

Simply Captivating

June 2014

AN UPDATE ON THE WORK OF
CAPTIVATING INTERNATIONAL

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Nepal

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Welcome to another half-yearly update. We can never believe how quickly 6 months can go by. We know everyone feels the same way, so we appreciate you taking a few minutes from your busy schedule to catch up on the work of Captivating in the world. Firstly, and always, THANK YOU so much for your financial and volunteer support this past period. For yet another year, our footprint in the world of poverty has grown, and we have been able to help more desperate children and families thanks to your ongoing and consistent willingness to give us your support. There are literally thousands of great charities operating in the world, and we are so honored that you have chosen to support us.

In this update, you will read of our growing work in China, Nepal and Kenya. All three locations have had significant growth in the number of children we are trying to positively impact. As you will read, the clear trend of Captivating is towards sustainable solutions that will end poverty for a family (and their children), however, there are still many times we come across a child where the only answer is getting them back into school or into emergency care. We want to remain open to helping both options. We are thrilled to welcome new program partners and well as new corporate sponsors this period. We are thankful for your work, support, promotion and encouragement. Finally, we are truly blessed as a still relatively young organization to have such a broad base of support. This newsletter goes to close to 3,000 people - many of whom are families around the world still supporting our work with regular giving - both financial and as volunteers at our fundraising events. We are indeed privileged to have you - many of you have been with us since we started this work six or more years ago.

As this newsletter goes to print - we pause to think of all the things we have been blessed with. Much of this is due in large part to being born where we were born, and having the parents we have. Tonight, far too many children and families - people as talented and capable as you or I, lie trapped in a world of poverty and injustice that they cannot solve without help. Our job and purpose is to step into this GAP - make a way of escape. It's absolutely possible. Let's journey together. Let's help children and their families "reach out for a better tomorrow".



Andrew & Julie Colquhoun - Founders
CAPTIVATING INTERNATIONAL



CAPTIVATING NEPAL

P02

Captivating
Nepal

OUR FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

2014 Plans – Partners - Potential



HELP US STOP GIRLS BECOMING SEX SLAVES THIS YEAR

The statistics are horrible. Our partners believe that in excess of 15,000 – 20,000 Nepalese women and children (mostly girls) will be tricked into crossing the border into India or China chasing the promise of a better life. Their reward will be enslavement, gang rape, prostitution, or being killed to support the ruthless body part industry. All of us have the capacity to bring life changing hope to these women and children.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING THESE PAST 6 MONTHS

At an extremely practical level, we can prevent catastrophe for many of these women and children. By implementing the following three programs, girls are being intercepted in the very act of being trafficked. It is saving their lives. This is being achieved through the following strategies.



2. RESCUE Over 40 girls have been saved so far in the process of being trafficked cross border. They were intercepted in the very act of being trafficked for this sex trade. Where possible, cases will be filed by attorneys against offenders.



1. PREVENTION Awareness through education is critical. Prevention is always better than cure. Here's what we are doing in 2014:

Stopping them at the border – So far this year our partners have intercepted and interviewed over 2,000 women and children at Captivating funded border monitoring stations. Our aim is to interview over 4,000 women this year. Although most were free to proceed cross-border, this doubles as a valuable education exercise for them about the dangers. For others, however, see 2: Rescue.

Education through Radio – We are fully funding the running costs of a Radio Station specifically established to educate Nepal on the problems of trafficking.

Education – Schools and Communities – Presentations are being made to schools and women's groups in 19 high risk districts; 20,000 flyers have been distributed; 50 bulletin boards erected.

3. REHABILITATION

Rescued victims receive counselling, emotional support, the re-building of confidence in themselves and humanity. Most are reunited with their families. For those who cannot return to families, further support is provided by our program partners in the form of schooling, foster homes, or skill development so they can support themselves.



"I grew up in one of the Badi prostitute communities in West Nepal. In these communities all females are prostitutes and all teenage girls are sold into brothels in India or the Middle East. One day when I was 13 years old I was away from everyone cutting grass when I was approached by a stranger who offered me a good job if I would go with him. I thought how privileged I was to be offered this work and I gladly followed."

My life from that time on was one huge nightmare. I have been sold seven times and have worked in a number of brothels in India. I have two sons. In 2012 I was back in Nepal and came to know some of the folk involved with the 3 Angels Nepal rescue operation".

Her life is so different now. She works to help other women trapped within prostitute communities find a way of escape and hope.



