



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Sunrise Children's Association Incorporated

Bringing a brighter future to the children of Nepal

A message from our CEO

The 2018-19 fiscal year was another very rewarding year for SCAI. Working with highly vulnerable children and their families in a developing country such as Nepal is never without its challenges, but we are pleased to report that our programs continued to move ahead in a very positive direction, and we saw significant progress made by the children we support. Seeing the children develop and shine is what keeps us inspired and committed to our vision.

The year started with the signing of our new 5-year Project Agreement with the Government of Nepal, our third agreement since being established as an International Non-Government Organisation (INGO) in Nepal in 2007. Under this agreement our focus continues to be on Prevention, Rescue and Reintegration. We focus on preventing separation of children from their families, and in cases where children have already been separated and sent to orphanages or similar institutions, providing temporary family-based care following their rescue until we can safely reintegrate them back into their biological families.

All our projects are important to us as they each support our goal of protecting, educating and empowering children and ultimately improving the lives of the children and their families in a meaningful and sustainable way.

We are very excited about the remaining 4 years of this project period, in particular the expansion of the income generation programs, which will help families of the children in the education scholarship programs build their resilience and capacity to care for their children which will help prevent them being trafficked or sent away in search of a better life and education.

Our success continues to come through a shared vision and commitment by our teams in Australia and Nepal, a lot of hard work, and our very generous and dedicated supporter base.

We are extremely grateful to each of you that has supported us throughout 2018-19, and we look forward to your ongoing support, so together we can help create brighter futures for many more children.

Thank you sincerely.



Emma Taylor
President/CEO
SCAI Australia





Table of Contents

3	The Issues Faced by Nepal's Children	15	Our SCAI Community
4	Our Vision and Mission		Our Team
5	2019 at a Glance		Sponsors and Donors
6	Our Impact		Fundraisers
	Our Approach		Events
	Our Programs in Action		Governance and Management
	Where Are They Now?	20	Financials

The Issues Faced by Nepal's Children



Nepal is the 3rd poorest countries in Asia¹. Thousands of children in Nepal continue to be separated from their families as a result of trafficking or being enticed away to an orphanage or similar by the promise of a better life and education. Thousands of children still don't have access to education and many work as child labourer's or are forced into early marriage.

Almost 15,000² children reside in orphanages or other similar institutions, of which it is estimated around 85%³ are not orphans.

We see a very different future for the children of Nepal.

Our Vision

To see all children to grow up in a safe, nurturing family environment, where they are loved, valued and respected and have an opportunity to reach their full potential, free from poverty, abuse and neglect.

Our Mission

We educate and empower children and their families so children are protected and can live in family environments where they can learn, grow and develop into happy, healthy, thriving members of the community.



Our Programs

Education Scholarship Programs

Sunrise Home

Reintegration Program

Community School

2019 at a Glance

\$319,176 Income

\$391,221 Expenditure

19 Children rescued
from orphanages

483 Education
scholarships provided

35 Children cared
for at Sunrise Home

19 Savings groups
formed with **352**
members

41 Children supported
in the Reintegration
Program

32 Child (youth)
clubs formed

3669 Beanies
distributed

40 More youth sat and
passed their final Secondary
Education Exam.

12+ Youth are studying
self-funded bachelor's
degrees

1st University graduate
started a master's
degree in Australia!

20+ More entered
the workforce

15 More youth
finished college



Our Impact

Our Approach

Education and Empowerment are at the heart of everything we do.



Every child and family are unique and have their own story and different needs. Whilst it is more labour intensive than taking a blanket approach, we continued to provide relevant support to each individual to ensure the best possible outcomes for them. Again, this year our dedicated team:

- ✓ Assessed and monitored every child in our program individually through regular home visits so we could see their situation first-hand and provide them with one on one support.
- ✓ Continued to empower children and their families with knowledge, skills and resources to help them take control of their lives and create more sustainable futures.
- ✓ Continued to work at the grass roots level, taking a community led approach. This means we spend quality time listening to the children, families and community members we support, to identify and address the root causes of the issues and ensure our program activities are meaningful and meet their needs.

Our team conducted **1344** home visits and **444** school/college visits in 2019

Our Programs in Action

Education Scholarship Programs

Giving children access to education while keeping families together



Our holistic approach takes into account physical, psychological, and social factors that may impact a child's education and environment and their families' ability to provide them with proper care.

