



Newsletter

May - July 2018



Namaste to our friends and supporters around the world.

The spring and summer time is always one of the busiest for Umbrella, with exams for the children and young people meaning a lot of hard work for them, and also for our staff team, who have to manage the children graduating from programs and moving into others, or moving on from Umbrella care. It is also the end of the Nepali financial year, which means a lot of work behind the scenes for our finance team.

We are delighted to report that the young adults we spoke about in our last newsletter, who had just moved into foster care, have all settled well and are enjoying life with their new families. There have been a lot of changes for them, but all seem to be happy and are working hard and studying well for their Grade X exams. Also, following our second office move in two years, the Umbrella staff team are also enjoying being settled in their new locations.

On a personal note, I have been in this position for nearly 2 years now, and it has been a pleasure getting to know and work with so many wonderful people: our donors, supporters, volunteers and friends all over the world - you all make Umbrella a great place for kids to grow and develop, and a great place to work! So thank you all for your continued support and dedication.

As we move into Autumn, we hope for a smooth few months during the main festivals in Nepal. October is one of the best times to visit Nepal, so we hope to see a few of you out here! We will be working hard on the preparation of a completely new project for Umbrella, courtesy of our friends at ONGD-FNEL, and I look forward to sharing details about this with you all in the next newsletter.

With gratitude,

Our Recent Rescue:

An update from Reintegration Officer Ekta

Umbrella's reintegration officer Ekta has been searching for the families of 21 children that were rescued from a poorly run orphanage in June. Over the past two months, she travelled to two districts in Nepal with two of her colleagues. Firstly, she made the journey to Gorkha district with Jayram, where the two of them spent 12 days tracing families and conducting family assessments. Travelling around Gorkha was difficult because of the monsoon season, and some days they had to walk for 5 hours between villages. The second family tracing visit was in the district of Lamjung, and Ekta and Dinesh spent 5 days searching and completing their assessments. According to Ekta, It was a little bit easier in Lamjung as the most they had to walk was 3 hours in one day, and the local Government authorities also assisted them with locating the families and providing key information. She also shared that it was good working with Jayram and Dinesh, as depending on where they were, some people were more comfortable talking to someone of the same gender.



Our reintegration officer Dinesh gathering information from local people.

Throughout the search, Ekta found the families and local people very welcoming,

however, it was difficult to find places to stay in some remote areas and they had to rely on the kindness of strangers to host them for a night. This was not always a comfortable experience, as many of the homes leaked from the monsoon rain, and there was very little space to sleep.



Walking through villages during monsoon season

Family tracing can be very challenging, and Ekta and the team had very little information to begin tracing the families with. In some cases, they only had the father or mother's name, and a vague location of where the children are from. When first arriving in the district, the first place they visited were the local Government offices, where the officials helped to provide information and different contacts that may know the families. They then travelled to what they hoped was the right village, and began talking with the local people to gather further information.

One case was particularly difficult as Ekta and Dinesh had only the name of the father to go by, which was a very common name. This made the process of locating the family of the boy very difficult, and it eventually came to light that both of his parents had unfortunately passed away. However, they were able to find the aunt and other family members.



Talking with family and community members

Carrying out family assessments is tough, not just physically but also emotionally. This was Ekta's first time carrying out family assessments, as previously she had only monitored families of children who were already reintegrated. Ekta shared that it was hard to meet the families of the children from the orphanages. There were a lot of feelings from the families and the entire communities when they found them, many cried and just wanted their children to be brought back to them. It was obvious that these families want their children back but cannot provide for their basic needs. Ekta shares, "It is hard to let go of all the feelings and to stop thinking about the children and their families, but it is something that you have to learn to do. You must learn to disconnect sometimes, otherwise it is too hard mentally".



Ekta (Reintegration Officer)

All the family assessments have now been completed, and we were able to trace the family members of all the children.

An Incredible Year for SEE Results!

Twenty-five Umbrella youth sat their SEE examinations earlier this year (the hardest school exams in grade 10), with 17 youth achieving a grade of B or higher! This is a fantastic result, especially to the 8 students who achieved the overall result of A. They have now enrolled in their courses for the final 2 years of school, in different faculties such as Humanities, Science & Management. Congratulations to all the youth for



completing their SEE! They have now moved into our Next Step Education Programme, where we will support them for the next 2 years.

"Dear Volunteer..."

We recently created an animation in partnership with Forget Me Not to raise awareness about the negative impact volunteering in an orphanage can have on children, and how it can also contribute to child trafficking. With nearly 10,000 views, this animation has travelled far and sparked a dialogue in many countries. If you haven't watched it yet, you can [here](#)!

Thank you to Go Philanthropic Foundation for their generous funding in support of this project.



Upcoming Events!

Yoga in the Park - 2nd September, 2018

Join us in Phoenix Park, Dublin for our Yoga in the Park fundraiser, hosted by past volunteer Sarah. All levels are welcome!

There will be a raffle held after the class with exciting yoga prizes up for grabs!
€10 donation to attend the class.

Email Darren at irishoffice@umbrellanepal.org for more information.



The Annual Umbrella 7's Canada Rugby Tournament! September, 2018



EARLY-BIRD TOURNAMENT
SIXTH ANNUAL - 2018
UMBRELLA 7's CANADA

University of Toronto Scarborough



BOYS - SENIOR & JUNIOR - Friday, September 21, 2018
GIRLS - SENIOR & JUNIOR - Friday, September 28, 2018

LOCATION:

University of Toronto Scarborough, Lower Fields,
130 Old Kingston Rd, Toronto, ON M1E 3J5

COST:

\$200 per team

FORMAT:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| - iRB 7's Rules | - Rugby Canada Sanctioned |
| - Rugby Ontario endorsed | - Certified ATs and referees |
| - 7 minute halves | - Free parking |
| - 1 minute half times | - Guaranteed four games |
| - Round robin format | - Championship banners for winners |

The tournament is to raise awareness of the work done by the Umbrella Foundation with trafficked and displaced children in Nepal, as well as promoting high school rugby 7's in Canada. Profits from running the tournament will be donated to The Umbrella Foundation Nepal.

www.umbrellanepal.org

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Thank you..

- To our friends in Dublin who made it along to our Trivia night earlier this month! It was a great evening and reunion for many, and we raised over €800 on the day.
- Kasia Pearce (EGIS Qatar) for your generous clothing donations!
- Marion Megannety and her family for hosting another wonderful coffee morning in support of Umbrella.
- The students of Wellington High School, and Bharat Pancha, for their generous cash donation of \$450 NZD, as well as hand knitted clothing and other donations for Umbrella's reintegrated children!

- Kit Barnes for your recent donation, and to Alice Wong from The Umbrella Trust of Hong Kong for your regular visits and donations.
- Ross Ainsworth for your generous donation of £500!
- Thank you to our friends at Terenure College, especially Brid, Emer, and the boys from the class of 2015 & 2018 for visiting us this June. It was great having you here, and a special thank you for the generous fundraising you have done for us over the years.



**Thank you from your friends at
The Umbrella Foundation**

**We look forward to updating you with more exciting
news next quarter!**



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