



February 17, 2009

Dear Dharmik Australia Sponsors and Supporters,

I'm writing this on my last day in Kathmandu after coming one month ago. We have made good progress with the following key achievements:-

- Sponsor feedback process written and implemented at one children's home so far.
- Finances from July-January in detail by category and cost centre with ongoing process in place.
- Financial forecast written until December along with forecast process and staff training.
- Registration of "Dharmik Nepal" as our legal entity in Nepal with Mr. Narayan Shrestha as President. He is our cultural advisor and has been a key part of our team since the beginning.
- Web site update (95% complete) to display details of children's lives and progress on the web site (for Sponsors only).
- A plan to give child feedback to sponsors every three months.
- Creation of needs list documents explaining items which need funding and are outside of the routine budget, so people who wish to help with single donations can choose the project they want to help with. This will be on the web site in due course. It is also useful for visitors to the Kathmandu office.

There is a separate letter coming soon about our first sponsor feedback (information gathering) day at the Sai home. At CCRC all the kids have chicken pox and so the information gathering has been delayed. It is a huge task however our staff and local volunteers have worked brilliantly to execute it for your information; we are so thankful for your patience! Thank you! (it's a squeaky wheel situation I'm sure you know).



I have included this photo of myself with Sumina and Kriti from Sai home here because of a fantastic achievement brought about by your support. This was taken on Sunday when I visited the home and I was amazed that I could chat with them, in English, for half an hour about school and life at the home in general. One year ago they couldn't speak more than "my name is". This is a direct result of changing school last April. This April all the boys are going to the new school as well, and they are very busy (with local volunteer Bachelor of Development students) learning English in preparation. At their current school in one boy's class there are 104 students and in recent times just 4 passed exams.

Our monthly budget is now \$3240 and our monthly sponsor income is \$2000. We are meeting this shortfall (created by the withdrawal of a single large American donor) with cash reserves however we are still seeking 3 sponsors for each child which will create the necessary

cash flow. Some sponsors tripled their contribution after our letter about the cash crisis before Christmas. I am now feeling confident about it because new sponsors are coming forward each week or so. I will be publishing our budget forecast on the web site soon so you can see exactly how the money is spent. Much is done with little funds and your contribution is making a huge and measureable difference to the children's current situation and to their future. All your funds are spent directly in Nepal.

Thank You and Warm Regards,

Mark McIntyre  
President, Dharmik Australia.