In 2019 our support included:

- ✓ School uniforms, supplies and fees
- ✓ Clothing, toiletries, medical and rent assistance
- ✓ Income generation support for some families – to be rolled out to all families in 2020!
- ✓ Regular visits to the children's schools and colleges and parent-teacher meetings
- ✓ Regular home visits and counselling
- ✓ Career guidance and life skills training
- ✓ Formation of youth clubs for learning, sharing, networking and advocating for child rights
- ✓ Formation of savings groups and parent support meetings

483 Children had access to an education, school materials, and other vital support which enabled them to stay with their own families.

352 Guardians joined the savings group and made regular deposits



"My mother passed away in 2013 due to cancer. After that, my father re-married. Me, my younger sister and my younger brother were not given proper care by our father and stepmother. It was very hard time for us. After SCAI supported all of us 3 siblings, our father realized the importance of education. Now, we all 3 are going school regularly. If there was no support from the organization, I had to dropped out from my school. We all are thankful for the generous support from SCAI"

- *Nirmaya Tamang*

" My father passed away in 2013 due to diarrhea at my home because of no treatment on time and also due to lack of awareness. Because of SCAI support, I was prevented from being separated from my mother and to be sent to study for Lama course at Kathmandu. I am now happy with my mother, elder brother and sister-in-law."

- *Dolma Tamang*



"I was living a small rented room back in 2015. I was a very good student but there was lots of struggles in my family to fulfill my study and to support me financially. In the same year, my elder brother passed away. I was about to drop from my school. I was just doing Grade 9. But my life took another turn. I was blessed to get scholarship from Sunrise after assessments in my home and meeting my mom, who lives in village 2 hours away from school. Through Sunrise support, I graduated from Grade 10 with A+ and top in whole Shivapuri Rural Municipality. I have now also successfully finished year 12."

- *Manoj Tamang*

SCAI has provided a total of 1301 children with education scholarships who are now much less likely to be trafficked, sent away from home or drop out of school.

A total of 236 youth have finished school and 89 have finished college or a 3-year diploma through SCAI's sponsorship so far.

Sunrise Home

Providing a temporary home for children rescued from orphanages or other high-risk or abusive situations until they can be safely reintegrated back into their families



We believe that a nurturing, stable home environment is vital for the physical, mental and emotional well-being and healthy development of a child. Ideally this would be within their own family, but in cases where this is not immediately possible, we provide full time care at Sunrise Home.

In 2019 our support included:

- ✓ Basic physiological and safety needs, such as food, shelter, clothing and medical care.
- ✓ Providing an education at our local community school and extra-curricular activities
- ✓ Counselling and various activities to help the children develop self-esteem, confidence and daily life skills to equip them for life back in their communities

35 children were provided a home at Sunrise

Reintegration Program

Tracing, re-connecting and reintegrating children back into their families and communities



In most cases the children are reintegrated back into the families of older siblings, aunts, uncles and grandparents as they often do not have parents that can care for them. For these extended family members to be able to provide adequate care for the children, our ongoing support is usually needed.

In 2019 our support included:

- ✓ School uniforms, supplies and fees
- ✓ Clothing, toiletries, food and rent assistance
- ✓ Regular visits to the children's schools and colleges
- ✓ Regular home visits and counselling
- ✓ Career guidance and life skills training and participation in Sunrise Youth Club activities

41 children and youth received ongoing support, enabling them to live with their own family

SCAI has cared for a total of **157** children at Sunrise Home.

84% of these children have been safely reintegrated back into their families so far.

Community School Development

Helping keep youth with their families by expanding and improving the quality of education in our local community



Pre-school, secondary school, English medium and modern, interactive teaching methods continue to draw children and youth away from their rural families to school in Kathmandu and other urban areas. Often children are sent to orphanages or to work as part-time house helpers in the city in pursuit of these facilities. In 2013 SCAI added the full English medium from Pre-school up to class 10.

In 2019 our support included:

- ✓ Funding 5 qualified, English speaking, secondary level teachers
- ✓ Light, spacious, school building and grounds for the school to run (built by SCAI in 2012-13)
- ✓ Interactive learning software at this and two other community schools
- ✓ Regular monitoring and guidance

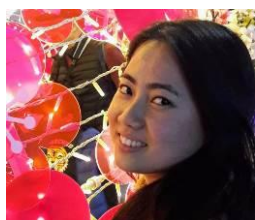
6th group of students has now been able to sit their Secondary Education Exams at our local community school

Where Are They Now?

