



# ASHA SANSAR

## Annual Report

# 2024



2024 was a transformative year for Asha Sansar (HOPE *worldwide* Nepal), with significant growth and meaningful achievements. We almost doubled our beneficiaries, expanding from 900 to 1,600+, thanks to strategic partnerships and new initiatives. We also secured key grants from Procter & Gamble (P&G) and the Simon Kirby Grant, allowing us to enhance our educational and vocational training programs.

Throughout the year, we focused on capacity building, providing training for teachers and staff to improve classroom learning and engagement. We successfully revamped our school, upgrading infrastructure and resources to create a better learning environment for students. Additionally, we expanded our disaster relief efforts, offering critical support during the recent flooding in Nepal, with funding from World Bank Nepal.

Our partnerships with organizations like Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre, Marriot Hotel, WE United, and Karkhana Nepal strengthened our community impact, further enabling us to provide scholarships, vocational training, and healthcare services. As we reflect on our progress in 2024, we are inspired to continue growing, evolving, and serving more communities in the coming year.





Number of Centers

14

Number of Programs

1600+

Number of beneficiaries

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**Kathmandu**

Asha School, Scholarship Program,  
Vocational Training, Women's  
Empowerment, Football Coaching, Volunteer  
Programs, Disaster Management,  
Government School Support, Nutrition  
Programs, Health Program

1100+

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**Chhaimale**

Factory, Vocational Training, Microloans,  
Farmers' Training, Clean Water, Government  
School Support, Health Program

400+

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**Biratnagar**

Computer Training & English Language  
Training Center

100+

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Asha Sansar (**HOPE** worldwide Nepal) has empowered communities for the past 29 years through a range of initiatives, including education for children, job skills training for women and young people, microloans, and other forms of support. The organization has made a significant impact in the region, with three centers located in Kathmandu, Chhaimale, and Biratnagar. We are opening a fourth center in January 2025 in Chitwan, a city in the west of the country.

Our programs are strategically aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), reinforcing our commitment to global development priorities. These include:

- Goal 1: No Poverty
- Goal 2: Zero Hunger
- Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing
- Goal 4: Quality Education
- Goal 5 : Gender Equality
- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
- Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals





# Kathmandu Programs

## Asha Vidyashram School



The Asha Vidyashram School in Kathmandu was established in 1994 and provides free education to approximately 120 underprivileged children from migrant families . We also provide scholarships to 29 students for further education. The school offers a peaceful and welcoming environment, with bright classrooms and beautiful surroundings. The newly opened library adds to the school's mission of providing students with opportunities to learn and succeed. Asha Vidyashram is more than just a school; it is a place where children are encouraged to dream big and work towards a better future.





# Kathmandu Programs

## Student Spotlight



**Sarishma**, a bright and hardworking student at the Asha School, dreams of becoming a teacher. "I want to be a teacher when I grow up. I admire my teachers, and I want to help other children learn and grow just like my teachers have helped me," she shared. Her parents credit the school for transforming her future, saying, "The Asha School has greatly helped Sarishma and our family by providing free quality education and teaching our child discipline." Inspired by the school's reputation, they enrolled Sarishma, who continues to excel and work toward her dream.



**Karuna Rai** dreams of becoming a professional football (soccer) player, and her dedication is evident. Alongside weekly training with The WE United Project coaches, a partner NGO, she now trains with the National Football Association of Nepal. Her talent and passion set her apart, and we are committed to supporting her journey toward achieving her goals.

Opportunities like this are rare for girls in Nepal, especially for those from underprivileged backgrounds. At the Asha School, we are inspired by our students' determination to seize every opportunity—whether in education, sports, or other pursuits—to break free from the cycle of poverty. Their resilience and courage are truly remarkable.



# Kathmandu Programs

## Vocational Training Centre



One of the best ways for young people to come up in life and help bring their entire family out of material poverty is by acquiring the skills necessary to get a better job in the current market. Skills such as basic IT and spoken English will enable a young person to double or even triple their salary.

### Story of Manu Baram



Manu Baram, a 17-year-old girl from Gorkha, is the eldest child in her family. Following the completion of her 10th grade, she decided to pursue computer training at our vocational training center, which is next door to the Asha School. Manu also frequently volunteers at the School, offering assistance wherever needed. Currently in her 12th grade, she expresses gratitude for the training, which has enabled her to create reports for her college studies. Additionally, she engages in part-time data entry work to financially support her education. The training provided by our vocational training center (computer skills and spoken English) enhances the local youth's education and gives them opportunities for better jobs after they graduate.

