



updates:

TRIFC Nepal Dinner Event Success!

On Thursday, September 15, 2011 we had a very successful dinner event to support children and adults with disability in Nepal. We had a fundraising goal of \$10,000 and we blew past that to raise in excess of \$13,000. This gives us the ability to continue the support of our Braille Book Library, our empowerment program for deaf women and our support of blind students with nutritional (food) support. These are just a few of our critical programs that enhance and empower the lives of people with disability in Nepal. ♥

Braille Books to Nepal

We continue to ship more Braille books to our TRIFC/NAWB National Braille Library in Nepal! Boxes and boxes of Braille books have been donated by several State Braille resource libraries here in the USA. ♥

Sponsored Students

We now have 50 students sponsored through TRIFC! 35 students with deafness, 5 students with blindness and 10 students with physical disability. This is due entirely to our sponsors whom we gratefully thank! Marni Wilson is our project coordinator for this program. ♥

trips & treks:

TRIFC/Rotary Nepal Trip - April 2012

In late April, a group of volunteers will travel with Rob and Gina to Nepal. We bond as a group and do hands-on projects while experiencing Nepal's rich culture, customs, scenery and food. If you have an interest in joining the group, please let Rob know ASAP. This is your opportunity to have a life-changing experience while having great fun!

Annapurna Base Camp Trek – Fall, 2012!

How would you like to experience Nepal at an altitude of 13,500 feet! Join us on our 15-day TRIFC 'Ability Trek' next fall. Participants will hike together regularly during the summer in our area to build stamina, teamwork and learn more about Nepali culture, language and food. This will be a challenging and rewarding experience. Contact Rob or Gina for more details.



fun alert:

Host A TRIFC Party!

Throw a **terrific** party to benefit TRIFC and those 'differently-abled' in Nepal!

Add meaning to your next birthday party, family celebration or corporate event by encouraging your guests donate to TRIFC in your honor.

What better gift to give than education, opportunity and empowerment for those in need?



the rose international fund for children

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trifc.org news

Fostering Hope, Compassion and Opportunity
for Individuals with Disability in Nepal

TRIFC wishes you the happiest of holidays!

Ms. Sarita Baniya (Age 12) of Shanti Model Higher Secondary School Class 4 receives a TRIFC gift.



114 Nepali Students with Blindness Receive Backpacks

Thanks to generous TRIFC donors over the past two years, 114 backpacks have been distributed to students with blindness in Nepal! Each sturdy backpack contains a folding white cane, a Braille Slate and Stylus, a Braille watch, Braille math kit, Braille ruler and abacus. These are the basics needed for any student with blindness to be successful in his or her studies. Sadly, many of the BVI (blind/visually-impaired) children in Nepal don't have these critical items. What an opportunity to be able to give the gift of education and empowerment to these kids! ♥

Chess Sets for the Blind at Eastshore Unitarian Church Alternative Gift Fair

We had a wonderful time at Eastshore Unitarian Church's Alternative Gift Fair. We raised almost \$400 to purchase Chess and Checkers sets for Blind/Visually-Impaired (BVI) Children in Nepal. At \$20 per set, we will be able to donate 20 sets to BVI children in Nepal – a place where these kinds of great strategy games, which are both entertaining and educational, aren't usually available. ♥

special thanks:

Our newsletter is made possible by the generous donations of printing from CIS Direct and the expertise of Rani J. Thykkuttathil, our TRIFC Marketing Advisor.



Deaf Women's Empowerment Group

TRIFC program coordinator, Rose Stevens and her good friend Sandie Olsen designed a wonderful greeting card embroidery program that we took to Nepal and introduced to an inspiring group of deaf women. This group of 15 women engaged in two weeks of training and even had a proper graduation ceremony. At graduation, one of the women announced to the group, "I never thought I could learn anything, but I found that I can!" We hope to help these women support themselves and their families with the sale of these beautifully embroidered greeting cards. We also intend to give more life-skills training as we go forward with the program. ♡



TRIFC Funds Provide Light for Deaf School

The Purwanchal Deaf School (where we have 20 sponsored students) had requested funding for an 'inverter' and some funding for sports/games equipment. An inverter is basically a battery and transformer that charges when there is power. When the power goes out, it provides enough battery power for a number of light bulbs and other small electrical equipment. Considering the poor power situation in Nepal, it is a necessity these days. In the Dharan area where the school resides, power can be out 12-20 hours per day during the dry months. So trying to study or do homework without working lights can be difficult. Rechargeable flashlights can help, but they are unreliable for the long-term. ♡

NEW Disabled New Life Centre Building!

After much hard work and fundraising from our partner organization, Nepali Children's Trust in the UK, Disabled Newlife Centre (DNC) inaugurated their new building on Saturday, November 5, 2011 in Kathmandu, Nepal. This building is one of the few true disability-accessible buildings in Nepal and will be the new home for 30 wonderful children.

Nepal cinema superstar, Rajesh Hamal, was the chief guest and gave a moving speech about his involvement with the Rotary Nepal Disability Awareness Campaign. The DNC kids were overjoyed to get to meet Rajesh Hamal. They asked us every time we would visit DNC, "When is Rajesh Hamal coming to visit us?"

Bellevue Rotary has partnered with the Rotary Club of Kopundol to provide many new items for the centre such as beds, physiotherapy equipment and much more. The Rotary International grant total for this matching grant is almost \$20,000! ♡

new board members:



Jackie Garces

Jackie is an Informatics Pharmacist for UW Medicine. Early in her career she worked as a pharmacist for Native American communities through the U.S. Public Health Service.

Jackie first visited Nepal on a trekking trip in 2001 with her husband and a group of friends. She fell in love with the people and the culture, and vowed to return one day to 'give back' by doing volunteer work. She returned in 2006 to Kathmandu and volunteered at a care home for children with disability. She has served as a tutor for the Seattle Public Schools, and more recently, served on the board of the Bo M. Karlsson Foundation, an organization that provides scholarships to young women in Nepal.

Originally from Waipahu, Hawaii, Jackie now resides in Seattle, Washington, with her husband Douglas and their two cats, Bella and Ziggy. She and Doug love spending their time outdoors together. ♡



Rose Stevens

Rose is the program coordinator of our new 'Deaf Women's Empowerment Group' for TRIFC. She developed and implemented TRIFC's first handicraft program for deaf women - creating the marketing strategy and developing retail markets. She believes we all have talents to share and empower others to live their dreams.

Rose is President of RMS Financial Services Inc. and has become a trusted financial advisor and resource for families throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Rose is a Board member of Lakewood Rotary, in Lakewood WA, and serves as World Service Committee Chair. She is also Vice-Chair of Kindness in Action, a 501c-3 promoting children's health and education in remote impoverished areas of the world. She is a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International. Her life has been inspired by the words of Mahatma Gandhi: We must be the change we wish to see in the world. ♡