



**Captivating  
International**  
One Act. Endless Impact.

JULY TO DECEMBER 2024

# BEAUTY FROM ASHES

STOPPING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN NEPAL





# IN THIS EDITION

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# IMPACT SUMMARY

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## ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING MONITORING STATIONS

- **Interception and Rescue**

**1,418** women intercepted. Of the 7,878 individuals interviewed about their travel plans, 1,418 were stopped due to high risks of trafficking. They were informed on what was likely happening, counseled as necessary, and either returned home or picked up by their families.

**95** women were rescued at the border after interviews revealed enough evidence to confirm they were in the process of being trafficked, allowing charges to be filed against the traffickers. These border rescues, verified by police and our senior team, ensure immediate protection and support for the women.

**19** women rescued from communities in collaboration with police and partner organizations. Rescued women and girls are often found in hotels and brothels across Nepal. Without our intervention, these women might have been lost forever.

- **Awareness / Prevention**

**2,360** students from 27 schools participated in the Hamro Abhiyan Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Program, which covers trafficking causes, consequences, safety measures, rehabilitation, and prevention strategies.

**1,698** people participated in community awareness sessions addressing human trafficking, safe migration practices, and other critical topics tailored to the needs of specific groups.

- **Legal Assistance / Protection**

**2** arrests and one court case were made with the assistance of our on-the-ground team.

**392** women received legal assistance, including support and advice for abuse victims. Women learn their rights and legal options. Cases are referred to local lawyers or our local partner's legal team in Pokhara for follow-up and further action.

**44** cases of domestic violence were reported. For police cases, our team will help file written claims on behalf of the victims and coordinate with police authorities and the Women's Welfare Department for necessary legal action.

## MY BUSINESS, MY FREEDOM MICROFINANCE PROGRAM

**582** women currently have loans in the My Business, My Freedom Microfinance Program (MBMF) and are working hard to grow their small businesses.

**1,175** women have been impacted by MBMF since it started in 2017.

**97** women received their very first microloan from July to December 2024.

**94** MBMF women's groups are located throughout Nepal comprising of 10 to 25 members for each group.



# IMPACT SUMMARY

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## WOMEN'S SAFE HAVEN AND VOCATIONAL CENTER

**12** women and girls are currently residing in the Women's Safe Haven, receiving the essential care and support they need to heal from their past traumas. They are receiving group counseling and have the opportunity to participate in skills training of their choice.

**32** women have successfully reintegrated into their communities and reunited with their families. Alongside general counseling and medical check-ups, these women have received—or are currently participating in—various forms of skills training.

## CAPTIVATING VILLAGE PROGRAM

**In partnership with 3 Angels Nepal and Aasaman Nepal**

**1,028** girls have been helped since the program's launch in 2022.

**21** village programs are currently being implemented.

## CAPTIVATING VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**In partnership with Captivating Nepal**

The program officially expanded to a new village in Panchkhal Municipality, with assessments underway for a third location.

**5** youth groups, comprising 55 girls from four partner schools, were formed to provide sessions on various topics and skills training, empowering them as advocates for change in their communities.

**3** new women's groups, with 52 members, were established between July and December 2024. These women will participate in targeted training sessions and skill development programs focused on animal husbandry. These efforts aim to enhance their food security and create sustainable income streams. Since 2023, 73 women have benefited from the CVP livelihood initiative.

Over **2,500** individuals have been supported through free women's and children's health camps launched in 2023. This includes nine women and two men who received surgical or specialized care.

**42** women and **86** students have been trained in human trafficking prevention.

## CAPTIVATING EMERGENCY RELIEF

**3** emergency relief operations were conducted in the past year, two of which took place within the last six months.

**117** families were provided with temporary shelter and construction materials.



# MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Dear Captivating supporters of our work in Nepal,

As we summarize the work of Captivating over this past July–December 2024 period, I find myself writing this message with a heart of deepest gratitude. It’s been an amazing six months of impact, thanks to the overwhelming generosity and support from you—our financial donors—our amazingly loyal and professional team at Captivating, and our incredible on-the-ground implementing teams. The collective impact we’ve made together is truly inspiring.

To our loyal support base, whether you volunteered your time, donated funds, or helped spread awareness, your contributions have been invaluable.

Because of your efforts, we’ve **empowered 149 mothers** to start their own businesses, **educated over 4,000 Nepalis** about the dangers of human trafficking and how to keep their communities safe, **provided stable access to education for over 1,000 girls**, and **intercepted more than 1,400 women** at high risk of trafficking.