OUR PROGRAM PARTNERS

Captivating International has teamed up with Tiny Hands Nepal taking their successful Nepal/Indian border monitoring model and expanding it along the Nepal/China border. We are proud to have the support and partnership of Australian based International Children's Care with this program expansion.

Captivating International is partnering with 3 Angels Nepal (3AN) to expand their border monitoring and community intervention work into Central/Eastern Nepal. Captivating is also fully underwriting the operating costs of a nationwide radio strategy aimed at making a significant dent in this pandemic problem. We are also proud to be in partnership with Australian based charity – Asian Aid for this program.



I WANT TO HELP – WHAT NOW?

Great. We'd love your partnership. Contact us today by emailing: nepal@captivating.org

WESTERN CHINA



SGVTS – Continuing to support our partner LOVEQTRA in the care and safety of 100+ girls – operating the girls home and school at full capacity.



The 11 teachers at the SGVTS moved into their **new accommodation** – rooms built by Captivating. Also, an **improved heating system and urgent building repairs** has helped ease winter for everyone.

33 Girls have now left the SGVTS and are studying in advanced schooling opportunities throughout China. Some examples: two girls are at a professional dance school; two girls received full scholarships to an English school; and three girls have started a combined work/study program as their first step towards independence. Two girls are in medical school with another two being added this year. One girl has started full-time employment in Guangdong.



The SGVTS is starting to become famous around China. They won a regional dance competition gaining the attention of officials. They are now officially recognized as the only performing King Gezas Opera Girls Dancing Troupe. This has opened the doors to increased support for them from within China.



The SGVTS Tea House and Guest House is now equipped with a new pizza/fast food kitchen. Several “copy-cat” Tea-Houses have been erected in the same town, so profits from this business is not as great as hoped. While competition for business is challenging, the girls are learning real life lessons on managing, marketing, and working in the hospitality and restaurant business. These skills will help them in all kinds of real work environments.



Project visits: the classrooms and dining rooms are now completed. The girls are very happy to have somewhere to eat during the cold winter months.



Captivating Shenzhen's Gala event October 2013.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS

We are thrilled to report we delivered on ALL of our 2013 plans and more. What amazing sponsors and donors we have. Here are some highlights:



In Sichuan Province, children from 58 families are tonight saying, "No more butter & kerosene lamps, sore eyes, and headaches. Tonight I will study longer". We were thrilled to have PCH International fully fund the Budu Village Solar Panel Project and help this whole village get on the road to a better future (see more on this story below).



Book Project for Wenle Orphanage, books and materials provided to improve student's literacy and education quality and to motivate students to increase their learning and to widen their knowledge. Over 300 children were very excited to receive these special gifts.



74 families received a Captivating funded Piggan and Piglet (baby sow). The purchase of helium piggies were a big hit with our guests at the 2013 Captivating International Gala & Auction, but the real success was the villagers getting the start they needed to generate CASH income through this business opportunity.



SOLAR PANELS bringing light and hope.

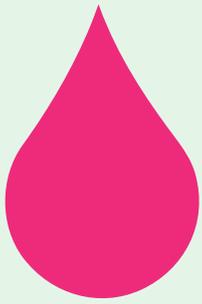
The aim of this project was to provide a sustainable electric supply solution to an impoverished village whereby villagers save money on fuel expenses and increase consistency of the county electric supply. Most importantly, this project now allows children to study later into the evening. It removes the

poor health effects of kerosene and butter lamps, and even enables the occasional watching of TV to keep the villagers up-to-date with things that are happening around China. Our thanks to PCH International for their full sponsorship of this project.



The year has been filled with wonderful stories of generosity by so many donors from around the world. Special thanks to Ken Whalen, Lynn & Gustavo Velez for their incredible generosity (now in it's 6th year). And to the hard working auction committee and volunteers who make the Annual Shenzhen Charity Auction happen each year at the Futian Shangri-la. Hours of work results in so many lives being saved.





2014 – Another year of EXPANSION



This year Captivating will expand our work in Western China with several new programs.

We need to raise RMB 2.8million (US\$450k) to bring hope to MANY more children waiting for their opportunity.

THE SENG GIRLS VOCATIONAL SCHOOL & HOME (SGVTS) RMB 1.5million (US\$240k)

Operating Costs & On-Site Education – RMB 1 million (US\$161k)

We will continue our 6th year of supporting our partner LOVEQTRA through our funding of the daily running costs of the home and school. 105 girls will have a safe place to call home and access to on-site schooling up to Grade 6. Our funding accounts for close to 90% of total costs.

