

#### Background of organization:

Asha Nepal is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) working with women and children whose lives have been disrupted by the horrific act of gender-based violence in the form of trafficking, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, domestic slavery, and severe domestic violence, since 2008 A.D. Our key area of focus is the victims of cross-border and internal trafficking into the sex industries of India and Nepal. Asha Nepal works to improve the lives of women and children towards self-sufficiency. As a natural extension, Asha Nepal has expanded its reach to the related areas of domestic violence, rape and sexual abuse, HIV/AIDS, and child labour/domestic slavery. Asha Nepal aims to support violence affected families to rebuild their life socially, emotionally, and economically enabling them to enjoy life of safety, independence and dignity as valued member of their community and society.

Asha Nepal believes and operates in the value that every life is equally valuable; therefore change is possible by changing one person at a time. It operates by seeing holistic picture although major investment is in one person to make that person strong parallelly we also work with his/her families to strengthen them as well. Hence strengthening whole family to lead their life smoothly in community. With the aim to break the generational vicious cycle of violence and poverty in the children of survivors of trafficking, rape and gender based violence, and child survivors themselves, Asha provides scholarship support to such children as well. Asha Nepal is providing holistic support to an individual child and his / her family to sustain the reintegration in the community.

#### Introduction of the project:

Asha Nepal believes that education is only vehicle to transform their life. It provides them strength and empowers them to believe in themselves, to see the dreams for future and stop them to drench in to hazardous working situation this project was commenced. With the aim to break the generational vicious cycle of violence and poverty in the children of survivors of trafficking, rape and gender based violence, and child survivors themselves, Asha provides scholarship support to 100 children at one time. Asha envisions that all these children can make informed carrier choice of their own for different life than that of their mothers. Once children are enrolled in this program they are supported till their completion of grade 12 including CTEVT based vocational courses. As Asha works on the basis of individual needs, the support is not limited to schools fees or stationeries, on the basis of individual needs all the educational expenses are covered and children can study in English medium private school and join courses of CTEVE like nursing, physiotherapy and diploma in engineering as well. This is assessed and monitored by the social worker's follow up visits and coordination with the school to track the progress of child. Asha believes that by developing qualified individuals with aims and aspirations of their own they can support their family and community and bring sustainable change. This change can then contribute to develop the nations in whole.

This project complements our overall work, children are their hope for better life and better future and this project directly impacts children's development to become independent individuals. For low income families education is only means to change their future this is well understood by the mothers therefore they are keen to achieve best educational opportunity for their children. These families are already struggling in Kathmandu far from their native village due to violence mostly single mothers to provide basic needs, education or having access to good educational opportunity is luxury. So together with mother's financial capacity and ASHA's support these children are given the platform for education to change their future, to transform their life.

Asha is supporting such children since 2008, Till now 238 children received this support and among them 58 have completed grade 12. Among these children first group of 4 children entered university, two of them joining nursing one is Ba social work and the other after completing Ba majoring in English literature recently secured government job as a school teacher in a government school. This proves that education is a vehicle to transform life. Currently we are supporting 100 children in various level , we are happy to share we have one girl in postgraduate diploma course and one doing MBA.

The support from Nepali American Centre has contributed in providing educational scholarships for the children, who are keen to complete their education.

