

ISSUE TWO 2023

RESPONSE

Walk
a Day
with
me



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 **AsianAID**
Give Hope TODAY

FROM THE CEO



DEAR SUPPORTERS



Thank you for your support and prayers through yet another financial year. While we continue to chip away at the big goals and problems, we are grateful for the day-to-day lives of children and families we have been able to bless through your support.

As we head into a new financial year, I am pleased to share with you our new 'Walk a Day with Me' campaign. This began as we visited communities in India, Bangladesh and Nepal face-to-face and saw the real change we are able to bring in the little (and big) day-to-day activities of the children and families we support. These changes have meant:

- More children are able to access quality education, and can read, write, and use numeracy skills.
- An increasing number of girls and women have access to essential maternal and reproductive healthcare services.
- Parents are trained and given opportunities for livelihood enhancement.

- Families can enjoy improved nutrition and health.

Through our 'Walk a Day With Me' campaign, we will bring you closer to the everyday lives of the children, their families and communities we support.

And as we walk together, we ask that you join us in seeking ways to bless them and bring hope.

Regards,
Paul

STAFF PROFILE



MEET

SHARON

Hello! I am Sharon, Human Resource Manager at Asian Aid. I have been with Asian Aid for close to 16 years. A recent 'best' experience at work for me was spending time with our partners in Nepal and witnessing first-hand their deep-seated desire to make a difference in the lives of others, with no intent for self-gain.

“So I guess you could say the favourite part of my job is working with a group of people driven by a crazy passion for God’s work!”

Our family certainly love a good belly laugh! Some of our best (and silliest) moments are spent around our dining table just sharing the everydayness of life in all its colours. Going to the beach is for sure our favourite pastime. And a little creative sketching too!



JOINT PARTNER

CAPACITY WORKSHOP



At the end of the last quarter, we held a capacity-building workshop for all our partners.



This was an extensive and essential effort to bring partner staff together, work on their plans and project strategies, and learn from each other.

Partner staff from India, Bangladesh and Nepal assembled in Nepal in March for the 5-day training which was facilitated by Steve Fisher, an expert in project management and international development programs.

It was encouraging to see the passion and commitment of those we work with

in-country. The Asian Aid mission to foster sustainable positive change cannot be achieved without the incredible dedication of our partners on the ground.

As valued, capable, committed, community development partners of Asian Aid, they have played a big role in bringing that mission to pass, year after year. This training, which had been many years in the making, left

staff motivated as they learnt from each other, shared hands-on experiences, and created plans for the future.

“It was encouraging to see the passion and commitment of those we work with in-country.”



AGM ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Asian Aid Organisation Ltd ACN 002 286 419 (Asian Aid) will take place on Sunday, 6 August 2023 at the Fellowship Hall, Avondale Memorial Church, 584/586 Freemans Dr, Cooranbong NSW 2265. It will start at 10 AM. You are invited to join us, either in person or via livestream.

Walk a Day with me



Neha

Neha lives in South India. She attends one of our SDA schools. Neha's days have been full and engaging. Before the start of the project, however, it was different.





The school was unable to provide quality education. There were no activities held nor any lively games organized for the children. Children from the community would come, spend their time, play around and go back.

Things have changed.

Neha wakes up early at 6 AM and starts to get ready for school. She needs to make sure that her younger sister gets ready, too, since their mother has to leave for work. If her mother takes Neha's bicycle with her, then sometimes, her sister and Neha both go on one bicycle. If not, she gets to go on her own bicycle.

"If my friends are around with me then, we take 25 minutes to reach the school," says Neha. "This is because we ride slowly and talk with each other. If not, it takes us 15 minutes."

At school, Neha likes to focus on her studies and also learn new life skills. She enjoys everything that she does, and she shines

bright in the activities that she takes part in. She can see the change in herself. She is more confident. She can talk freely with anyone, even if she has not met them before. She has the ability to learn fast, grasp instructions and apply them in various activities. The child who never used to talk now keeps talking, smiling, and wants

“Neha likes to focus on her studies and also learn new life skills. She enjoys everything that she does, and she shines bright in the activities that she takes part in.”



to be in every activity

During lunch, Neha spends time chatting with friends, laughing, and playing games.

"Football is my favourite game, and I do not mind playing with boys as well," she smiles.

