

CHILD CARER CAMPAIGN FACT SHEET



THE ISSUE

Child carers in Nepal are confined to the house, helping to dress, feed and bathe their parents, grandparents and siblings. They take care of household tasks, including cooking, cleaning and child care. In many cases, they are totally isolated and nobody outside of their family is aware of their situation. Many have to stop attending school completely and cease to have a social life because they need to be available for caring duties 24/7. They are effectively invisible to the authorities and society, their life opportunities are diminished to almost nothing and as their mental and physical health declines, they have no means by which to change their situation given that no support is available to them.



THE SOLUTION

This project is the first of its kind in Nepal, working with excluded child carers who are currently not recognised within their communities. It will identify and support children and young people who are carers, creating the infrastructure and supportive environment that they need to reengage with school, reconnect with their peers and rebuild hope for the future. The project will be delivered in partnership with Self Help Group Cerebral Palsy (SGCP) which works with many families responsible for caring for a loved one with Cerebral Palsy or neurological condition. Together, we will leverage their existing networks and local expertise to identify and engage child carers, raise awareness of the issues that they face, collectively advocate for recognition of carers rights, and create child carer specific support and services to meet their needs.

CAMPAIGN OBJECTIVE

Our overall objective is that child and adolescent carers will have increased capacity, improved health and wellbeing and access to educational opportunities that can co-exist alongside their caring responsibilities.

OUTCOMES

With funding and support we will be able to achieve the following outcomes:

- Child/adolescent carers have increased capacity to meet their caring duties, can access the support and social networks they need and are actively gaining an education.
- Child/adolescent carer assessments conducted, and action plans developed and implemented.
- Peer support groups established
- Child/adolescent carers are receiving material support including additional tuition, uniforms, books, equipment to assist in the reintegration of children into the education system.
- Child/adolescent carers have access to alternative caring arrangements for family members, providing respite and new care solutions outside of the home.
- The capacity of SGCP and local community has increased and can sustain the project activities and outcomes.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

To achieve the intended objective, we will deliver the following activities: Community assessment to identify child carers and plans to engage them; vital home visits to conduct child carer assessments and action plans, creation of village level support groups to reconnect them with their peers, health camps to identify, address and tackle physical and mental health issues; home tutoring, books, uniforms and school supplies to help them to reengage in their educational aspirations; alternative care solutions to provide respite from their caring responsibilities

TARGET GROUP AND PROJECT LOCATION

We will target child and adolescent carers living in the Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur Districts located in Kathmandu Valley, Province No. 3 of Nepal, in South Asia. The districts are all within the remit of the current operations of SGCP who have established networks and are held in high regard within the local communities.

SUSTAINABILITY

Adopting a community empowerment approach, we will build capacity of our partner SGCP and other key community stakeholders (e.g. child carers and their families, school teachers, local school authorities, health workers, local government and other NGOs) who will influence and own the project activities and outcomes in the long-term and facilitating community impact long after the project has ended.

ABOUT CARERS WORLDWIDE

Carers Worldwide was established in 2012 as a registered UK charity. We are the only organisation working exclusively and strategically with family carers experiencing poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion in developing countries. We currently operate in India, Nepal and Bangladesh with plans to expand to Sri Lanka in 2019. Our Board of Trustees comprises 5 members who lead the governance, policy and strategic decisions of Carers Worldwide. Our Founder and Executive Director Anil Patil is responsible for day to day operations, backed up by a very small team of 3 staff members in the UK and India.

NEXT STEPS

If you have further questions regarding our proposal, please contact Leanne Rayner leanne.rayner@carersworldwide.org

