



*Put your heart, mind, and soul into even your smallest acts.
This is the secret of success.
- Swami Sivananda*

Editor: Jen Kim

May 2014

MAY UPDATE



March 16th commemorates the birth of my son Aaron and this year the prevailing of good over evil in Hindu scripture; known as Holi this is a symphony of color and water. The play is robust and wet, the skin and hair requiring long periods of detailed scrubbing when it is over and the clothes fit thereafter only for another Holi. By lunch time a somnolent air has settled over the village, the children have bathed and are ravenous, they are wearing crisp colorful kurta sulwars, their hair fresh and sparkling light in the breeze. They spend the afternoon quietly talking, reading, doing homework and taking thoughts of their morning's play with them as they drift into peaceful naps. [Read more here.](#)

NEWSLETTER

Happy Birthday Baby Hope!

Hope Angel celebrated her first birthday Wednesday April 30th attended by her 142 brothers and sisters, all our didis and managers, volunteer staff, the principal and accountant of Skylark School, our grocer and the nearest neighbors looking down below from their balconies. Hope is an amazing little girl with an adorable three tooth smile, eyes that twinkle and a smile that makes everyone instantly do the same.

Hope is determinedly independent; she is climbing stairs, occasionally swatting away my hovering hands, her upper body strength a result of a well-practiced "downward dog" yoga position she taught herself some time ago.

The party took place after our vocational school's classes ended and Hope was a little sleepy from a long day which included a doctor's visit for a new rash and the

resulting medicine. She nevertheless helped cut her cake, blew out the candle and offered a comment or two for each well-wisher. After everyone left we took her to her room and changed her from the party dress to pajamas and lay next to her as she took her bottle. She drank thoughtfully, looking tenderly into all the attendant eyes as sleep slowly took her into a place where her dreams are now played out in sleeping smiles. - Papa



Vince Melouney's Special Birthday Gift to Baby Hope



One of our Volunteer Nepal volunteers, Melissa Hoskin, recently shared news that her family friend, Vince Melouney, lead guitarist of the Bee Gees, has offered to donate ALL proceeds collected from a number of songs he is selling on his website to NOH.

Vince was so moved by the story of our little "Hope Angel" that he is hoping to collect enough funds to purchase prosthetics for Baby Hope.

He says:

"There are many people out there in the world that need help, but I was taken by the plight of this gorgeous little girl and what she has been through even before her life has begun. She will need assistance for a long time to come and I, being a musician, thought I might be able to help out by selling songs I have recorded and put on my website for sale, with

all the proceeds going to help Hope.

She will need prosthetics for the rest of her life. Hopefully I and the people who buy my songs can help in some way."

Purchase the songs and share with your friends and family — all for a good cause and the love of great music! [Please visit Vince's website: VinceMelouney.com](http://VinceMelouney.com)
Each song can be purchased for \$1.69.

Thank you Vince for your amazing generosity and support!

CLIMBING EVEREST FOR HOPE

William Blake said: "Great things are done when men and mountains meet." He was right, although in this case — it was four women who experienced greatness.

In March, Marnie Connor, Hanna Murphy, Michelle Moore and Jen Kyna bundled up in their beanies, gloves and scarves — and climbed 18,000 feet up Mount Everest to raise money for Baby Hope, whose feet were cut off by a mentally ill parent when she was just 10 weeks old. They discovered her story by chance on the internet and knew immediately they wanted to help. The four are flight attendants for Virgin Australia, coming from Melbourne and Brisbane.



During their first meeting with Hope, they were overwhelmed.

"When we saw that precious little smile our hearts melted immediately," said Jen. "Hope is the most divinely happy girl with beautiful energy."

Their two week trek was amazing. Some days were a struggle, and other days were a breeze. But knowing that they would have everyone's donations to hand deliver to Hope at the end, would give them the strength to achieve this monumental challenge. The four women met Hope while visiting Papa's House and were taken by her story. They set up a fundraiser on a crowd-funding site with the goal of raising enough money to pay for Hope's medical fees and other day-to-day costs to look after the toddler.

"We can not thank Michael and his team for allowing us into their lives, we feel very blessed and walked away as better people experiencing their love and generosity," they said. The ladies hope to return to NOH one day soon.