Whilst our direct financial support ends when the youth graduate from college (year 12) or a diploma course, we do our best to keep in touch and remain a small part of their journey. We just love seeing their transformation and them taking such positive steps towards independence! Meet a few of our extraordinary graduates who are now not only already enjoying brighter futures themselves but are now helping support their own families and younger siblings.



Mansingh Aidee, now 23, flew through Science at college in 2015 after finishing school with a Distinction. Since then he has been the hard working and dedicated Program Coordinator of SCAI Nepal and is in his 4th year of a self-funded Bachelor of Public Health which he won a scholarship to. He is also a very active young Rotaractor.



Anita Moktan, now 24, successfully completed year 12 in 2015 then got herself a job as a teacher at a private school, where she worked while studying a Bachelor of Social Work which she self-funded. She is now undertaking a Master of Counselling in Australia and plans to return to Nepal to become a trauma counsellor.



Saugat Mainali, now 25, successfully completed Science at college in 2014, then returned to his village to care for his ill mother. He got a job as a teacher which he has been doing for the past four years. He has also just completed his 4th and final year of his Bachelor of Business. He plans to undertake a master's degree in 2020.



Marium Tamang, now 22, successfully completed Education at college in 2015, then studied dance for 6 months and got a job as a teacher in a private school, where she has been teaching since. She has not only been able to take guardianship of her 3 younger siblings, but she is also now in her 2nd year of a Bachelor of Education.



Pasang Sherpa, now 25, successfully completed Management at college in 2013, then got a job as a teacher at a Secondary School, where he has taught various subjects and worked as the school accountant. He is now also married and has a 3-year old son.



Lashang Lama, now 23, successfully completed college in the science stream in 2015. Following that she devoted the next 3 years of her life to volunteering in a Monastery, teaching children about Buddhism and basic Chinese language. She is now studying 3rd year Chinese at university in Kathmandu and doing 1st year Bachelor of Arts in Health and Nutrition.

Our SCAI Community

Without the collaboration of our SCAI community we could not have such a big impact. We are extremely grateful to all our SCAI community members and thank each of you for your commitment to seeing the children we support safe, happy and thriving!

Our Team

Our small but amazing SCAI team work tirelessly to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate our programs, to inspire our children, youth, families, stakeholders and NGO partners. They are the heart and soul of everything we do.

SCAI Team

Emma Taylor, President/CEO

Raj Kumar Lama Tamang, Program Manager

Mansingh Aidee, Program Coordinator

Bindira Shakya, Finance Officer

Our NGO Partners

In addition to our SCAI team of four, we have fifteen staff from our local NGO teams that work closely with SCAI in the field to implement our projects, from RUDEC Nepal, SO Nepal and CSN Nepal.

Meet Raj, Program Manager SCAI in Nepal

“Most of the people in Nepal live in rural areas and many of them are poor and marginalised. Children are most vulnerable due to the poverty of their parents. Many children are separated from their family and sent to orphanages where they can’t grow as naturally as they can in their own family home. We at SCAI work for such children who are at high risk of being separated from their family and this is a really motivating factor for me to work with SCAI.

I greatly enjoy my job as we work at ground level to try and empower the children and families to become independent in the future. We provide support for basic needs of the most marginalized children who are in extreme need of our support in rural hilly regions. We also provide life-saving medical support to our sponsor children whose parents can’t afford treatment, which makes working with SCAI a matter of great reward and pride for me.

One of the great outcomes of our work is that through our sponsorship we have helped keep over 85% children in school who were almost certain to have dropped out due



Read more about our team at www.scai.org.au

Our Sponsors and Donors

We are extremely grateful to our very dedicated supporters, who enabled us to do what we do.

6 Major Project Sponsors

Kathmandu Kids, Australia
ME Digital Group (for ExpatWoman.com), Dubai
Geoff Sam, Australia
Paul Hameister, Australia
Paul and Rose Cody, UK
Große für Kleine Kinderfonds Foundation, Germany

Funds from these six incredibly generous sponsors who have each donated **over \$50,000** to date, continued to go towards the education scholarship programs and community school.

Special thanks to **Kathmandu Kids** who have supported us for over 10 years and donated around **\$500,000** so far and remain committed to our cause!



