Delving into the lives of people living with HIV & HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS

“A world free of stigma & discrimination”
MESSAGE FROM
THE PRESIDENT

I am very pleased to share annual report for Fiscal Year 2018-2019, during which Shanti Foundation was able to save & impact lives of many marginalized and vulnerable people.

Shanti Foundation firmly reflects that an end of HIV is impossible without prioritizing women especially from marginalized & vulnerable group. Since the start of the AIDS epidemic, more than 78 million people have been infected with HIV and 39 million have died. Acquiring HIV no longer means certain death. A person on HIV treatment in a high-income setting now has nearly the same life expectancy as a person who does not have the virus. However, only two out of five people living with HIV have access to antiretroviral therapy. Among people who do have access, great iniquities exist.

The right to health is the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as enshrined in the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. This includes the right of everyone, including people living with and affected by HIV, to the prevention and treatment of ill health, to make decisions about one’s own health and to be treated with respect and dignity and without discrimination.

Everyone, regardless of who they are or where they live, has a right to health and access to justice. Therefore Shanti Foundation focus on ending AIDS as a public health threat not only happen placing these rights at the center of global health, but that quality health care is available, accessible, and affordable for everyone and leaves no one behind.

Sanja Maya Tamang
President
ABOUT SHANTI FOUNDATION

AFTER THE 2015 EARTHQUAKE destroyed many areas of Nepal, a group of emergency volunteers, led by Shanti, noticed there was a need for health related services directed towards women and children. The group of women who started Shanti Foundation wanted to address the safety, protection and prevention of women and children arising from human trafficking and forced internal and external migration. The women, being trafficking survivors themselves, understood the intersections of disability, physical challenges, medical diagnosis, social stigma, discrimination and structural barriers and aimed to create an organization that attuned to the needs of women who were survivors of sex trafficking living with HIV and AIDS. Many of the women who were advocating for the rights of these women and children were illiterate themselves, with no prior knowledge of creating a non-profit organization. After much perseverance, this small group of Nepali women built connections and networks with larger organizations that awarded their dedication and passion with funding for their projects. Since these humble beginnings, Shanti Foundation team continues to advocate for the rights of women and children, ever expanding the demographic of people they work with, evolving with the needs of Nepal.

Shanti Foundation is registered under organization registration Act 2034 of Nepal in District Administration Office, Kathmandu (Regd. No. 2073/05/06-104) and is affiliated with Social Welfare Council under section 13 of the Social Welfare Act, 1992, Nepal (SWC No. 44064) in Kathmandu.

Shanti Foundation is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-religious and non-political organization. It was established by HIV infected and affected women and the HIV related personnel working about the health and safety of vulnerable people. The aim of the Shanti Foundation is to work for the successful reintegration of sex trafficking survivors and HIV and AIDS infected/affected women, youth of all genders, and children through counselling, prevention and protection, treatment, and the development of sustainable livelihoods and economic empowerment. Shanti Foundations vision is a world free of stigma and discrimination where all HIV and AIDS infected/affected women, youth of all genders, and children will lead a life of quality and productivity with equality and freedom in society.

SHANTI FOUNDATION VISION, MISSION, AND OBJECTIVES

VISION
Each person in the world has human rights from birth. Shanti Foundation’s vision is a world free of stigma and discrimination where all human trafficking survivors, HIV and AIDS infected/affected women, youth, and children will lead a life of quality and productivity with equality and freedom in society.

MISSION
• Advocate for the right to health
• Advocate for peace
• Respect and value human dignity and human rights
• Support the empowerment of trafficking survivors, HIV and AIDS infected/affected, vulnerable and high-risk people to
• self-determination
• Work toward a society free of violence, discrimination, and social exclusion
• The promotion of social justice, gender equality and inclusion of all people
• Provide support and services to people living in hard-to-reach communities and districts
• Develop safe, secure, and resilient communities and districts