## Vocational Training Centre

Many government schools in Nepal face a shortage of trained staff, particularly in computer education and spoken English—areas where we excel. When we learned that Balbodh Secondary School had a state-of-the-art computer lab but no teacher, we stepped in. We are thrilled to launch this new initiative, which highlights the strength of HOPE *worldwide* Nepal's close partnerships with local government and community leaders.



Through our vocational training program, one of our graduates, Niranjan Ghising, is now working there as a computer teacher, benefiting both the school and our community. Partnerships like these truly make a difference!





# Kathmandu Programs

## Women's Economic Empowerment Program



Traditionally women in lower socio-economic circles do not possess job skills. Either they do not work, or if they do, the only work they can find is menial, such as construction work, carrying heavy baskets of stones. That kind of work is detrimental to their health and only provides unreliable income.

In June of 2022, we opened a women's economic empowerment program next to the Asha School and the vocational training center. The women of the community, including the mothers of the students of our school, can avail of four-month courses in tailoring or beauty parlor skills. Once they complete the course, they can apply for a small loan which enables them to start their own home-based business.

In Kathmandu we provide skills training in tailoring and beauty culture to 90 vulnerable and marginalized women annually.



# Kathmandu Programs

## Breakfast & Lunch Program



For 12 years now, we have provided a nutritious midday meal for our students. We are also pleased to announce that in May 2024 we started giving the children a healthy breakfast before the morning assembly. Proper nutrition enhances general health and learning. We have seen a vast improvement in the children's academic achievements as a result.



# Kathmandu Programs

## Futsal Program For Girls



We have been running this program for over a year in collaboration with The WE United Project and the Lincoln School of Kathmandu.

Since its launch, the leadership training program through futsal coaching has provided older girl students weekly mentorship and training from professional female futsal coaches. This initiative has grown into a strong platform for empowering young women, helping them build confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills.

The program has made a significant impact by offering girls equal opportunities in sports, which is often limited for them in Nepal. Over time, we have seen increased participation, improved skills, and greater enthusiasm among the students. Moving forward, we aim to expand this initiative, reaching more young women and strengthening their role in sports and leadership.



# Kathmandu Programs

## Scholarship Program

Once our students have graduated from grade 5, we strive to find them scholarships and placement in the best private schools in Kathmandu. Due to the nurturing and the small size classrooms they have enjoyed at the Asha School, the children usually excel as they move on to secondary education.



Urmila Nepali is a 16-year-old student who lives with her mom while her father lives in a village that takes over seven days to reach due to poor roads. Urmila was born without her right hand but that did not stop her from being one of the top five students of her class. Upon completing grade 5 at our school her parents were uncertain how to support Urmila's further education. One possibility was that Urmila would move back to the village with her mother to work as a farmer. HOPE worldwide Nepal stepped in to support Urmila's education and are enabling her to pursue her dreams of becoming a doctor. Incredibly, Urmila's singing talent has been recognized on national television, and she now sings at different events, receiving love and appreciation from her community.



# Volunteer Corps



Twice a year we host a large group of volunteers of all ages. They come from all over the world and serve for two weeks at a time, teaching the children, doing renovations, and connecting with the local families. If you would like more information, click on this link:

<https://www.hopeww.org/hvc>

We can also design a customized trip for your group of friends, your school, university, or company. Reach out to us directly at [diwasrathod.hopewwnepal@gmail.com](mailto:diwasrathod.hopewwnepal@gmail.com).

We warmly welcome all volunteers, including individuals, who wish to contribute to our school. We would love for you to join us for any length of time and share your skills!



# Kathmandu Programs

## Volunteering



Jane Thompson, wife of the U.S. Ambassador, is a dedicated child specialist whose support has greatly impacted Asha Vidhyashram. She played a key role in rebuilding our library and visits weekly to teach reading, inspiring our students. She also trains our teachers, helping enhance their skills and teaching methods. Her dedication to education continues to make a lasting difference in our community.



Jonathan Lindfeldt, from Sweden, spent two months in Kathmandu serving at the school. During his time with us, he revamped our website, wrote newsletters, and helped draft a grant proposal for Procter & Gamble (P&G). His hard work and dedication made a significant impact, and we were incredibly grateful for his contributions!