Usually, she does not carry her lunch with her. Her mother leaves early for work, so if her mother does not wake up with enough time to prepare a meal, her father buys her some snacks.

Neha is also a part of the child club and in the group she is very active. She is allowed to express her feelings. Through the various sessions and programs in the child club, she has the opportunity to make new friends, learn new skill sets, and participate in various competitions and sports.

Once school is done for the day, Neha goes home, freshens up and rests for a while.

Then she helps her parents with farming their land. Later, she sits with her sister to finish their homework, have dinner, and sleep.

Weekends are a little different. She attends church with her family, plays with her sister and friends, and if there is plenty of work to do on their land, she helps out. If it is a special occasion, they visit relatives.

Walk a
Day with
me



Blaise

Reflecting on the story of Neha, growing up in rural India, we share the story of our young supporter Blaise in Australia. Blaise, along with his family, sponsors children through Asian Aid.

His life is very different to children like Neha, but he is keen to see them have the same opportunities he does. Blaise lives in NSW, and is studying in year 8. Similar to Neha, Blaise gets up at 6.30 AM and sometimes has a swim or surf at the beach early. He packs a sandwich and some fruit for lunch and then gets a ride with his mum, who drives to work right past his school. He often eats breakfast in the car because he has been at the beach too long. He likes it when his mum drives him even though he can catch the bus.

At school, Blaise likes to play any sport with his friends. He often doesn't eat his sandwich at lunchtime because he is too busy playing. His favourite sport is football. "I really like playing touch football and would play rugby league if my mum let me," he laughs. He gets to go away to other areas and play against other schools. He much prefers to do this than sit in the classroom. After school, he catches the bus home and meets his older brother so they can walk from the bus stop together. Blaise has two older brothers and an older sister who has left home to study at university.

Once he gets home, Blaise likes to get something to eat and rest for a while. Some afternoons he goes to football training or a swim again at the beach. Not every afternoon but occasionally, he has to help his dad unpack boxes in their shop. He doesn't mind this as long as he gets a snack while he is there. On weekends Blaise will most likely go to church with his family, but he often goes out camping too. He is in Pathfinders and really likes to get outside somewhere new to explore with his friends. He really likes adventure.

Walk a Day with me

CAMPAIGN

For a child - like Neha - in the schools and communities we support in India, Bangladesh and Nepal, their day includes a variety of activities, ranging from doing homework to aiding in earning family income.

Through the 'Walk a Day With Me' campaign, we will share stories on what daily life looks like for children in our program, and how we can work together to add value. We ask that you join us in blessing their day, so they can bring the changes needed to have meaningful and impactful days - and lives.





BLESS MY DAY AT SCHOOL

- \$5 for mid-day meals for a week
- \$20 for uniforms and books for a year
- \$50 for regular eye and health check-ups



BLESS MY DAY WITH FAMILY

- \$25 to plant a kitchen garden at home to support our health
- \$50 to buy a goat that will grow our income
- \$120 to help our mothers learn a skill like tailoring



BLESS MY DAY IN THE COMMUNITY

- \$100 to improve our schools and keep us safe
- \$150 to help us solve the issues we face in our community
- \$700 to provide healthcare for women and girls in remote areas

I AM GIVING TO THE WALK A DAY WITH ME CAMPAIGN

- A regular donation of _____ a month
- A one-off donation of _____ towards _____

I WILL GIVE MY DONATION BY

1. CHEQUE (Make payable to Asian Aid Organisation and post with this form)
2. FUNDS TRANSFER call us on (+61) 02 6586 4250 for banking details
3. CREDIT CARD

Name on Card _____

□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
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Expiry _____ / _____ / _____ / CSV _____ Amount \$ _____

Signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____

YOUR DETAILS

Name _____

DOB _____ / _____ / _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

ID _____

(if already a supporter)



POST TO

PO BOX 333, Wauchope,
NSW 2446, Australia

All donations above \$2 are tax-deductible

If you do not wish to receive updates or promotional materials from Asian Aid please tick this box. This excludes our quarterly newsletters. Promotional materials will be sent by email unless otherwise requested.



You can also take a photo of your filled-in form above and send the image to us by scanning the QR code.

For more information, visit www.asianaid.org.au
call (+61) 02 6586 4250 or email contact@asianaid.org.au

