

# NCEFYAN

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEPALESE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND

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## New NCEF Executive Committee Appointed for 2007-2008

On 8/14/2007, the NCEF Board appointed the Executive Committee:  
Chief Executive Officer - Omprakash Gnawali  
Secretary - Steven Lustig  
Treasurer - Hesky Fisher  
Fundraising Officer - Inku Subedi  
Public Relations - Chhitij Bashyal  
Student Selection Officer - Uttam Sharma

## NCEF volunteers in the US meet volunteers in Nepal

Two US-based NCEF volunteers Inku Subedi and Uttam Sharma were in Nepal in August understanding the on-the-ground situation. Uttam and Inku were together in the meetings and interactions with the Area Coordinators Suresh Devkota (Patan), Yubraj Ghimire (Palpa), Apsara Khanal (Nepalgunj), Rajaram Luitel (Kathmandu) and Dipesh Tamrakar (Kavre). Both have volunteered for NCEF for more than a year while they are in the US, but they got a chance to meet each other for the first time while they were in Nepal this summer.

## Assistance discontinued for two students

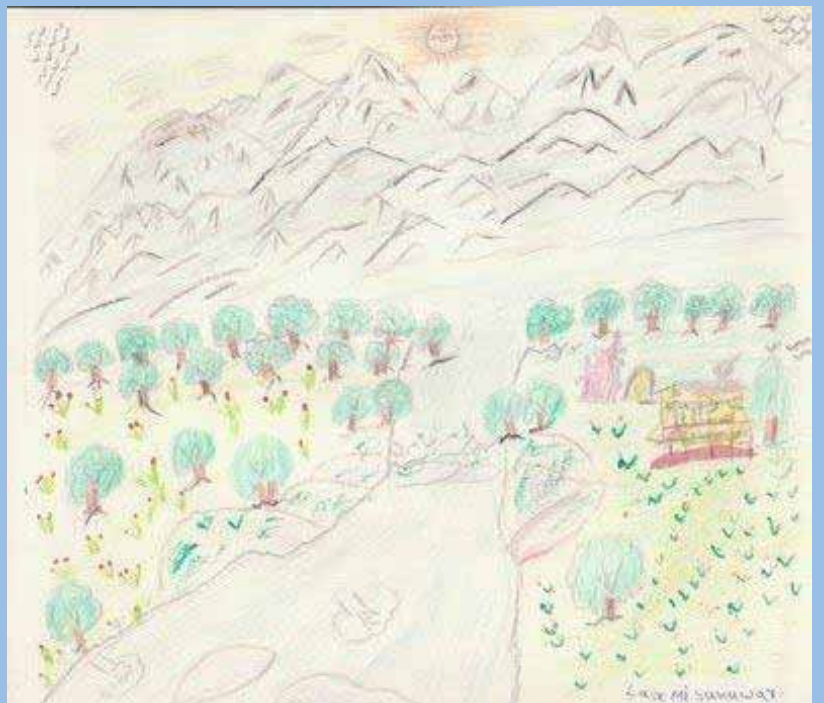
On 8/6/2006, Suresh, our Area Coordinator in Patan, informed us that Pramila Humagain was no longer living in Patan region. She has moved with her family to a different location. Even the Headmaster of her school does not where she is currently living. Another NCEF student Pradeep Lama is studying in a different school with the support from an individual not associated with NCEF. Both students will no longer receive financial assistance from NCEF.

## Former NCEF student is now a NCEF volunteer

Sarita Gopali, a former NCEF student in Kathmandu, is now volunteering with NCEF. She recently completed her 12h grade and is now waiting to hear results of her exam. She has been helping our Kathmandu Coordinator Rajaram Luitel with monthly reports of students and distributing stationery items. She also volunteered her time to assist Rajaram in our recent student selection.

## KIDS GOT TALENT!

Title: *Nepal*  
Artist: **Laxmi Sunuwar**, 14  
Grade: 8  
School: Pragati Shikshya  
Sadan  
Region: Patan



# Interviews of our Area Coordinators in Nepal: Mr. Rajaram Luitel and Mr. Dipesh Tamrakar

NCEF depends on the hard work and commitment of our area coordinators in Nepal. With responsibilities to visiting students and parents, directing other volunteers, and the board, area coordinators play an important role in NCEF's operation. Our area coordinators come from various educational and occupational backgrounds and geographical areas of Nepal. They are teachers, students, and administrative officials at local government and non-government offices. One common characteristic they all share is their strong belief in the value of providing education to children. In this segment, we will get to know more about our current area coordinators and share their experiences as an area coordinator.