Vocational Development – RMB 500k (US\$81k)

In excess of 40 graduating girls from the SGVTS will be continuing (or commencing) advanced learning opportunities across China this year. This year we will also be funding three NEW vocational programs for girls at the SGVTS:

- **A 2 Year COOKING PROGRAM AT THE SGVTS (RMB 27k/US\$4.5k; Setup; Annual running costs RMB 23k/US\$3.7k)**
This on-site SGVTS Cooking program will train 10 girls in the art of cooking. Experienced chefs will teach them on how to cook nutritiously for their future families, as well as how to one day run their own restaurant.
- **A 2 Year TAILORING COURSE AT THE SGVTS (RMB 17k/US\$2.7k; Setup; Annual costs of RMB34k/US\$5.5k)**
This on-site SGVTS Tailoring course will train 5 girls now to tailor and sew clothes. In this region, most people do not buy ready-made clothing, rather, each goes to a tailor. They will be taught how to run their own tailoring business.
- **FURNITURE & POTTERY PAINTING PROGRAM (RMB150k/US\$24.2k over 3 years)**
Situated 300kms from the SGVTS, this existing vocational program will teach 5 girls how to paint and decorate furniture and pottery using intricate designs. Popular in Qinghai, this 3-year program will also teach them how to produce pottery items and carve picture frames and other items.

CAPTIVATING will also be taking on several NEW PROGRAMS this year:



NEW - A CAPTIVATING CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM (RMB 110k/US\$17.7k)

This annual program will train 25 high achieving college girls how to Program Manage development initiatives for the poor. We will excite these “future leaders” to make a difference for desperate children of the world with their careers. 5 of the best girls will win non-profit internships. 5 of the best project submissions will be implemented by Captivating.



NEW – SOLVE A WATER CRISIS FOR A REMOTE VILLAGE (RMB360k/US\$58k)

92 families and their 115 school age children, as well as a local boarding school (200+ children) will get connected to running water. Currently, children spend several hours a day out of school collecting water. For some, this is a 3.5km journey. Many suffer health issues from dirty water, dehydration or living unhygienically due to inadequate washing. This project brings huge relief, income producing options for the village, and will keep kids in school longer.



NEW – HOME BUSINESS SOLUTIONS FOR SINGLE MOTHERS (RMB190k/US\$30.6k)

Through this project, 40 of the poorest single mothers over 4 villages in remote rural locations will receive the gift of animals, training or other home business solutions that will help them generate sustainable annual income. Beneficiaries will be required to “give back” by using part of their earnings to fund the education of 40 village children who have dropped out of school.



NEW – HEALTH, HIV & INFANT MORTALITY PROGRAM (RMB375k/US\$60.5k)

Over 1,000 people including 200 expectant mothers from 10 villages in Southern and Eastern Qinghai will receive three days of health training on critical health topics, a free health inspection and minor treatment. With training provided by Xining medical professionals, this program aims to address high infant mortality rates, educate on women’s issues and infectious diseases not normally discussed as part of the culture. Visiting doctors will also see other pressing needs specific to children in these village communities.



NEW – Education Scholarships & Medical Intervention (RMB265k/US\$42.7k)

Captivating will be involved with 15 new villages this year through the NEW projects listed above. We anticipate there being unforeseen needs in these villages and want to have the Financial Aid ready and available for direct intervention.

SOUTHERN CHINA



Guizhou: The past 6 months has seen continual development of this program with our on-the-ground partner, Heifer China. To recap, 153 families (designated as being from one of the poorest regions in Guizhou) received training and sustainable gifts/solutions to help them increase their ongoing annual incomes. These gifts did not come free. The agreement was for these families to eventually pay back their Captivating "loan" enabling the same benefit and support to then be passed on to another impoverished family. That started just on two years ago, and exciting for us to report is that our first families have now begun to repay IN FULL their initial gifts. In a report just in we have confirmation that 50 new families are in the process of receiving their sustainable gift/solution. Again, this is in the form of a "loan" which they will repay in 2 to 3 years time. The cycle then continues again. We are excited for two reasons: (1) more families are being helped by this program started back in 2012; and (2) it means that many of the original families have been successful at increasing their family incomes. We want to especially thank our dedicated group of over 80 individual donors who are standing behind this program with regular monthly or annual donations. You know who you are, and we are very grateful for your support. It's great to report that things are on track.



