

Greetings and Namaste! Welcome to the 17th issue of INF Nepal Updates.

In the month of December, we joyfully celebrated Christmas in all INF Offices across Nepal with patients, staff members, and community. It also became a month to reflect back on our past activities and prepare for the new year and new decade.

Read below for more.

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The birth of Jesus Christ to our world as saviour is the true meaning of Christmas and with this in our heart Christmas was celebrated in all the INF Offices. It reminds us that we can put our hope in the love of God demonstrated so beautifully by coming forth into our world as a baby, "a good news of great joy". This time of year, is such a joyful moment to all the INFers as we prepare to welcome the New Year and New Decade and be thankful to our Lord for all the challenges, opportunities and learnings that were bestowed to us.



### ***A Joyful Christmas for our Patients and Caretakers***

On 17 December Green Pasture Hospital organized a special pre-Christmas celebration to contribute to a joyful experience for the patients and their caretakers during their stay at the hospital. The program was hosted by **Purna Maya Gurung**, Palliative care nurse and as a chief guest Pastor, **Samuel Sangram Rai** shared Christmas greetings and message. A team of doctors, nurses and staff presented the carol singing, dances and play in great enthusiasm and response. A gesture like this makes GPH a special place of healing and hope by making the medical experience rich with joy. Later after the program closure, the patients were also provided with a small gift of love. The program was well received and enjoyed by the audiences and the performers.



### ***Christmas celebration with the staff***

As this was a moment to come together and celebrate, we organised “Christmas Celebration Programme” in a newly inaugurated MPLC building in GP Complex where all staff members from GPH, IIFS, ICO, Pokhara Study Centre [PSC], some other regional offices, expats family, hospital patients, and some invitees from local communities and churches joined us. The programme saw quite an engagement from all the attendees as it had brought all of us under one roof.

The main highlight of the programme was a musical act by the Kids of PSC where they beautifully portrayed the coming of the Lord Jesus through their seamless performance of dance and songs. Well done!





## DRR/CCA WORKSHOP



A four-day-long workshop on “CCA & DRR Inclusive Proposal and Report Writing” was organised for the INF Staff members including Officers, Coordinators and Managers from different departments of INF. As the Climate Change; and Disaster Response and Resilience are the burning issues of today not just in Nepal but in the entire world, this workshop became just the right platform to share and learn from each other. The workshop primarily focused on bringing consistency and uniformity in the proposal and report writing while integrating the CCA and DRR issues with effective Monitoring and Evaluation system also promised everyone to walk the talk in personal and professional life.

## FAREWELL TO DRRD



As INF Nepal’s strategy to integrate the DRR work into Community Programmes, DRRD has officially been phased out as a separate department. The 2015 earthquake saw the formation of DRRD along with the GRACE project, has carried out numerous response and resilience work during the time of natural disasters including the flooding in Banke, Bara, Rautahat, fires in Kapilvastu to name a few. The department has worked very

closely with the local government to formulate the policies and guidelines about the disaster response and resilience and help the local communities get prepared and be the first respondent of the disaster.

Through this department, we have seen professional, compassionate, and capable staff members who have tirelessly helped us reach the people affected by the natural disasters.

## CASH AND VOUCHER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME



A two-day cash and voucher assistance training was organised from 4-5 December. This training gave an overview of how to work on cash and voucher as a humanitarian response during emergencies. The training was facilitated by **Binod Ghimire**. A total of 15 participants from INF Nepal attended the training.

## STUDENTS VISIT FROM NEW ZEALAND



INF New Zealand Director **Sean Marston** took a team of five students from New Zealand to Nepal as a part of their learning and exposure visit to better understand Nepal, life, and culture and what it looks like to engage here. The team also visited GPHRC and saw the hands-on experience of the width and breadth of work of INF on the clinical side. Many of the team members came to Nepal for the first time. We believe a visit like this will help in spreading the work of INF, building long term relationships with supporters outside the country and helps in tourism promotion of Nepal. #VisitNepal2020



## INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY DAY

INF Nepal's Participated in 28th International Day of Persons with Disabilities organized by Ministry of Social Development, Gandaki Province. Similarly, different INF Nepal regional offices also attended and observed the day.



INF Nepal Jumla in coordination with Kanakasundari Rural Municipality observed the 28th International Disability Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> December under the theme of 'Promoting the participation of persons with disabilities and their leadership: taking action on the 2030 Development Agenda'. The rally marched from INF Jumla to Rural Municipality Office. The programme was chaired by **Narbir Rawat** (RM Chairperson). There was meaningful participation of people with disability, RM members and staff, Ward chairperson and community people.

## INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS' DAY



On behalf of INF Nepal, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all the volunteers and expatriate colleagues for your support, invaluable cooperation, and heart for the people of Nepal. We are always indebted to you and your family.

## 16 DAY ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



On 10 December 2019 INF Jumla participated on the 16 days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence with coordination with Rural Municipality [RM] Office under the theme “Orange World: Generation Equality Stands Against Rape”. Gender Focal person from SHGs, Self-Help Group leaders, SHGs members, INF staff government officials and local government representatives attended the rally as a part of awareness and activation. Rally

marched from INF to Rawat Bada and to RM office. Rally then settled into a formal programme at the RM office. Speakers at the program raised the issues on gender violence and how each one can contribute to reducing this social issue.



### STAFF SPOTLIGHT

#### ***Khadga Singh Gurung***

Having served for more than 32 years in GPHRC as Physiotherapist based in GPHRC, **Mr Khadga Singh Gurung** has become an integral part of INF. A permanent resident of Pokhara-10, Ramghat, Mr Gurung is very polite and humble in nature. We are very much thankful for his good nature, professional conduct, and compassionate heart for the patients.

We are deeply saddened by the loss of his beloved younger son **Dr Saurabh Gurung** at the mere age of 24. Please join hands in prayer for the family and pray that God will grant the family the strength to endure such pain. May God bless and comfort the family during this time of grief. Our sincere condolences to the family!



### INTERESTING FACTS

#### **Visit Nepal 2020!**

Government of Nepal is observing the **Visit Nepal Year 2020** this year. With the target to attract 20 lakhs tourists this year. Various campaigns and activities were organised throughout the year in 2019 inside and outside the country promoting this event. Tourism is one of the most important pillars of Nepal's economy which has not been tapped to its full potential.



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