[See photos and learn more about their journey here.](#)

A big, heartfelt thank you to Marnie, Hanna, Michelle and Jen for their incredible support!

MEET OUR NEWEST CHILD

We welcomed a new child recently; his name is Hematha. Hem's arrival took some interesting turns; Hem's older brother Tilak was one of 12 children we rescued from a miserable home about 7 years ago. One of the people who provided paperwork for that rescue had since moved on and become elevated in the department of Social Welfare. Hem's home was closed recently and no one knew quite what to do with him, thus he was brought to the attention of the Social Welfare Council and with further digging by this same gentleman he discovered that Hem was Tilak's little brother and called us. Tilak and Hem were ecstatic to be reunited.



A SWEET AND SURPRISE-FILLED VALENTINE'S DAY



Nepalis have been celebrating Valentine's Day since the late 1990s, and this year was no exception. Canadian-based Possible Worlds Foundation supports this event annually which sees some of our children's most impressive performances of dancing and singing. This year, a huge surprise celebration was in store for the NOH children thanks to Sam Isherwood, an American volunteer from Washington state, who has been a frequent NOH volunteer since his first visit in 2008.

Find out what happened in Sam's words:

This year for Valentine's Day, Michael (Papa) asked me if I would like to be in charge of the Valentine's program. Of course, I said Yes! For the next two weeks before the big day, I collected Valentine's Day cards from the students of Skylark School and Papa's House. I also took a trip to Jamal, a local shop, to purchase candy and awards for the kids. With the help of Anita and Gita, two of the house managers, we were able to get everything finished in a few hours.

Staff and volunteers from all over the world (including Spain, Australia, US, and the UK) helped prep all the goodie bags and decorations. Due to the rainy weather forecast, we ended up having the Valentine's program at Skylark, after classes ended at noon.

During the festivities, the children staged 17 amazing dance performances. A special ceremony followed, where awards were given to "most likely to be successful", "school prince", "school princess" and other categories. We also set up a photo booth that was buzzing the entire time with kids who couldn't wait to get their pictures taken.



The big highlight of the afternoon was a special appearance by Suman Singh, a famous Nepali actor, who wanted to come support all the kids on Valentine's Day.

Surprisingly, it was very easy to get Suman to visit. One day, Papa came to me with Suman's business card and asked me to call him to see if he could make it. I asked Mrs. Pandey, a Volunteer Nepal staff member and Nepali speaker, to call him and ask him if he would come. Suman said yes right away — no persuasion needed!

The kids did not know he was coming, so when he walked through the gates at the school, every head turned. They sprinted toward Suman, eager to shake his hand and take photos with him. Eventually, we were able to calm things down a bit so he could enjoy the program.

The festivities ended with everyone getting their goodie bags. It was a pretty

good day for everyone and it didn't start raining until after it ended!

HOLI HOLIDAY FUN!



A fun and mischievous celebration of Holi — the Hindu festival of color!

Don't forget to join [Nepal Orphans' Home Facebook](#) page to keep current with activities and news at Papa's House (and see fun photos of the kids!)

OUR TEAM AT WORK

Few of you may be familiar with those working tirelessly behind the scenes at NOH. Meet a few of our board members below:

Glenn Detrick DIRECTOR

At the forefront of NOH's Chelsea Education Center (CEC) is NOH Board Director Glenn Detrick. A former educator and small business owner, Glenn became interested in establishing the CEC after meeting Michael Hess and the NOH children on a trip to Nepal in 2010. The CEC currently provides educational life skills training to both NOH and local neighbourhood children.

Our children are excited to attend classes in motorcycle repair, music, computer software, computer hardware, tailoring, beauty salon and mobile phone



repair and we are thankful to have the opportunities to offer these skills to each child who attends.

Notes from Glenn Detrick:

"On this weeklong visit I had the opportunity to teach four class sessions in our Life Skills program with a dozen energetic and enthusiastic kids. Our Life Skills work began in January when Lauren Yanks, another Board member, who is a communications professor from New York, is establishing a university here in Nepal and who has a strong interest in and attachment to our kids, began a Saturday series of workshops on Empowerment and Communications Skills. This course was the perfect starting point for our Life Skills work because it is so important for kids to feel empowered about their future potential and because of the need to overcome cultural and educational system obstacles that make public speaking a real challenge. We spent a class and a half talking about "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People", a classic "life skills text." The discussion and questions were dynamic and fruitful.