Wu Dong Ni is one of the local farmers in Daxi village. They care for their 5 children and parents at home. Their oldest son is mute and deaf.

The couple works really hard from morning till night. During the drought season they hardly make ends meet and they struggle with poverty in all its hopelessness and brutality. In 2013 April, Wu Dong Ni joined the Captivating Guizhou project. He received RMB 5000 seed money to start his animal husbandry business. He was equipped with related training provided by the project. After one year, he began to see the benefits from his business. Currently, he raises 4 pigs, 6 chickens and 8 geese which is a huge improvement from the past. The couple hope that they can earn extra money through his business and be able to bring their son to the big city to visit a doctor in the hope of getting a cure for his hearing problem.

Yang Linfang is 40 years old, single, and lives with his mother and two handicapped brothers. The family joined the Captivating project earlier this year and got 5500 yuan as initiative money. They bought a cow and three pigs. At the end of the year the family sold nine piglets and got a profit of 3500rmb (US \$600).

Linfang's mother plants some vegetables at home to support the household as well and she hopes her son Linfang will get married soon so that they have an extra pair of hands to help at the home. Although it is hard, there is always hope. We believe that through their own efforts, Yang Linfang family's life will be better and better.



Project Eden: There's never a dull moment at Project Eden. These past 6 months have seen several girls starting a work experience program, others progressing in their Chinese education program, and another entering full-time employment in a cafe/restaurant. We also, sadly, said farewell to two volunteers who have been with this program for the past 12 months - Ashley and Drew. We'll really miss you guys and can't thank you enough for everything you've done for this project.

We are also thrilled to welcome a new sponsor to Project Eden - CHEVRON. What a huge thing this is for us. CHEVRON now underwrites all those costs that keep Eden's infrastructure and running costs going. In addition to CHEVRON, Eden still receives regular support both financially and with volunteers from Treasures of Hope as well as several other local businesses who donate rice, oil, teachers and volunteers. Together, all this support ensures Eden's future is financially secure.

We mentioned above "never a dull moment". Just when things were looking comfortable for a strong finish to the schooling year, mid May saw torrential rain burst the banks of several rivers in the region with the result being shoulder-high waters flowing into several ground floor apartments at Eden. Our thanks for so many from the local community, local police officers and officials who are so supportive of this program, Treasures of Hope and to the whole team at Eden for working so hard to save whatever they could. Three weeks later Dale and Cyndi report that although there is still a lot of clean-up and repair work being done, things are almost back to normal again. For us who sit in the Captivating office, our hats go off to Dale and Cyndi who tirelessly support and serve girls providing hope and a future to every girl who comes through their gates. They are indeed the real-deal to us and inspirational in every way.



CAPTIVATING KENYA

P07

Captivating
Kenya



It's been an exciting 6 months of development for our expanding work in Kenya. As mentioned in our last newsletter, we now have two projects, and two project partners, assisting orphans, single mothers and foster families in the county of Kisii. Here's how both projects are currently positioned:

THE KISII KIDS CARE HOME (KKCH) – Local partners, Stevenson and Damaris, continue to meet the daily needs of over 40 children under their care. Apart from their 7 biological children, all the other kids are orphans who had no other place to go following the death of their parents from AIDS. All kids are in school and working together as one big family. The daily challenges of this program are difficult with every day bringing new issues for Stevenson and Damaris as they raise 40 kids. However, what is clear is happy kids are everywhere at this project. They all know how lucky they are.

Captivating funds 80% of the total operating and schooling costs of this program, thanks to the incredible support of a family on the Gold Coast Australia, and from those of you out there that sponsor some of these children. **Currently, 11 of the 40+ kids have sponsors**, so we are hoping others can partner with this small funding group to secure the future of this program for the next few years.

Finally, we are still working with Stevenson to look for ways of sustainably helping the funding challenges of the KKCH. Our chicken business trialed last year has not worked as planned, so we are exploring other options. We hope that one day the KKCH does not need our support and involvement. However, at this point in time, we have lots of work to do.