In August, we had the privilege of hosting Viviana Pezzera and her daughter Tika, who traveled from California to volunteer at the Asha School for a month. Viviana, a college professor, provided invaluable support to our teaching staff through her expertise. Tika, adopted from Nepal as a toddler, inspired our students with her enthusiasm and energy. Their contributions exemplified global generosity and made a lasting impact on our school community.



Abeni Agilan has been a dedicated volunteer at Asha School, bringing warmth and enthusiasm to our students. Her deep love for children and passion for service shine through in everything she does. Coming from a family committed to serving communities—her parents oversee a HOPE foundation program in India—Abeni has been deeply inspired to make a difference. She is now pursuing her studies to become a child psychologist, driven by her desire to support and nurture young minds.



# Kathmandu Programs

## Strength in Partnerships



We were honored to host Carol Borg, the US Embassy medical Officer, who conducted student check-ups and first-aid training for our staff, enhancing the health and safety of our community.



Following the devastating floods that claimed hundreds of lives and destroyed villages, HOPE *worldwide* Nepal partnered with four NGOs to support affected communities. The Asha School principal Apiya Gandharba and our friend Pooja distributed emergency supplies, solar lights, and water filters donated by Wine to Water a global NGO, while also providing training on their use.



The Reading Club from the Lincoln School, the largest international school in Kathmandu, visited our library to read and connect with our children. For the Asha School students, who often lack access to books at home and whose parents are frequently illiterate, reading at school is a cherished and enriching experience.



Karkhana Nepal visited the Asha School and provided hands-on training to our students. They introduced engaging, interactive activities focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) subjects, helping our children develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity. Their approach allowed the students to explore new ideas through practical, fun learning experiences, fostering curiosity and a love for learning. This training was a valuable opportunity for our students to enhance their skills and broaden their understanding of various subjects in an exciting and interactive way.

# Kathmandu Programs

## Fundraising



On September 28, Mark Templer and Jeroen de Beer set off to climb Mount Himlung in the Himalayas, their most challenging ascent yet at 7,126 meters (23,379 feet), to raise funds for the Asha School. Over the course of three weeks, Mark and Jeroen aimed to raise \$8,000 to repair the school's roof, renovate the toilet block, and install proper windows to keep classrooms warm during winter. Thanks to the generosity of supporters, the fundraiser achieved a total of \$23,000 making these much-needed improvements (and more!) possible. We are incredibly grateful for Mark and Jeroen's dedication and everyone who contributed to this vital cause!



Before



After

Mark Templer and Jeroen de Beer's "A Roof for a Roof" climb of Mount Himlung, along with support from Ramesh and Neelam KC, made it possible to replace the Asha School roof—no more leaks in the classrooms or office!



# Biratnagar Program

## Vocational Training Center

Following the model of the Kathmandu and Chhaimale Vocational Training Centers, we train young adults in basic and advanced computer skills.



Priyanka (20) had always dreamed of learning to use computers. She knew that having computer skills could open doors to better job opportunities and make her schoolwork easier. However, in her entire village, there wasn't a single computer available for her to practice on. When her college required students to submit reports, Priyanka faced difficulties because she couldn't complete her assignments the way her peers could. Her dreams of keeping up in class felt out of reach, leaving her frustrated and anxious about her future.

Things changed when she joined our Computer Training Program in Biratnagar. Eager to learn, Priyanka enrolled and quickly picked up skills like typing, creating reports, and using essential software. For the first time, she could complete her college reports without relying on others. The training not only boosted her confidence but also opened up new job opportunities, giving her a renewed sense of hope for a better future.



# Chhaimale Program Highlights

## Vocational Training Center



HOPE *worldwide* Nepal, in collaboration with Sree Krishna Madhyamik Bidhyalaya and with the support of the government, provided students with essential computer training and additional assistance for math and science tuition. This initiative aims to equip students with digital literacy and strengthen their understanding of core subjects, helping them excel academically and prepare for future opportunities. With the generous support of Singapore Airlines, we also recognized and encouraged students for their academic achievements by awarding them academic certificates for their outstanding performance. Additionally, Singapore Airlines supported our efforts in providing students with essential stationery items, ensuring they have the necessary resources to succeed in their studies. We sincerely appreciate Singapore Airlines' contribution towards academic recognition and the government's support in enhancing educational opportunities. HOPE *worldwide* Nepal remains committed to empowering young learners and fostering a brighter future for students in Nepal.