“We love the community-based approach of SCAI as they undertake assessment and planning before finalizing the program structure, to ensure key activities address needs of local people. They report and work with us on how they are going to spend the money to gain the highest impact for the communities and children. The committee of Kathmandu Kids have visited Nepal 4 times and seen the strong relationship SCAI has with their NGO partners and beneficiaries, and the impact of the project work first-hand”. – **Kathmandu Kids**

131 Individual Monthly Sponsors

Funds from our monthly sponsors continued to go towards Sunrise Home and the Reintegration Program.

Over 70 sponsors have been donating on a monthly basis for over 10 years now, and many more that come close to that.

Special thanks to **Angus Sobels** who has donated over \$50,000 so far.

129 One off donations

One-off donations were used to support the annual **'Winter warmth and smiles'** beanies initiative and other activities specified by donors, with unspecified donations going to where funds were needed most at the time.



Our Fundraising Challengers

These are some of the wonderful people took on various challenges to help raise funds for SCAI in 2019:



Kym Purling Adelaide Concert: Live in Concert at Sea (on Land!), \$1800

Kym kindly donated \$1800 from his concert to support the children in one of our education scholarship programs in Nuwakot District.



Shashank Agrawal ran the Everest Marathon, Nepal, \$3000

Shashank, along with Komodo Fashion UK raised just over \$3000 to help support 19 children under SCAI's care rescued from an illegal orphanage in Kathmandu in May 2019.



Amanda Gessler put on classical music concert in Aspen, Colorado, \$6500

Amanda, a very talented musician and one of SCAI's monthly sponsors, raised \$6500 to help support 19 children under SCAI's care rescued from an illegal orphanage in Kathmandu in May 2019.

Britta Wilson organized a music concert on the Central Coast, \$864

Britta, another one of SCAI's long term monthly sponsors raised the funds to support the children in one of our education scholarship programs in Nuwakot District.

Thank you also to those who organized donations through their workplace and who continue to help us raise funds both directly and indirectly through helping spread awareness about our valuable work.

Our Events

In February 2019 SCAI held events in Melbourne and Adelaide 'Finding Answers for the Children of Sunrise' Trivia Night and 'Painting Brighter Futures for the Children of Sunrise', raising \$31,326.

Thank you to everyone that supported the events through attending, volunteering, donating auction and raffle prizes, food and wine, shopping at the Nepali markets and making donations.



Our Governance and Management Teams

SCAI Australia

Management Committee

Emma Taylor, OAM

Briony Hume/Kate White

Laura Mistruzzi

Sarah Thom

Angela Trowbridge

President

Secretary

Treasurer

General Committee Member

General Committee Member

Public Fund Committee

Ian Martens

Paul Leadbeter

Angus Sobels

Chairperson

Committee member

Committee member

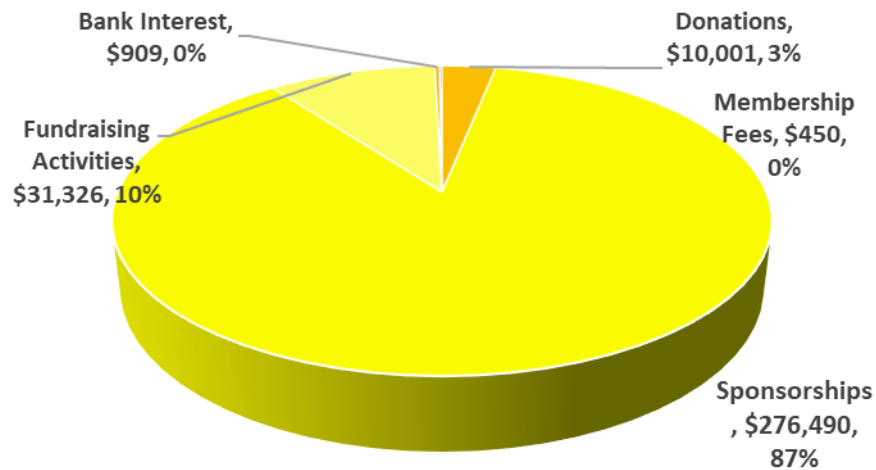
Financials

We are proud to maintain our high level of transparency and accountability and deliver our programs in an effective and efficient manner again in 2019, and so are our donors!