THE CAPTIVATING ORPHANS & FOSTER-FAMILIES POVERTY FUND – We are in our 5th month of trialing this new initiative in partnership with the African Community Development Fund (ACDF). This program is focused on ensuring orphans get into or remain in stable foster family solutions. So long as a family has an orphan in their home and struggling to survive, or is indicating they desire to look after one in the future – then they qualify for a small business loan from Captivating/ACDF. To date, we have 72 families in this program with several already showing economic improvements. The majority of these families are single mothers who are already caring for an orphan child but finding life incredibly difficult. We are encouraged to now expand this program up to 200 families/clients and then re-assess the outcomes. Our thanks to key donors who have made this initial trail and expansion possible – Judene & Scott, Nick & Sue, and Leanne and Stephen. You are all heroes to us here at Captivating.



BEFORE - This is Flora and her two fostered children - Michael and Jeremy. After she had got married she was given these children when they were toddlers to take care of. Their parents were dying from HIV/AIDS and none of the relatives were willing to care for them. Flora's heart broke for these two boys. Flora is a small scale business lady farming maize to sell at the market. She was struggling from day to day to make ends meet. She knew the future was stable only if she could expand her business but she had no extra capital to do this. Captivating/ACDF took up the case and she joined the program.

Flora with her customers and Wesley (ACDF project officer).

Flora giving thanks to Everlyne for the Captivating support.

TODAY – Flora previously hired a plot of land and planted maize. She has been harvesting around 10 sacks of maize. Upon joining the program, she has improved the infrastructure and soil quality of this plot and expects to harvest around 16 sacks this season. She is also buying maize in bulk from other farmers at Ksh 3,000 per sack. She then on-sells this sack after cleaning and bagging it for Kshs. 3,800- 4,000. Averagely she makes a profit of Kshs 900 per sack. In a month she can sell 6 sacks making a profit of US\$67 in the month. With the average cost of feeding, clothing and schooling a child around \$50 a month, this helps her financial situation greatly.

Flora is so grateful for the support she is getting from Captivating. She is pictured above shaking hands with Everlyne – Captivating's Regional Program Manager in Kisii, Kenya.



New Micro-Finance client stories

This is Mary Monda and her adopted son Juma. His biological mother was Tanzanian who married a Kenyan man after Juma was born. His step-father was a drunkard. Juma's mother later gave birth to another child but both the mother and baby died. Juma ran away from his step-father who treated him badly and became a street boy. When Mary first met Juma she chased him away. Being a street boy she was naturally scared. But one day Mary was coming home from the market and she found Juma seated at the roadside dirty and starved to death. She told the boy to go to the river, wash himself and come home with her. Juma is now 11 years old and has been staying with Mary these past 4 years. Mary has joined Captivating's micro-finance program in an effort to stabilize her financial situation in order to continue to give good care and schooling opportunity to Juma.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND SHENZHEN



KIDZ WITH HEART 2014:

"What happens when you throw 270 kids plus their parents, 170 volunteers and the Captivating International team together at the 2014 Kidz with Heart Mini Olympics? A day full of fun and competition! Rain or shine - It's a perfect family day!" Check out www.captivatingkidz.org



VISIT TO SHENZHEN: Just imagine the expression on our new friend and colleague's face from Kenya when she walked the streets of Shekou for the first time. In fact, Everlyne's beautiful expressive face was "Priceless" each time we introduced her to a new food in China. Meeting the Captivating Shenzhen team and planning the Kenya vision was an integral part of her visit.



VOLUNTEERS are the heart and soul of any great organization because they bring a fresh approach and energy to the projects and events they undertake. However, the real volunteer heroes are the ones who can rally their group together by creating an air of calm efficiency through the calamity of ideas, suggestions, and execution of any event. Thank you to Alena Bednarova who coordinated 170 volunteers and Claire Taylor and her team for the recent Kidz With Heart Mini Olympics. Thank you in advance to Lynn Velez and Dana Milne who are overseeing the volunteer planning committee for the 6th Annual Captivating Gala & Auction. Save the date - October 11, 2014



About Captivating International

Captivating International is a registered charity of Hong Kong (No. 91/9723). In Australia, we operate in partnership with two Australian registered and certified agencies - International Children's Care (ABN 57146287274.), and Asian Aid. In the US we operate in partnership with Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc (FOHKC), a 501(c)(3) registered charity (ID No: 30-0136665).

We can provide tax deductible receipts if you donate from:

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We can accept donations from: ANYWHERE

Can you help us help others?

"the habit of giving only enhances the desire to give"

— Walt Whitman, poet, 1819-1892



Looking for more info on Captivating?

Our Website

www.captivating.org

Be sure to check out our BLOG section which usually has a new MONTHLY story for each project.

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CAPTIVATING INTERNATIONAL

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