

Newsletter

YEAREND REVIEW - DEC 2015



What a year!

After two devastating earthquakes and nearly 400 aftershocks, the children of House with Heart are still smiling. I am so proud of the way they rallied together to face the challenges of this natural disaster. We slept in the garden all during the recent monsoon season, along with frogs, snakes and rats. The tin-roofed sewing training room serves as our current living space, and it's cold and cramped, but the children are still smiling. **You** make these smiles possible with your financial support, and I am so grateful to all of you. I hope you continue to partner with us on the long road to recovery.



The children & staff were living in tents for five months. This photo was taken in May 2015.

We were very fortunate that all of the children & women we serve survived the earthquake. All staff members were given a bonus that allowed them to help their families in the villages that were destroyed. In August we took in two-year-old Marsang, whose mother was killed in the earthquake, and we will take in more children after our reconstruction is complete.



The House with Heart children were happy to return to school after the earthquake.

Disaster response. We were prepared with tents and food stored in the event of such a disaster, and had been having regular earthquake drills. Immediately after the first quake, we distributed food, supplies, tents, medicine, and school supplies to local community groups, neighbors, and remote villages. We also took in neighbors after the earthquake, providing them with food and shelter.

Restarting programs. The children returned to school in June, and our programs were restarted within a few months of the earthquake, although at a reduced level.



The Children's Learning Centre reopened after the earthquake for children whose families cannot afford to send them to school.

MISSION STATEMENT

House with Heart is a home for abandoned children, an education center for impoverished women and children, and an outreach program for needy families in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Rebuilding our facility. Our house and Learning Centre were significantly damaged. We were very fortunate that **New Line Structures Inc** in NYC sent

Delia Shumway, Director of Construction Activities, to inspect our facility and plan for earthquake proof retrofitting and the rebuilding of our facility soon after the second quake. The retrofitting of the House is nearly done, with construction to start on a new multi-purpose building next year. This will allow us to expand our programs, and have a permanent clinic room, computer classroom and Learning Centre. By moving the older girls to this new building, we will have more room for smaller children in the future.



The laborers are working hard on retrofitting our House to make it withstand future earthquakes. It is a lengthy and messy process!

Putting kids back in school. One of the goals of House with Heart's recovery plan is to reach out beyond our community by rebuilding schools, in order to get as many children back in school as



House with Heart is helping to rebuild schools like the Tarkeshori School serving 85 children in the small village of Simle. Thank you to **Walk for Nepal** for sponsoring a significant portion of this \$14,000 project.

**Please consider
a Yearend Donation.**

Mail a check made out to "House with Heart" to:
House with Heart / 151 First Ave, #74 / NY, NY 10003

- OR -

Make a donation online at
www.HousewithHeart.org

Thank you!

possible. Of the four schools we're helping to rebuild, one project has been completed, and three are underway. So many schools need assistance, and we will expand the program with your help.

Moving ahead. In the midst of all this we also obtained 501(c)(3) status, so if you would like to make a donation by check, you can now make it out to "House with Heart." Our new board of directors is actively working on our recovery plan.

Difficult daily life. Life continues to be very difficult. The political situation is unstable, and there are significant cooking gas and petrol shortages. We, like most people, are now cooking mainly with firewood. Blockades at the Indian border are preventing supplies from coming into the country, and it is especially difficult in the capital, Kathmandu.

Work is progressing well on our recovery plan, but we still need your help. Please join us in helping to keep the smiles on the faces of our children. Many, many thanks for your kindness and generosity.

Big smiles and love from your House with Heart family,
Beverly
Beverly Bronson,
CEO & President

P.S. We are not holding our annual yearend party this month, but I hope to see you at a benefit concert in January and at our Spring Party.



Smiles all around.