"I can't believe how efficiently SCAI runs and how much they do with the funds they have" – Geoff Sam, Major Project Sponsor

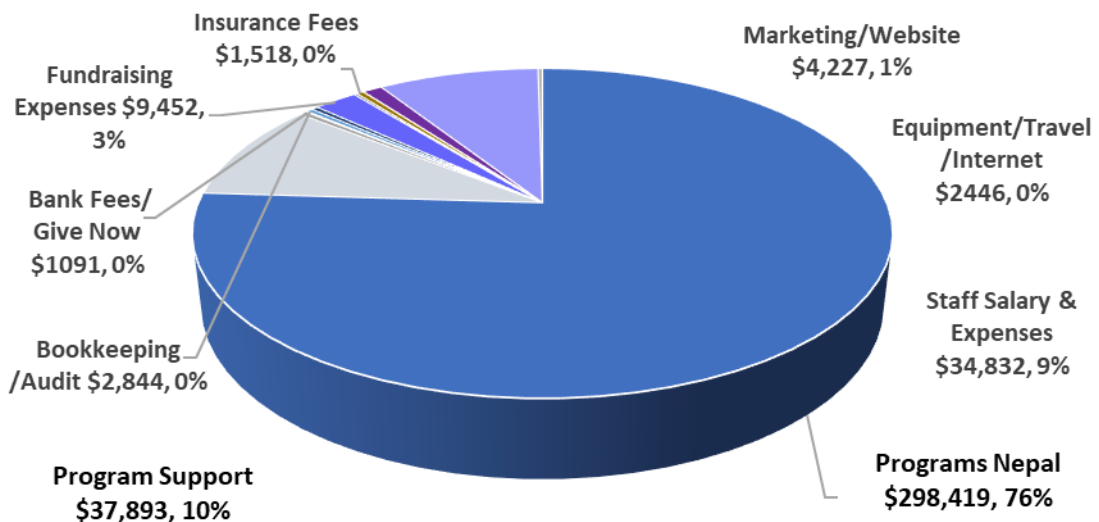
Income \$319,176

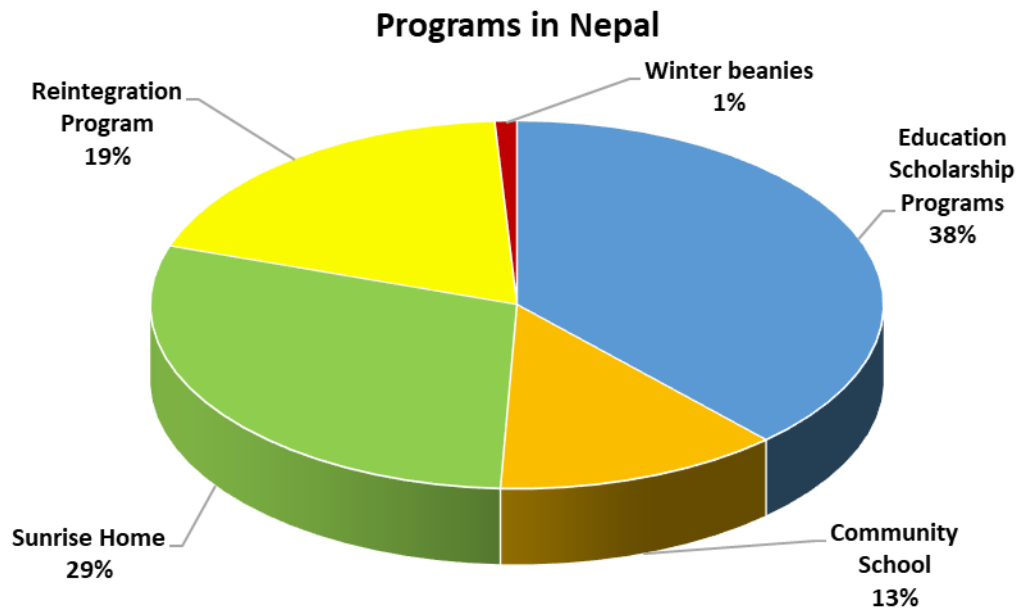
87% continues to come from project sponsorships.



Expenses \$392,763

86% was spent directly on programs and program support in Nepal





SCAI finished the 2018-19 year with an **Accumulated Surplus of \$228,188**, most of which is committed to existing activities.

Further detail can be found in our Audited Financial Statements at www.scai.org.au and in our Newletters.



Thank you

If you have any queries about this report, our audited financial statements or our work, please do not hesitate to contact us.

SCAI Australia

Suite 5, 17 Hackney Road,
Hackney, SA, 5069, Australia

Email: enquiry@scai.org.au, emma@scai.org.au

Tel: +618 7079 0111

Website: www.scai.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SCAI.Aust

www.instagram.com/sunrisechildrensassociation