The fourth session was given to students making brief presentations (to practice their speaking skills) on an article they chose and found of interest from *National Geographic Magazine* (I brought 25 back issues for them to look through). The sessions were fun for me and I think beneficial for the kids.

As we get more and more children coming up through the grade levels over the next several years, the programs of the CEC will, I think, have a lasting, positive impact on the ability of our kids to transition productively into the adult world."

Tamara Chant Saltzman
DIRECTOR



Hailing from Paris, France, Tamara Chant Saltzman has been a relentless advocate in her efforts to bring NOH to the frontline of her children's schools and at her own alma mater. Tamara describes her work with NOH as her "saving grace" for her years of being away from her children while working in the UAE.

Her two children -- also volunteers -- extended NOH to their schools in the form of advocacy and fundraising clubs. Eight students from her children's Swiss boarding school came to teach computers and befriend the children at NOH. In addition, Tamara pioneered a volunteer [internship program at Smith College](#).

Tamara recently traveled to Nepal, working with Israeli NGOs to support the needs of NOH at the schools, hospitals and the CEC. She is also helping to organize a program that would bring volunteers from Israel to NOH.

For the children of NOH, she hopes that when they grow up, they will work together in solid and successful businesses and return as volunteers to NOH and other organizations in Nepal, so they can give back as they have been given to.

Laurie Levine
BOARD ADVISOR

About six years ago, Laurie found Michael Hess and NOH while searching for orphanages in Nepal. She had been contemplating adopting a child, but soon discovered a more powerful and fulfilling way to make a difference in children's lives.



Teaching was one of those ways.

During her first trip to NOH, Laurie - also a yoga teacher and healer - taught the children yoga. More recently in January, Laurie returned to Nepal to teach a public speaking class to a dozen students. They were eager to practice speaking about the topics that mattered most to them, such as what changes they would make to improve Nepal and the world. The speeches ranged from the importance of education to the necessity for more social equality between boys and girls.

As a board advisor, Laurie has helped to build a greater global awareness for the program, raise money and introduce other volunteers to NOH.

"It is a joy for me to be a part of Nepal Orphans Home and to do whatever I can do to help and to continue to spread the word and raise money. My wish for the children is that they have their own campus and land one day," she says.

She is also currently the director and founder of the Positive Living Spiritual Centre in Sydney, Australia.

www.positivelivingspiritualcentre.com

Laurie will be returning to NOH in September to spend more time with the children.

THANK YOU! Thanking folks in Cleveland for their support.



At a recent fundraiser billed as an "International Marketplace," Cleveland (Ohio) organizers sold a variety of goods and gift possibilities from around the world with the entire proceeds donated to NOH. Many items from Nepal were featured, as well as continuous video footage of our wonderful children. Shoppers at the Saturday morning Farmers Market on historic Shaker Square were attracted by the signs, storefront window and vocal students guiding the way to the fun event. Warm

temperatures and sunny skies after a long, cold winter added positive energy, smiles, and lots of goodwill.

Another fundraiser is currently being planned in Australia -- "Trivia Night" in Melbourne on June 14.

[See our webpage](#) for more fundraising ideas or exercise your own creativity for ways to support our kids.

DONATE

Nepal Orphans Home receives no government support and relies on the contributions of individuals sharing our mission to provide for the welfare of children in Nepal who are rescued from slavery, orphaned, abandoned, or otherwise not supported by their parents.

Please help support our amazing kids by [making a donation](#) in any amount at [our website](#). A [wish list](#) is available for those who want to make contributions for specific purposes. Alternatively, various gift packages and descriptions of current projects are available at [Universal Giving](#).

If you would like to make a donation of stock, please contact Barbara Hess, Treasurer of NOH, Inc., at bhessnc@aol.com to obtain the routing number for our account.

Contribute just by conducting internet searches using the Goodsearch search engine at www.goodsearch.com and designating Nepal Orphans Home as the recipient of the funds raised by your searches. Goodsearch can also be used for online shopping, through which leading companies donate a portion of the sales to Papa's House.