# Chhaimale Program Highlights

## Clean Water Program



We have continued our partnership with Wine to Water and distributed water filters in 2024 to villagers, government schools, and the local police station. Clean water is very hard to access, and the locals (usually the women and children) have to walk miles up and down mountainsides to collect water every day. The water is often not safe to drink, leading to many health problems, as well as missed days of work and school. Giving water filters to the villagers ensures a steady supply of clean drinking water for years to come.

# Disaster Management Program

In September 2024, Nepal experienced its biggest floods, causing the loss of many lives. The flood relief distribution program aimed to address the critical needs of flood-affected families in Roshi Village and Lalitpur with support from World Bank Nepal. The initiative focused on providing clean drinking water, food security, clothing, blankets, and essential hygiene items. We were able to help more than 500 families of flood-affected areas, ensuring they received the necessary support to recover and rebuild their lives.





# Our Team



## **Diwas Rathod – Program Director, HOPE *worldwide* Nepal**

Diwas leads the initiatives of HOPE *worldwide* Nepal with a strong commitment to serving underprivileged communities. As the Program Director, he plays a pivotal role in organizing and executing impactful programs, including education, disaster relief, and community development projects. His dedication ensures that resources and support reach those who need them most, creating lasting change in the lives of many.



## **D. Raj Dhital– Chairman of the Board, HOPE *worldwide* Nepal**

D. Raj has been a key supporter of our mission, expertly assisting with fundraising efforts to help communities in need. His leadership and dedication have played a crucial role in ensuring the success of initiatives such as our flood relief distribution program.



## **Nadine Templer – Consultant, HOPE *worldwide* Nepal**

Nadine Templer has been a vital part of our mission, actively supporting all our programs by helping to raise funds and ensure their sustainability. As a consultant, she brings invaluable expertise in program development, working closely with our team to enhance the quality and impact of our initiatives. Her dedication and strategic guidance have been instrumental in expanding our reach and creating lasting change in the communities we serve.



## **Deep Giri – Administrator**

Deep plays a vital role in managing the financial operations of our organization. As an Accountant, he ensures transparency, accuracy, and efficiency in financial planning, budgeting, and reporting. His expertise helps maintain accountability in fund allocation, supporting the smooth execution of our programs and initiatives. With his dedication and attention to detail, Deep contributes significantly to the sustainability and growth of our mission.



## **Apiya Gandharba – Principal, Asha Vidhyashram School**

Apiya Gandharba serves as the Principal of Asha Vidhyashram School, playing a pivotal role in overseeing all school programs and ensuring a high-quality education for underprivileged children. With her strong leadership and dedication, she manages academic and extracurricular activities, fostering a nurturing environment for students to learn and grow. Her commitment to the school's mission helps empower children with education, guiding them toward a brighter future.

# Kathmandu Programs

## Dream Program



The HOPEww Center of HOPE in Kathmandu

We are working toward an ambitious vision: building our own Center of HOPE in Kathmandu, ideally in the Balaju area where our current school is located. This center would unite all our programs—the Asha School, vocational training, women's economic empowerment, and our administrative office—into one sustainable and permanent location. Transitioning out of rental properties would secure a brighter future for the communities we serve. Join us in making this dream a reality by contributing today. To learn more or donate, please email us at [info@hopewwnepal.org](mailto:info@hopewwnepal.org).







## Donors' Contribution and Acknowledgments

We sincerely thank our main donors, whose generous support has been vital to our success. HOPE worldwide Ltd, HOPE worldwide UK, HOPE worldwide Canada, HOPE worldwide Zurich (Switzerland), and HOPE worldwide Finland have played a critical role in funding our education, health, disaster relief, and community programs. We are also grateful for the contributions of Kirby Simon Grant, Procter & Gamble (P&G), The Lincoln School, and The Premiere International School, which helped expand our initiatives like the library program and other educational efforts.

Our appreciation also extends to the many individual donors who have supported our work, allowing us to make a meaningful impact across various programs. Your generosity continues to drive positive change in the communities we serve.

Lastly, we would like to thank our dedicated staff and volunteers for their unwavering commitment and hard work. Their passion and tireless efforts have been the cornerstone of our success. We are deeply grateful to everyone who has supported us this year, and we look forward to continuing our collective journey toward lasting change.



**LINCOLN SCHOOL**  
KATHMANDU, NEPAL



J. Kirby Simon Foreign Service Trust

# THANK YOU!

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