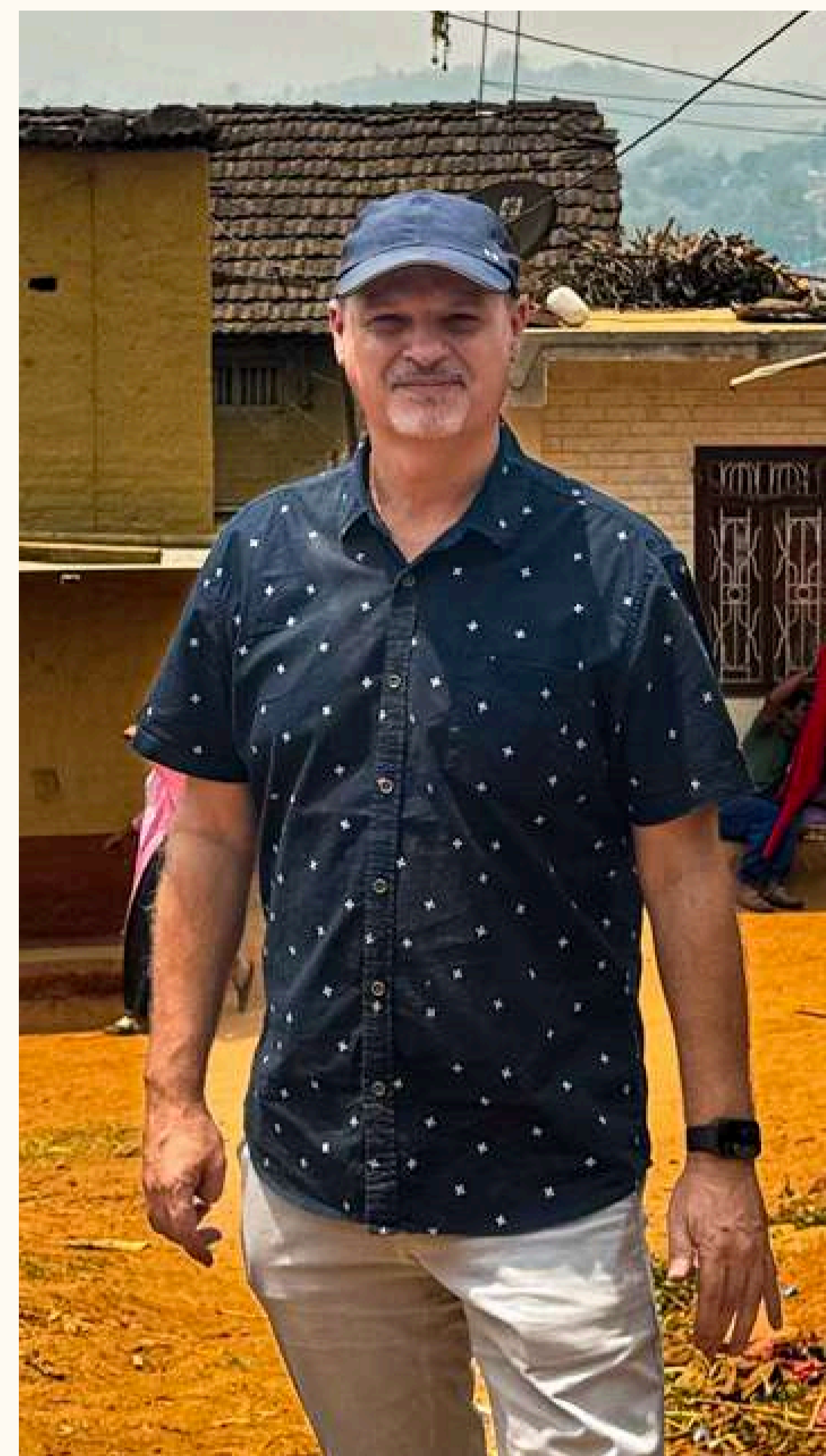
These numbers are just a glimpse of our impact in Nepal. As you read through this report, I hope you see and feel the tangible difference your compassion and commitment have made in the lives of others.

At Captivating International, we believe in the power of giving back—that **ONE ACT** can result in **ENDLESS IMPACT** as girls, women, and their children go on to transform their world in ways they once only dreamed of. I am immensely proud to be part of a team so dedicated to making a positive impact. Your willingness to go above and beyond, especially during these challenging times, is a testament to the strong values we share.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for your incredible support. Together, we are making a real difference.



**Andrew Colquhoun**  
CEO and CO-FOUNDER  
CAPTIVATING INTERNATIONAL





# ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING MONITORING STATIONS

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Human traffickers are skilled enough to detect desperation and vulnerability among Nepali girls. In just a matter of minutes, a girl can be helplessly sent to an unfamiliar place and be exploited forever.

For 10 years, Captivating International has fully funded the anti-human trafficking program run by one of our in-country implementing partners, 3 Angels Nepal. Over this time, the work of operating monitoring stations in key trafficking hotspots has continually evolved to make the best possible impact. Today, trained program staff operate five monitoring stations, working closely with local authorities to spot warning signs that a girl might be in the process of being trafficked. We do this by:

1. Stopping those who show red flags.
2. Interviewing with the right questions and picking up on the tiniest details that mess with the coherence of their answers and;
3. Investigating cases of those who seem to be at risk.

Most women we find at the monitoring stations need to be made aware of what lies ahead. They are typically lured by social media friends, fellow villagers, or the worst—their own families. This is why we do our best to be on the lookout for the red flags. Interception is the last line of defense for a Nepali girl before she disappears forever.

We do not only intercept—we also spread awareness.

In every area, we implement our award-winning Hamro Abhiyan Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Program across schools, community groups, and army police forces. We tackle our topics with the delivery of thoughtfully designed content that is meant to impact and retain every participant's mind. We believe in the power of information, and these efforts help reduce the girls we intercept at the border.

Finally, we support survivors who have been trafficked or abused by providing legal advice and advocating for justice. Many women come to our help desks seeking assistance after experiencing exploitation by traffickers, family members, or fellow villagers. By working closely with local authorities and court systems, we amplify their voices, help them seek justice, and empower them through knowledge.

From intercepting girls at the brink of danger to educating communities about trafficking risks, and providing survivors with the tools to seek justice, our work tackles human trafficking from every angle to build a safer tomorrow.

