



November 2024 Update

Namaste everyone 🙏

I can't begin to express to all who have participated in Soroptimists' historic Nepal project! What a difference it continues to make halfway around the world! It's hard to believe that this venture can continue to be so successful going on 25 years, but thanks to our hands on liaisons in Nepal and in the U.S. along with Soroptimists and donors continued support and belief in the effort, it continues to make a significant difference in the lives of so many young women who would not have access to education without us.

Our first dormitory, completed in 2001, has served as a "safe place" to over 2500 girls who come from the lower caste, otherwise known as the "Dalit." We have supported them not only to get an education but also providing two full meals a day thanks to Soroptimists' micro-lending program (animal assistance started in 2003 and vital seed in 2013).

We are now excited to know that our girls will be moving into a new improved dormitory soon. This new dormitory will have real windows with bars for safety instead of wood shutters, bathrooms inside the dorm-- instead of having to walk outside to a latrine-- a safe place for the girls to congregate on the roof top, and so much more.

My husband and I visited Thulipokhari (3rd time for me) in October of 2023. It was so heartwarming to meet with our scholarship recipients and we had so much fun singing and dancing with them till late into the evening. We were also fortunate to meet with some of our graduate students (with whom we communicate on social media), the CMC (Campus Management Committee), mothers' groups and to see the how our fund-raising efforts were being used to make progress on the new dormitory.

We had hoped the girls would be moved into the new dormitory by the beginning of the new school year. Unfortunately, due to a terrible monsoon season, some unforeseen health issues and sadly the loss of our Campus Chief Hari's daughter -- there have been multiple delays in the completion. We are currently informed that they hope to have it ready for the girls to move into prior to the end of the year.

Currently, Dr. Purna Subedi (a native of Thulipokhari) and his wife Gyatri are in Nepal. They visited the village after trekking to Mount Everest Base Camp--what an accomplishment! Their visit to the village was extremely emotional for Purna (his last visit was in 2010). He was overwhelmed after seeing the difference Soroptimist has made not only for all the girls, but for his entire village. I look forward sharing much more in my next update. For now, he says the dormitory is “beautiful and the workmanship looks high quality.” He also said the dormitory and its final touches are still being worked on and expected to be completed soon.

A security wall, thanks to the donation of a generous donor, is also going to be built around the dorm to provide additional safety for the girls.

If you or anyone you know is interested in learning more about this project, please email me at monicah8691@gmail.com. It only costs \$300 a year to provide a full scholarship for one young women (housing, books, supplies and 2 meals a day).

Thank you to each and every one of you who continue to participate in and support this project. Soroptimist is truly continuing to make a difference halfway around the world.

Sincerely,

Monica House

Soroptimist International of Sierra Reno



Garden Roof-top



The new kitchen will have running water!



Girls are excited about moving in soon!



Old Dormitory



New Dormitory



Painting the interior of one the bedrooms