

Newsletter February 2021

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2021. We look forward to a successful year! We have been busy, but somewhat nervously, planning fundraising activities to support our programs and look forward to seeing you all again at future events. Thankyou for your continued support over the past year through sponsorships and donations. This support has enabled us to meet all of our commitments and provide the support required to keep the students in education in some form during the pandemic. We have also been able to provide funds for the Digital Hub project.

Nepal Update

The situation in Nepal is still serious, but our team reports that life is back to normal almost as if COVID 19 did not exist. Our team continues to implement COVID safe practices in all interactions with the program.

Schools and colleges have all re-opened with face to face classes and our students have resumed their studies.



FESSHIP Program Report.

All of our students have returned to Kathmandu and resumed their studies. They have either begun new sessions, are completing final exams, or awaiting results from delayed exams to progress further.

Thankyou to Deekshak and the team for the support provided to the students and their families over the lockdown. Food parcels, regular welfare check and monitoring phone calls, tutorial support and just being available when needed, all contributed to keeping the students engaged in their studies. Without this dedication and support this report would have been very different. Thankyou.

Student Snapshot

Shrinkhala (17) We have supported Shrinkhala to complete years 11 & 12. Her family faced great hardship during lockdown through job loss. Shrinkhala recently received her final year 12 results which were outstanding. We are in awe of what she was able to achieve despite the challenges she faced. Shrinkhala has been recommended for scholarship renewal and is currently investigating colleges to begin her Bachelor Studies in Business Management, once again with FONAI support. We are excited to continue to be part of Shrinkhala's educational journey.



Sushant (16) Sushant is FONAI's longest term scholarship recipient. He has been supported by FONAI since 2014 when he was a year 6 student at DMUK orphanage. During lockdown and after completing Year 10, Sushant returned to his village in remote Nepal, moving between his step families who were severely impacted by the lockdown. Deekshak managed to make contact with a local NGO to provide much needed food supplies to the family. Sushant, a talented student and sportsman, was unable to continue his education in his village and returned to Kathmandu last month.

He was recommended for scholarship renewal and has just started his Year 11 studies at Sagarmartha College, He is living at the College hostel.

Saugat (21)- supported with assistance from the Rotary Club of Lindisfarne.

Saugat is now in his third year of a Bachelor of Developmental Finance. The team describes Saugat as inspirational and we agree! He was recently awarded National Volunteer of the Year 2020 Award for his work with visually impaired students. Saugat is in the second year of FESSHIP scholarship support.



Prachandra (18) has been on scholarship for the past 3 years, successfully completing Years 11 & 12, and is now in his second year of Bachelor in Computer Application. He is a serious student and living in a hostel near the college after returning from his village where he taught local students during the lockdown.

Canopy Nepal Digital Learning Hub Project

Canopy's project to provide all scholarship students in all it's programs with digital devices is well under way. Interviews and MOU's have been conducted and signed with all prospective recipients. Infrastructure for software is complete. Laptops arrived from Hong Kong this week. Seven FESSHIP students are part of this program. Inductions and training are underway. Congratulations to Mohit and the team on this wonderful achievement!



Self Employment through Education Program Update.

Completion of the current SEEP program has been deferred until May 2021.

Fundraising.

We are starting 2021 fundraising cautiously with an online Easter raffle. Future plans include a Gin sales drive, a movie night and revival of our popular Nepali Dinner, COVID safe of course!

ON-LINE EASTER RAFFLE. DRAWN MARCH 26 2021

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters we have many great prizes to help celebrate your Easter holiday!

Prizes:



- Woolmore's Fine Food Gift Basket
- Barossa Farmer's Market Gift Basket
- South Seas Books Gift Basket
- Emmaline's Gift Basket
- Nepali Gift Basket
- Fonai Wine Packs
- Plant



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