*All names in the stories that follow have been changed for privacy and protection.*



## IMPACT NUMBERS

### INTERCEPTION AND RESCUE

**1,418** women intercepted.

**95** women were rescued at the border.

**19** women rescued from communities in collaboration with police and partner organizations.

### AWARENESS / PREVENTION

**2,360** students from 27 schools participated in the Hamro Abhiyan Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Program.

**1,698** people participated in community awareness sessions.

### LEGAL ASSISTANCE / PROTECTION

**2** arrests and one court case were made with the assistance of our on-the-ground team.

**392** women received legal assistance, including support and advice for abuse victims.

**44** cases of domestic violence were reported.

## MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO OUR KEY DONORS:

Jamoca Foundation

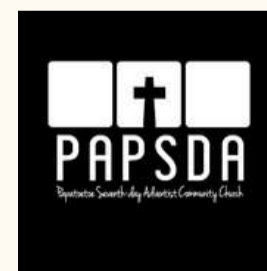
Kenneth Whalen  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

BE CAPTIVATING



David & Liz T.

Joshua K.



Johnson Family &  
Penman Family

Let's Do This  
from Cache Valley

Debbie & John M.

Angela M.

Mervyn P.

Bob & Ev M.

# SANU'S ONLINE PRINCE CHARMING

## INTERCEPTION STORY

Sanu (17) is the eldest daughter of a poor family in Nepal. Unfortunately the order of birth and gender defines one's responsibilities in a household, not only in Nepal but in many parts of the world. Her father is a hardworking laborer who worked tirelessly to support their family. Despite all his efforts, his salary is not enough to sustain Sanu and her siblings' schooling. Sure, the government provides free schooling, but her responsibilities as the eldest daughter (such as household chores) often interfere with her studies.

While she lives a truly difficult life this early, Sanu's desires are just like the other girls her age. She wants a mobile phone. When she got hired from part-time work, she practiced due diligence in saving up for one. Once she bought her first phone, she couldn't keep her hands off of it. It did not take long for Sanu to be addicted to her device. She spent hours on social media and spent her hard-earned money on mobile data.

One day, she met a boy whose profile said his name was Prince and was from Bhagawanpur, India. The two chatted and grew a special friendship over time. Prince promised to take her to India to show her around and buy her new clothes. All of these promises are so exciting for Sanu considering how little she grew up with. She believed him and agreed to meet up without informing her parents.

Our team met Sanu at the border and she was stopped for questioning. She told a lie (as instructed by Prince) about going to a relative at a nearby place to buy clothes. Our team was quick to ask the said relative's contact and where her money was to buy these clothes. She was caught lying with no relatives to call nor money to spend.

Realizing she could not lie further, Sanu budged. She told her about Prince, and our team asked him to come. Instead of the man that Sanu had been talking for months, a different "Prince" arrived, and contrary to his name, he was not—in fact, a prince. That was the moment where Sanu realized she was dealing with a shady individual all this time. She could not imagine how worrisome her situation could have been if she passed the border.

Her family was contacted and her mother and uncle arrived. As for "Prince" and his accomplice, the police are now looking for ways to figure out what shady business they had been working on to prevent them from luring more girls in the future. Sanu and her family are grateful for our interception efforts and experienced a true moment of clarity in this almost-trafficking experience. She is now more digitally aware that not all promises are made in good faith.







## RESCUING A CHILD FROM WORKPLACE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

### RESCUE STORY

Ria (15) is one of our rescued girls. She comes from a poor family with very little resources. A girl like her should stay in school, but she dropped out after failing 7th grade. We cannot blame Ria because in her community, girls her age are either working or marrying—if not staying in school. Her home situation is also a very mentally draining environment for a teenage girl's developing brain.

She sought jobs in Lothar Bazaar in Chitwan and Manahari, Makwanpur, but was unsuccessful. She did not stop and kept looking. One day, while looking for a job on an auto-rickshaw, she met a woman who offered her a job at a poultry farm in Shukranagar, Chitwan. She was promised a salary, food, and accommodation, which sounded like a great offer so she agreed without telling anyone.

It is true that she did have food and lodging, but her salary was frequently delayed. She expressed that she may not be able to keep working if she was not getting paid properly. Instead of paying her, her employer offered her a new position. The farm owner suggested she do household chores instead of caring for the chickens since they needed one. Instead of working at the farm, she would spend her days at her employer's home and was promised fair pay this time. Not too long after, her boss started sexually harassing Ria and threatened to kill her if she resisted or told anyone about it. Ria felt much more stuck than before because she was forced to keep enduring the rampant abuse.

When her family realized that she was missing, they filed a missing person's report to the police and to us. Our team searched for Ria and found her on an abandoned road in Shukranagar. When we rescued her, the labor and sexual exploitation she experienced was reported. She was counseled by a trained professional and later opened up about her abuses.

Ria expressed her desire to take legal action against her perpetrators, but her family hesitated due to social stigma and concerns about legal complications. We made sure to let her know that if she ever changes her mind and would like to press charges still, we will be here to hold her hand throughout the process.

Perhaps victims have various ways of coping, and this was Ria's. No person must experience what she went through so early in her life, and we will remain to look after her as she goes back home with her family.

# HAMRO ABHIYAN FEATURE

Our award-winning program educates hundreds to thousands of girls per quarter about the dangers of human trafficking.

In Chitwan, we received great feedback from the school admin officers and students.