## ***Interview with Mr. Rajaram Luitel, our Kathmandu Coordinator***

Rajaram Luitel, from Kathmandu has been involved with NCEF for the last two years. He runs his own business and is currently completing a Masters in Rural Development. His experience with volunteerism dates back to his work with SPW-Nepal (Students Partnership Worldwide), which has motivated him to continue working as a volunteer even while being a full-time student and businessman. Here is what he had to say when asked about his experiences as an area coordinator.

What motivated you to volunteer with NCEF?

*My past experience with Students Partnership Worldwide.*

How has your experience working with NCEF been?

*I am feeling that I am doing something good for the society.*

What difficulties do you face commonly while communicating with NCEF volunteers in the US?

*Miscommunication.*

What difficulties do you face commonly while interacting with NCEF students and their guardians in your region?

*For the monthly visits, it is sometimes hard to find the NCEF students and their guardian, as they are always busy with their job. For example, students like Ujeli also help their parents to sell vegetables and fruits at one of the busiest marketplace in Kathmandu. This is the only place where I can find the children to get information for the monthly report because they are never at home in the evenings or mornings. And because they are busy helping their parents during these visits, it is difficult to get good information from them.*

What improvements do you think will be beneficial for children?

*It will be possible to give the children a good education by shifting them to private schools.*

General comments:

*It will be good to create a central point in Kathmandu for information and communication.*

## ***Interview with Mr. Dipesh Tamrakar, our Kavre Coordinator***

Dipesh Tamrakar, area coordinator of Kavre is originally from Bhojpur, a district in Eastern Nepal. He has been working with NCEF for the last two and half years. Dipesh is finishing up his M.B.B.S. (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) at Kathmandu University in Kavre. He will be moving from Kavre to pursue his medical career and has been successful in training current volunteer, Ram Sundar Deuja, to take over the responsibilities of area coordinator in Kavre. Dipesh enjoys playing basketball and reading books. Here is what he had to say about his experience as a NCEF area coordinator.

What motivated you to volunteer with NCEF?

*I am interested in social service and I came to learn about NCEF through Dr Maheshwor Kafle and I joined as a volunteer soon after.*

How has your experience working with NCEF been?

*It has been a nice experience working with NCEF for the last two and half years.*

What difficulties do you face commonly while communicating with NCEF volunteers in the US?

*During the period of selection, it is not clear how many students are going to be selected and on what basis some very deserving students are rejected. If the reason for rejection is external to the selection criteria, I think we [area coordinator and selection committee] should correspond before making any final decisions.*

What difficulties do you face commonly while interacting with NCEF students and their guardians in your region?

*When breaking bad news to them [the students and the guardians]. Everything else goes smoothly.*

Please describe a memorable moment with children or volunteering.

*One of the memorable moments was my first visit to Gangadevi School as a volunteer, where children were waiting to meet me. Although I was ten minutes late, I was delighted to see smiles on their faces.*

What improvements do you think will be beneficial for children?

*It would have been better if we could provide tuition (tutoring) for those who are appearing for the SLC (School Leaving Certificate) exam, as we know government school teaching is not enough for passing the SLC. [SLC is an exam given at the end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade for promotion to 11<sup>th</sup> grade.]*

General comments:

*For correspondence, it would have been better had we had one person in Nepal coordinating all financial, visit reporting, and application work. This would allow us to carry our fieldwork efficiently at the periphery level.*

*It would also be better if we had pamphlets about NCEF to share with people.*

## ABOUT NCEF

*NCEF is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to develop the potential of disadvantaged Nepalese children through education. Need-based scholarships are provided to deserving students who would otherwise be unable to attend school. Our social workers in Nepal meet regularly with the selected children and their parents to assist in each child's development. We dedicate our resources to each NCEF child until they complete high school (twelfth grade).*

## WHAT ARE CHILDREN DOING?

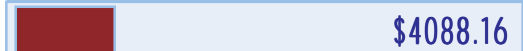
Orista in Kathmandu enjoyed watching a dance program at her school.

Sunita, Santosh and Ramkumar in Kavre won the prize for 1st position in each of their grades during their school's eighth annual examination.

Subin in Kavre made a good drawing and his teacher praised him for it.

Sarada in Kavre was happy participating in a debate competition.

## 2007 FUNDRAISING METER



## MAKING DONATIONS

### □ Online:

[www.nepalchildren.org/donation.html](http://www.nepalchildren.org/donation.html)

### □ Checks:

#### Make checks payable to:

Nepalese Children Education Fund or NCEF

#### Mailing address:

Nepalese Children's Education Fund

P.O. Box 380061

Cambridge, MA 02238-0061

#### Questions?

Website: [www.nepalchildren.org](http://www.nepalchildren.org)

Email: [contact@nepalchildren.org](mailto:contact@nepalchildren.org)

THANK YOU!