OBJECTIVES
• To do community based research
• To create awareness and support the prevention of sex trafficking, HIV and AIDS, as well as promote education and treatment of sexual and reproductive health issues
• To provide accessible health care to various communities through health camps
• To rehabilitate, and reintegrate women, youth of all genders, and children.
• To provide emergency shelter and emergency support to those who are in urgent medical need.
• To provide psychosocial counseling, access to health programs and accessible treatment to the target population
• To advocate and lobby for necessary changes to law
• To coordinate and collaborate with national, bilateral and multilateral organizations to reduce gender inequality and for the promotion and protection of human rights
• To develop technical and vocational programs and income generation support leading to the sustainable development of livelihoods for target population
• To collaborate with governmental and non-governmental organizations to provide healthcare and treatment, and to provide basic and necessary nutritional and other supportive materials
CURRENT WORKING DISTRICTS
- Kathmandu
- Bhaktapur
- Lalitpur
- Sindupalchowk
- Ramechhap
- Kavrepalanchowk
- Makwanpur
PREVENTION

927 students sensitized on HIV, human trafficking, cervical cancer, uterine prolapse, and STI

180 community groups, networks, community influencing person; religious leaders, teachers and female community health volunteers sensitized on HIV, human trafficking, cervical cancer, uterine prolapse, and STI

2500 community members at the remote areas of Nepal sensitized on HIV, human trafficking, cervical cancer, uterine prolapse and STI through IEC/BCC materials

3000 community members, government authorities, policy makers sensitized on HIV, human trafficking, cervical cancer, uterine prolapse and STI issues and concerns through various national and international days celebration via conducting rally, street dramas, awareness programmes, informative videos and meetings.

230 HIV test kit provided to the health centers of Ramechhap district in coordination with National Center for AIDS and STD control

TREATMENT

1608 marginalized and high risk people access to HIV testing, cervical cancer screening, uterine prolapse and STIs test including family planning services and free medicine distribution through free health camps in six districts

113 Identified HIV, cervical cancer, uterine prolapse cases brought to Kathmandu (capital city of Nepal) and provided free advance treatment

716 people living with HIV in urgent health need provided treatment support

80 people living with HIV and trafficking survivors provided nutrition support

240 women living with HIV and affected by human trafficking are treated for emotional therapy through monthly basis including

186 women living with HIV and affected by human trafficking provided psychological service to identify their problem and provide necessary counselling service

Results

6837 marginalized and vulnerable populations sensitized

Results

2943 marginalized and vulnerable population were access to required health services
EMPOWERMENT

19 women living with HIV and trafficking survivors provided entrepreneurial training along with seed money for the business start up
10 women living with HIV provided job
20 women living with HIV enabled to advocate on their behalf with government authorities, policy makers, NGOs and relevant stakeholders

Establishment of action research women group of women living with HIV and human trafficking survivors oriented towards the research and advocacy on HIV and human trafficking

ADVOCACY

At the policy level, an eight-point memorandum was presented to the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and National Center for AIDS and STD control during the parliamentary meeting to address the right to health and social justice of people living with HIV

Similarly advocacy with local and provincial government bodies, policy makers, donor agencies and relevant stakeholder at local and provincial level addressing the right to health of the marginalized and vulnerable communities at remote areas of Nepal.

Results 49

women living with HIV and trafficking survivors were made independent

Results

Voice of people living with HIV was addressed from local to central level
INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

65 children from 2 care centers of Bhaktapur brick kiln increased access to quality education through teaching learning materials, classroom management and infrastructure improvement

17 children living with HIV and affected by HIV increased school enrolment by providing financial and educational materials support

Results

82 marginalized children’s at brick kiln and children living with HIV were ensured access to quality education
**WATER AND SANITATION**

**Bhaktapur water brick kiln tests conducted and report presented to the brick kiln owners**

**63 children and labour workers of Bhaktapur brick kiln oriented on hygiene and sanitation and provided with hygiene kits**

**300 students provided with Liquid I.V. (hydration multiplier) that helps prevent dehydration by delivering hydration into your bloodstream faster and more efficiently than water alone**

**COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**ACHIEVEMENT**

- **600 people** were provided with hygienic and prevention supplies at Lalitpur and Ramechap district of Nepal to prevent COVID-19 spread
- **200 women and girls** were provided menstruation hygiene kit at Melamchi and Chautara of Sindhupalchok district to manage their menstruation and their health in a dignified healthy way at the wake of pandemic
- **200 people** were provided the essential medicines for general and chronic diseases demanded by the health department of Sindhupalchok to address priority and emerging health needs due to the COVID-19
- **1625 people** sensitized on the increasing risk of human trafficking, and sexual and gender based violence through push message
- **2 FM radio** focusing on melamchi & chautara, sindhupalchowk were broadcasted spreading the message on the increasing risk of human trafficking, and sexual and gender based violence during covid-19
- **10 trafficking survivors and people living with HIV** identified in need during covid-19 lockdown were given facilitation to legal psychosocial counseling and medication
- **72 peoples living with HIV and AIDS (PLHA)** were provided with food relief package
- **33 children’s living with HIV and AIDS (CABA)** were provided with nutrition support
- **110 labour worker who lost their job** were provided with food relief package
- **63 household** were provided with food package at the Slum Area of Kathmandu
- **50 children’s living with HIV and AIDS** were provided with art and craft materials to ensure that learning continues at home during the COVID-19 pandemic

**Results**

- **363** Children accessed to WASH services
- **3263** people were directly access to basic needs during the COVID-19
Shanti Handicraft is a community of Nepali women living with HIV and trafficking survivors which products are all self-made by themselves. The Shanti Handicraft not only promotes the livelihood of the women living with HIV and trafficking survivors by providing them job opportunities but also contributes for the welfare of other people living with HIV and trafficking survivors. 80% of the earnings is the salary for the women who made the products whereas 10% of the earnings is used as an education support for children infected and affected by HIV and remaining 10% of the earnings is used for emergency health support.
Let me heal and breathe
“HIV take over every human rights”

The systemic discrimination is prevalent even at the health centres. Once I was offered a job at another organization and was employed with them for 3 years. After discovering my HIV status, I was fired from the job, and in addition, I was not paid her 3 months’ salary. Later on, I developed a tumour on her uterus. While at the hospital, I disclosed I was HIV positive and the doctors refused to give me the necessary treatment. They told me to come back in one month. When I returned, they again told me to come back in a few months – this happened for the next three years. After three years, the hospital told me they would not help me because people with HIV are going to die anyways, and that if I was given the surgery, I would die from an infection caused by the HIV.

Due to the untreated tumour, my urine became blocked and my stomach enlarged. I went to the other hospital and they told me I needed an emergency surgery. During the consultation, I disclosed I was living with HIV and the hospital refused to treat me. This is when I came across the Shanti Foundation. I told the Shanti Foundation team everything that I had to go through. Two months later, the hospital reluctantly gave me the surgery but still discriminated against me. The doctors did not want to touch me and would wear 5 gloves on each hand, and I was forced to buy surgery clothes for the doctors. During my time in the hospital, I felt worse than I ever had in the brothel because of the extreme discrimination and refusal to treat my medical needs.

In Nepal, there continues to be so much discrimination against women living with HIV and sex trafficking survivors. However, Shanti Foundation advocated for me. And along with pressure from Shanti Foundation and other organizations, the hospital finally agreed to complete my operation. After 15 days spent in a shelter, I am now fully recovered. Now I am member of the Shanti Foundation and also a team member and co-researcher of action research women group under the Shanti Foundation where we advocate for the people living with HIV and trafficking survivors. I now attend meetings, conferences and presentation of the Shanti Foundation and have also been capable of raising my voices against the stigma and discrimination that I faced during my treatment process in front of the health professionals, policy makers, government authorities and relevant stakeholders.
Geeta Gurung (Name Changed) a women living with HIV started as a member of the Shanti Foundation in its early days. Geeta sharing the vision of Shanti Foundation to empower others women’s like her started volunteering in Shanti Foundation. Later in her 4 years of journey with Shanti Foundation she worked as a project assistant, sexual and reproductive health trainer, co-researcher and now actively working as a social mobilizer in the district office of Shanti Foundation.
FINANCIAL GROWTH OF SHANTI FOUNDATION

- Program cost
- Admin cost

073/074: 577,747.55
074/075: 2,377,597.00
075/076: 5,045,148.50
076/077: 5,497,507.00

(NRS)

Total Income:
- NRs. 1.4 million (2073/074)
- NRs. 2.4 million (2074/075)
- NRs. 6 million (2075/076)
- NRs. 8.6 million (2076/077)

Total Expenditure:
- NRs. 0.7 million (2073/074)
- NRs. 2.7 million (2074/075)
- NRs. 5.5 million (2075/076)
- NRs. 6.2 million (2076/077)