- The president of the Shree Kashirupa Basic School expressed a strong interest in increasing our initiatives in the Chitwan area. He highlighted the ongoing issues of lack of awareness and early marriage, which contribute to a higher risk of human trafficking. In closing, he thanked the team members and the organization for our joined efforts.
- One of the girls said to us after the program, saying, "Before the program, I didn't want to attend because I thought I already knew everything and that I was old enough and educated enough. However, the team encouraged me to participate, and I realized I was completely wrong. I ended up enjoying the program, and it helped me gain a deeper understanding of human trafficking."





# MY BUSINESS, MY FREEDOM MICROFINANCE PROGRAM

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A woman's chances of human trafficking are increased when she is destitute. One of our programs aims to help Nepali women overcome extreme poverty by supporting them in building and managing their own businesses, creating not just financial stability but also a safer future for their families and future generations.

The ability to financially provide for oneself is truly an empowering act, hence the name of this project: My Business, My Freedom. Here's how we help women start their own businesses so they—and their children—can live with security and independence:

**Training.** She undergoes basic entrepreneurship training to learn how to build her business and receives advice on how to make her venture successful.

**Mentorship.** She will receive a more personal approach to money management, savings, budgeting, and other entrepreneurial skills.

**Community.** Connecting her with other women in similar circumstances can help build a supportive community where they can share their challenges and successes for years to come.

**Lending.** She can take out micro-loans to help her get started. Once she repays this, she will be eligible to take out more loans to scale up her business.

**Support and Guidance.** It doesn't stop with loans and training. Our loan officers and her community will look out for her and watch her grow into an independent and empowered female entrepreneur.

## IMPACT NUMBERS

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**582** women currently have loans in the program.

**1,175** women have been impacted by MBMF since it started in 2017.

**97** women received their very first microloan from July to December 2024.

**94** MBMF women's groups are located throughout Nepal comprising of 10 to 25 members for each group.

## MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO OUR KEY DONORS:

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Kenneth Whalen  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

**SURABAYA**  
CHARITY AUCTION

## ASMITA'S CHICKEN AND GOAT SAVINGS

Asmita Sunar (35) is a mother of an impoverished family of 6. Prior to joining a women's group for MBMF, she worked on other people's farms just to eat two meals a day. Her husband is also a laborer like her. Five years ago, she joined one of our MBMF women's group and her life has changed since.

On her first loan, she took NPR 50,000 (USD 358) to buy goats and pay for her husband's passport application. He needed one so he could work abroad, and they thought it was a worthy investment. True enough, it was! Now they have two reliable sources of income. Presently, she has 5 goats and 10 chickens. Another NPR 50,000 was taken after repaying the first loan in full. The money that her husband is making as a laborer abroad covers their children's school expenses—better securing their future.

She thanked MBMF for giving her a chance to put her hard work into proper use and increase their quality of life. She said that her life had been changed so much that she had saved NPR 150,000 (USD 1,073) in just a year by caring for these live animals!





## MANISHA'S EMPOWERMENT EMPOWERS OTHER WOMEN

Manisha Chaudhary (30) has been an active and dedicated member of one of our MBMF women's groups in Dhangadhi. One may see her as an active member who is a thriving and active participant in the group's savings program, but she had a long journey to come to where she is today.

Her family has three members: her husband, daughter, and herself. While her husband works in the Gulf countries to sustain her and their fourth-grade daughter, Manisha dreamt of financial independence. She believed that a woman's economic freedom is a form of female empowerment. She did not wish to limit herself as a stay-at-home mother, so she committed to a women's group.

A year ago, she took a loan of NPR 25,000 (USD 178). With this amount, she bought goats and vegetable seedlings to start farming. Every day, she made sure her little farm was well looked after. As the goat grew and the vegetables bloomed, Manisha earned a monthly salary of NPR 10,000 (USD 72) to NPR 15,000 (USD 107). This money added more to her household's budget and her daughter's education!

Currently, Manisha is an active member of the group and serves as a role model for women in her community. Every day, she advocates for women's empowerment and inspires other women to be self-reliant. She also openly talks about human trafficking and encourages others to speak out against this deeply rooted societal issue. Her daughter must be so lucky to be raised by a woman so empowered and strong, that it is easy to become one herself.



# WOMEN'S SAFE HAVEN AND VOCATIONAL CENTER

For girls who underwent major trauma, domestic abuse, human trafficking, and other forms of violence—a safe haven is just what they need to heal. Women's Safe Haven (WSH) provides a safe space for women and girls, and it might look different depending on their needs.

WSH provides some key support to women and girls through:

**Counseling.** We have competently-trained and compassionate counselors to help her process what she went through and help her realize that what happened to her was not her fault. Our counselors also provide practical strategies to regain her confidence and zest for life.

**Safety.** Safety is not just ensured security, it is also a feeling. The girl must not only be safe, but she must also feel safe.

**Rest and Recovery.** The quality of the environment is of paramount importance for those who heal. WSH provides comfortable accommodation for girls for increased recuperation.

**Skills Building.** We value growth and sustainability. The haven is not only a place where they rest, but it is also a place where she can learn valuable skills to provide for herself financially. This way, she won't need to resort to unsafe and dangerous means of income.

The Women's Safe Haven, a long-time project founded and operated by 3 Angels Nepal, is just the place that could help a girl get back on her feet, and our main mission is to help her cultivate a safe space within herself by the time she leaves.

*All names in the stories that follow have been changed for privacy and protection.*

## IMPACT NUMBERS

**12** women and girls are currently residing in the Women's Safe Haven.

**32** women have successfully reintegrated into their communities and reunited with their families.

## MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO OUR KEY DONORS:



Joshua K.

Edward & Sue W.

# THE HEALING POWER OF SHARED EXPERIENCES

## RESCUE STORY

Anna (20) comes from a family of farmers. When she finished 12th grade, she went to India to visit her brother for two months. While there, she met a boy from the same neighborhood. She would spend time together when her brother was at work, and little by little, Anna started falling in love. You know how young love gets, it could be impulsive. Thinking the boy was “the one”, Anna agreed to elope with him and not inform her brother.

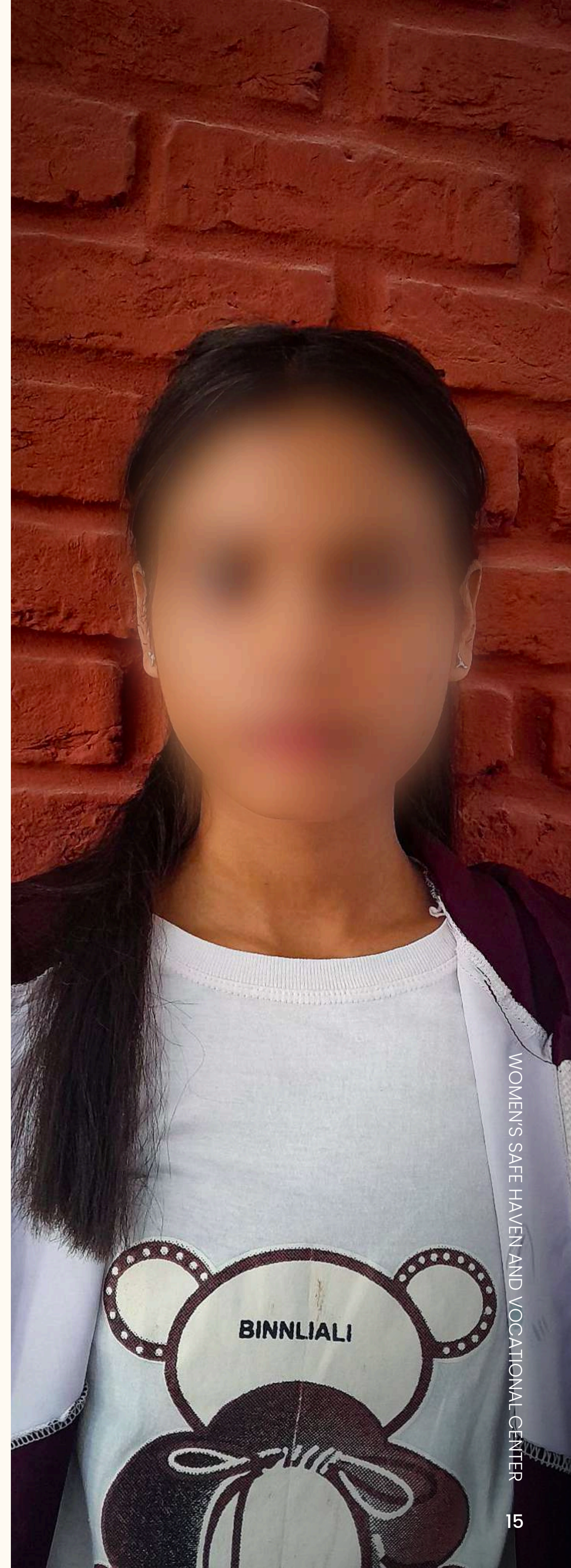
When her brother noticed that she didn't come back home, he immediately filed a missing person's report to the Indian police. Unfortunately, they could not locate her because she was out of their grid. He went to the boy's family to find out where he took Anna, but the family claimed that their son was also missing.

The brother was already feeling hopeless about the situation until one day, he received a phone call. It was Anna. She said that she was being held in a room to be assaulted by multiple unknown men. She said enough to be located by the police and was rescued in a terrified and mentally distressed state. The brother thought it was best to bring Anna back to Nepal while the police initiated further investigations about the boy.

Now back in Nepal, news spread in their community that Anna had been assaulted by various men. Instead of showing empathy and compassion, she was shamed for it. Even her parents were bothered by this reputation of their family has had. They cared about her still but were afraid that it would hurt her chances of securing a better future. With people telling her it was her fault and should be ashamed of it, Anna found it even more difficult to recover. But as always, her brother showed her the continuous support that she needed at that difficult time.

We conducted a community awareness program on human trafficking in her community. During the event, Anna emotionally shared her experience and her desire to regain her old self, or even a semblance of normalcy in her life. After the program, we advised that she come to Pokhara to heal at the haven, and she agreed.

Anna met many friends there and felt seen for what she went through. She realized that she was no less of a human being as the people that she met there were whole, loving, beautiful women who just had terrible things happen to them. Through social counseling and therapy, she was able to open up more. Participating in training programs also gave her back her sense of purpose. She cannot thank everyone enough.





## INNOCENCE LOST AND HOPE REGAINED

### RESCUE STORY

At just 7th grade, Krisha (13) dropped out of school due to extreme poverty. Her father refused to support them in any way, and her mother was taking the brunt of the responsibility. Not only was she dealing with the household expenses, but she was also facing rampant discrimination from their village. In rural communities like theirs, single mothers are looked down upon which affects their quality of life and labor prospects. Krisha's mother tried her best to work with the very little opportunities available, but in the end, it was not enough for the family she must feed and protect.

