 2012 and 2014 respectively.



SOS Children's Villages Nepal was recognised as the RBM Champion of the Year 2021.


















SOS Children's Village Dhangadhi was awarded with 'Committed to Results Award 2022' for reaching the standard level of the SOS result-based management approach.



Members of the General Assembly after AGM 2022 with the staff of National Office, SOS Children's Villages Nepal.

17337  Total programme participants.	1125  Children are currently growing up in 132 SOS families.	922  (Female=469; Male=453) Young people supported under Youth Care Programme.	9671  Families are supported.
4492  Family Strengthening Programme participants are directly supported (children and youths).	2886  Primary caregivers in Family Strengthening Programmes.	438  Families exited from the programme.	296  Families have become self-reliant.
475  Young people supported with employment and entrepreneurship training.	5586  Children received education.	52  Children in kindergarten.	168  Co-workers are providing quality care (as of September 2022).
86  Young people are integrated in the community, out of which 65 of them became self-reliant while 15 of them are reunified with their biological families.			

* As of October, 2022



From left to right (Sit): Mr Bidyanath Bhurtel (Treasurer), Ms Pratima Pande (Board Member), Professor Bishwa Keshar Maskay (Advisor, Immediate Past President), Dr Jyoti Ratna Dhakhwa (Honourable President), Dr Rita Singh Hamal (Vice President), Mr Rajneesh Ranjan Jain (CVI Representative), Mr Karan Vaidya (Board Member)

From left to right (Standing): Ms Sabitri Acharya (Representative of Mothers), Mr Nareshwor Acharya (Representative of School Principals), Dr Ganga Bahadur Gurung (National Director), Mr Bholanath Paudel (Deputy National Director), Mr Padam Bahadur Hamal (Representative of Village Directors), Mr Sanu Bhai Khadka (Board Member)



About the Publication

This publication is a pictorial presentation of 50 years journey of SOS Children's Villages Nepal. SOS Children's Villages Nepal offers a wide range of services focusing on children and young people who have lost or are on the verge of losing parental care. This publication has its own limitation of capturing some major glimpses of SOS Children's Villages Nepal's initiatives. Thus, the interested readers are suggested to visit us online/in-person for further information.

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"Nothing in the world is more important than
to care for a child."

– Hermann Gmeiner
Founder of SOS Children's Villages



50
Years in Nepal

 **SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES**