

Hey all,

Many thanks for supporting We Care Sweden and the orphanage Kopila Philosophiska in Kathmandu. You have supported in many different ways and here comes a brief summary of my impressions after spending a week with Monika and Sushma who run the orphanage on site, as well as the 14 girls who live there.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world and it is felt in many ways when you arrive. Everything is dusty, garbagey and chaotic with people, bags, mopeds, buses and cars just about everywhere. The brain quickly gets an overdose of impressions! After a few days, however, you get used to seeing the beauty behind, with beautiful architecture and extremely friendly people.

Unfortunately, many children get sick here and "our" orphanage started eight years ago when my husband Alex met a couple of street children and wanted to take care of them. What started very naively with renting a house has throughout the year developed into a stable home where we have managed to collect the SEK 12-13000 needed each month to provide the children with living and school.

It was fantastic and emotional to finally get there and meet everyone, after these years. We were at the orphanage almost every day during the week, playing with the children and discussing finances, plans and the future. It is important to me that there is a long-term plan for each child so that they leave home with something they can actually build a future on, such as a vocational education.



The 14 girls are well cared for at home, but it is felt that they need adult contact and love. They are very interested and quite good in English, so it was nice to talk to them about school and life. A couple of the children have parents in life who cannot take care of them for different reasons (poverty or alcoholism, for example) and some are orphans and have lived in the home since it started. They are also quite ordinary children who are sometimes happy and sometimes angry

Thanks to your contributions, we have been able to make sure that the home has been greatly refreshed with new plastic floors and painted walls in all rooms. Because of all the dust and the fact that water is really a luxury, it quickly becomes dirty so it made a huge difference. We have also bought better kitchen equipment, such as a new fireplace - in Kathmandu you use what we in Sweden would describe as a camping stove in all houses - and they now have one with two plates instead of one. New underwear is also a deficiency item and something that is not donated, so it has been purchased, as well as simpler hygiene items. All the clothes that you donated before the trip have also come into use, both at the girl's home and an adjacent boy's home.



Last but not least, we brought along puzzles and toys (and some other toys). Goose beasts became very popular regardless of age and you can understand that a furry little teddy can be cozy when you sleep, even if you are 14 years old if you are missing your mom or dad. Puzzles were a fun detail - they never puzzle! The logic was not clear to them at all, so it took a while before they came to know what is front and back and how to fit pieces based on color, shape and pattern. Great fun to see teamwork in action and how they together figured out how it worked and had finally built a large kite.



Finally, we had the opportunity to talk about finances and decided that an accountant should be hired locally in Nepal to ensure that all money really goes where they are going. Not that I have any suspicions, but it still feels very good to get decent reports every month. The accountant is named Roshan Raj Rai and also works with a number of other NGOs and orphanages.

I have much information and pictures (some pictures attached here) and will gladly come to your companies and tell you about the childrens home if you would be interested.

THANK YOU again, none of this would be possible without your generous donations and even if we do not save the whole world, we save the whole world for these fourteen girls.

Big hug from Karine