Krisha's mother decided to move to the city—away from the unforgiving eyes of their fellow-villagers. The mother secured the job as a dishwasher at a hotel, and often times, Krisha would help her get the dishes done.

Their time in the city seemed to be looking up, until one day, Krisha received a persistent call from an unknown number. At first, she thought that the caller had the wrong number, but instead, the person on the other line charmed her until Krisha was fully engaged in the conversation. Since she engaged, Krisha grew certain fondness out of this caller. From little calls to a budding romance, the caller eventually professed his love for her. For a 13-year-old like Krisha, the first experience of romance could be the most exciting thing in the world. The man insisted on meeting her and promised to marry her, after all. Krisha unfortunately believed the man had good intentions and decided to meet with him.

Most of the rescue stories we feature in our reports were lured girls through a love scam in social media platforms. However, the wicked old-fashioned way of telephone calling still exists to this day.

When the man met with Krisha, he immediately sexually assaulted her, as he had intended all along. In her attempts to escape and go back home, she was blackmailed and threatened for engaging in sexual activities, despite being forced into it. Thankfully, Krisha was able to outsmart the man. During a bathroom break, she snuck a call to her mother to inform her of her location. Her mother immediately asked for help and police came knocking on the door a little while after.

Her rapist was arrested and Krisha is now in our safe haven to recuperate from this traumatic incident. A girl with a still developing mind could bring these traumatic experiences way into adulthood. While we cannot do anything to undo her experience, the best we could do is provide her a safe place to heal and trust again.

Though initially set to return to school, Krisha's past made it too overwhelming. With our team's support, she chose a different path—enrolling in our baking skills program as the first step in her rehabilitation. Through this program, we hope she will regain confidence and independence, paving the way for her to one day continue her education.





# CAPTIVATING VILLAGE PROGRAM

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 3 ANGELS NEPAL AND AASAMAN NEPAL

Nepal is known as home to one of the world's highest rates of child brides. Children are getting married off as young as 14 years old. When she is married, she is now entering the world of domesticity—making education no longer a priority.

Even non-child brides have trouble staying in school. Despite having free education from the government, multiple expenses like school materials, uniforms, allowances, and transportation costs add up to the family's already struggling financial situation. On top of these hindrances, there is a ceaseless cultural notion that women are less deserving of proper education. This mindset only hurts girls more, making them more vulnerable to human trafficking, child marriage, and other forms of abuse.

Our effort to make education accessible to these girls is by providing scholarships and working closely with public schools and the local government. Here's how:

1. We offer scholarships to out-of-school girls and guide them until they get fully equipped back to school.
2. The girls will receive training on life skills, personal safety, their rights, personal hygiene, and increased confidence.
3. A staff member will be assigned in every village to look after the girls' enrollment, human trafficking risks, and potential child marriage issues.
4. Parents will be encouraged to attend awareness sessions about the importance of their daughters, laws regarding child marriage, and how to address their poverty.
5. If necessary, local school improvements will be made to enhance the quality of educational resources and facilities.
6. In some cases, some select women/girls will join our My Business, My Freedom Microfinance Program to help provide them with sustainable financial resources for their families.

For girls who have missed out on school and face a gap too significant to rejoin formal education immediately, the Alternative Learning Program (ALP) offers them a chance to catch up. This 9-month intensive program helps them regain their footing, preparing them to transition into formal school or explore small business opportunities. For those who choose to pursue business ventures, we will connect them with organizations or local government programs that provide specialized skills training for youth.

## IMPACT NUMBERS

**1,028** girls have been helped since the program's launch in 2022.

**21** village programs are currently being implemented.

**959** girls currently in the program.



## MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO OUR KEY DONORS:

VILLAGE	TOTAL GIRLS HELPED	FUNDED BY	MATCHED BY
CVP 01	52	Greg & Sue H.	Lightstream Foundation
CVP 02	59	Andrew & Tania T.	Jamoca Foundation
CVP 03	41	Brad G.	Lightstream Foundation
CVP 04	58	Julie E. & Karyn N.	Whalen Family Foundation
CVP 05	65	Julie E.	Whalen Family Foundation
CVP 06	59	The Surabaya Supporters	Whalen Family Foundation
CVP 07	61	Leigh & Donna M.	Whalen Family Foundation
CVP 08	59	Kingscliff SDA Church	Whalen Family Foundation
CVP 09	44	Jan S., Mark & Vicky J., Jacob & Wendy D.	Midnight Charity Run
CVP 10	44	Lindsay T.	Midnight Charity Run
CVP 11	45	Belton, Hamish, & Claudia L.	Midnight Charity Run
CVP 12	44	David & Darralyn C., Felix & Tennelle S., Ray K.	Midnight Charity Run
CVP 13	44	Lorinda F., Wendy & David V., Brad & Roslyn M.	Jamoca Foundation
CVP 14	43	Justin G., Mark & Vicky J.	Whalen Family Foundation
CVP 15	42	-	Whalen Family Foundation
CVP 16	76	Tony & Sherron A.	Jamoca Foundation
CVP 17	55	Tony & Sherron A.	Jamoca Foundation
CVP 18	41	Tony & Sherron A.	Lightstream Foundation
CVP 19	13	QSI Haiphong, Vicky & Mark J., Lex T.	Jamoca Foundation
CVP 20	41	Kingscliff SDA Church	Lightstream Foundation
CVP 21	42	Julie E.	-
<b>TOTAL GIRLS HELPED SINCE 2022</b>	<b>1,028</b>		

Note: Since the start of the program, 17 girls have successfully finished Grade 12, while 69 girls have unfortunately dropped out.

## TWO GIRLS, SAME PROGRAM, DIFFERENT PATHS

Different girls turn into different paths once they start joining our ALP Centers. Some of our out-of-school girls, we help to get back to formal education; while others prefer help in their livelihoods. Here are the stories of two girls in these two paths.

Anisha Kumari (17) is the eldest daughter of a family of seven. Her father works in a faraway place while her mother manages household chores. Sometimes, her mother makes a little buck out of doing seasonal farm work. Although Anisha always wanted to finish schooling, her desire to improve her family's circumstances weighed more heavily. In third grade, she dropped out of school since she did not have a lot of choices to work with.

After completing our Alternative Learning Program, we asked her if she wished to continue studying or would want to pursue some livelihood projects. Anisha then expressed she always wanted to start goat farming. We provided her with a goat, which inspired her to expand a large-scale goat farm. While time will be necessary for this to come to reality—Anisha remains motivated, and we cannot wait to see her succeed in the future.



Another girl, Sudama Kumari (17) stopped at 5th grade 4 years ago to help her parents with household chores, and not to pose any more financial burden on them. Her father works from city after city just to never run out of opportunities to help his family, while her mother had been working a labor job at a brick kiln. When she heard about our program, her soul lit up and it reminded her of the dream she thought was forever gone—to be a teacher.

When we learned about their family's struggles, we provided them a goat for her parents to grow, while she goes back to school and pursue her dreams. To her, education is her only hope against all discrimination and poverty she faces—all while also giving her family hope to add a stream of income through goat farming.



# CAPTIVATING VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CAPTIVATING NEPAL

Spread across multiple rural regions of Nepal are entire communities struggling to thrive. Our team at Captivating Nepal works with local governments, community leaders, and schools in selected areas to implement tailored solutions that address the key challenges holding girls and their families back. Our primary goal is to address the lack of access to opportunities—barriers that often push individuals toward desperation and potential exploitation, including human trafficking.

Many people lack stable access to quality education, while others face challenges related to health and livelihood opportunities. By addressing these needs, we aim to foster positive change and provide sustainable solutions to empower marginalized families in these villages. Here's how we do it:

**Education:** We partner with local school principals to enhance the quality of education, creating more opportunities and security for children while significantly reducing their vulnerability to trafficking.

**Livelihood:** We provide skill-development training focused on livestock farming, including raising healthy chickens, pigs, and goats for income generation. These efforts aim to strengthen food security and create sustainable income streams, reducing the need for migration—a major driver of human trafficking in Nepal.

**Health:** Health is one of the biggest barriers to improving one's quality of life. Healthy individuals are better able to work, attend school, participate in community activities, and avoid the vulnerability that traffickers exploit. By offering free health camps, we help build a stronger, more resilient population that is less likely to fall victim to human trafficking.

## IMPACT NUMBERS

Expanded to a new village in Panchkhal Municipality, with assessments underway for a third location.

**5** youth groups were formed to provide sessions on various topics and skills training.

**3** women's groups were formed and officially registered as cooperatives, equipping 60 women to start businesses and increase their incomes.

Over **2,500** individuals have been supported through free women's and children's health camps.

**42** women and **86** students have been trained in human trafficking prevention.

## MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO OUR KEY DONORS:

### VILLAGE I

Kenneth Whalen  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

Leigh & Donna M.

Dean & Chris B.

Justin G.

Hear By Choice

John & Ann B.

Tim & Michelle S.

### VILLAGE II

Jamoca Foundation

AMROSIA  
global sourcing and inspection

Cameron, Nancy &  
family

Brad G.

### VILLAGE III

Tony & Sherron A.

Bob & friends

## BALKUMARI'S RESILIENCE AND EMPOWERMENT

Life has been unpredictable and challenging for Balkumari (28), a single mother of two. During our household visits for the baseline survey, we met Balkumari while she was busy with her daily chores. When we spoke with her, she shared her story—a tale of strength, loss, and determination.

Balkumari was married at a young age. After her marriage, she and her husband devoted themselves to farming. Together, they built a small but happy family, blessed with two sons, now aged 9 and 3 years old. However, their happiness was short-lived. Just a year ago, Balkumari's husband was diagnosed with a severe health condition. Despite her tireless efforts to save him, she tragically lost her husband.

Since his passing, Balkumari has shouldered the full responsibility of providing for her family. She works tirelessly to ensure her children's needs are met, but the challenges are immense. The farmland she relies on is not productive, and frequent animal attacks exacerbate her struggle to produce enough food. To make ends meet, she also works as a daily wage laborer.

Balkumari expressed her desire to find alternative income opportunities and improve her skills. During our conversation, we shared with her about our program recently launched in Pahare Basti. First, we explained the program's objectives and activities and she listened intently. When we talked more about it, her eyes lit up with hope. By the end of our discussion, she smiled, eager to participate.

Balkumari later joined a women's group formed in Pahare Basti. She also attended a two-day training program on anti-human trafficking and community mobilization. During the training, she gained confidence through engaging activities and impressed everyone with her group presentation. Inspired by her learning, Balkumari actively shared her knowledge with other community members and took part in mobilization activities.

Recognizing the need for sustainable livelihoods, Captivating Nepal organized a two-day basic goat farming training for the women's groups. Balkumari enthusiastically participated, learning the technical aspects of goat farming. Her active involvement and leadership during group activities stood out. Equipped with newfound knowledge and start-up capital from our team, she is now ready to launch her goat farming venture, applying the techniques she learned during the training.





## A DREAM AT RISK

12-year-old Sujita, a grade 6 student should be in school, laughing with friends, and immersing herself in the joy of learning. But when we first saw her, she wasn't in her school uniform. Instead, she was coming back from the fields, a large bamboo basket strapped to her small frame—carrying the weight of her family's struggles instead of a school bag.

Sujita's mother, under the influence of local beer, greeted our team with a dismissive indifference when asked why her daughter wasn't at school. Her words, *"She doesn't want to go to school; that's the problem,"* painted Sujita as a disobedient child. Another woman in the community nodded in agreement, saying, *"Children in this village don't want to go to school, no matter what we do."* Yet, a glance at Sujita's face told a different story—a story of quiet resilience, a dream clinging to life, and a yearning to break free from a cycle that sought to keep her down.

When we asked Sujita if she liked going to school, her voice was barely a whisper. *"I do like going to school. I just got late today."* When asked why she was late, her answer was both heart-wrenching and simple: *"I had to take cigarettes to my father in the fields. By the time I came back, the school bell had already rung, and I missed class."*

Despite these burdens, Sujita's eyes sparked with a flicker of hope when we asked about what she loved about school. *"I love science,"* she said, her expression serious but a smile briefly touching her face as she added, *"I want to become a doctor one day."* Her words were filled with the pure hope of a child dreaming of a better life, and of helping others.

Sujita's story is not unique. It resonates throughout her village, where neglect, substance abuse, and a lack of support systematically rob children of their education. In her community, parents' carelessness, the burden of daily household chores, and an environment that prioritizes survival over schooling create a perfect storm that limits a child's future. While community members view Sujita's absences as disinterest, they fail to recognize the silent struggle, the lost opportunities, and the determination in a child striving to learn.

Her dream hangs in a delicate balance, waiting for someone to truly see her, to listen, and to invest in nurturing the spark within her. Her struggle is a call to action and a reminder that we must address not only absenteeism but also its root causes, collaborate with parents, and build a community where every child has the chance to pursue their dreams without being left behind.

In the coming months, we will step into the gap—ensuring that she, and others like her, receive the support they need to turn their dreams into reality.



# CAPTIVATING EMERGENCY RELIEF

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Many families are just one emergency away from deep debt and poverty. Unfortunately, natural disasters are unpreventable and often occur in places where families already experience extreme poverty. The cost of another disaster to their lives and livelihoods is quite unthinkable.

Most of the families we help have no contingency plans to cope, and we help them rise again after natural disasters like earthquakes, landslides, storms, and more. Thanks to our on-the-ground teams, we have people already familiar with the infrastructure, challenges, and ways of working with the locals who are most in need of support.

## IMPACT NUMBERS

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**Three** emergency relief operations were conducted in the past year, two of which took place within the last six months.

**117** families were provided with temporary shelter and construction materials.

## MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO OUR KEY DONOR:

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Kenneth Whalen  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

# CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TO NATURAL DISASTER VICTIMS

In the previous year, three disaster efforts commenced from our end, with two occurring in the last two quarters. While many organizations have donated food and clean clothes, we recognize the urgent need to provide victims with temporary shelter and construction materials.

## Terai Region Fire

110 households in Chimat, Ward 1, Mahadeva Municipality in Saptari were severely affected by this fire. It started from one home and destroyed properties worth millions of Nepal Rupees. As a response to this tragedy, our team at Captivating Nepal distributed roofing sheets to 50 households to construct temporary shelters. They may not have their old houses back, but they were able to continue their lives despite it.

After a month, we revisited the people whom we have helped. Some families are still using these roofing sheets and managed to rebuild their homes through them. Moreover, these sheets were placed tactfully yet also flexibly, in such a way that they could be easily removed and reused once they moved to their permanent residences.

## Roshi Landslides

In the previous year, Nepal faced an increase in landslides and floods, due to the country's topography, geology, climate, and socio-economic conditions. On September 26, 2024, heavy rainfall caused significant damage to communities near the Roshi River. In Panauti alone, 20 lives were lost, 500 homes were destroyed, and 713 houses were damaged.

We supported 40 households in Roshi Municipality wards 10 and 11—and helped them build temporary shelters, prioritizing those who had completely lost their homes. We did not only distribute roofing sets, we also provided the following materials: bamboo, saw, bamboo wires, door sheets, hammers, and nails. While it was quite challenging to reach the victims due to the village's location, we still pulled through and helped these families.

## Nepal Flood

One more rain-induced disaster is flooding. In Lekharka, Shailung Municipality—27 homes have been destroyed, and 100 families have been affected. Many villagers were also displaced. Despite the citizen's need for help, they were overlooked by local authorities.

As a response, we provided 27 families with roofing materials. It was also quite a challenge to reach these communities because of the undeveloped roads, but our 9-hour drive was worth it!







# YOU CAN BE INVOLVED TODAY

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Donate through our website at [www.captivating.org](http://www.captivating.org) and receive a tax-deductible receipt for donations from Australia, the US, New Zealand, or Hong Kong.

Help spread the word and share these projects with your family, friends, and business networks.

If you have any query regarding this report, please contact [kayla@captivating.org](mailto:kayla@captivating.org).



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