

Child Haven International



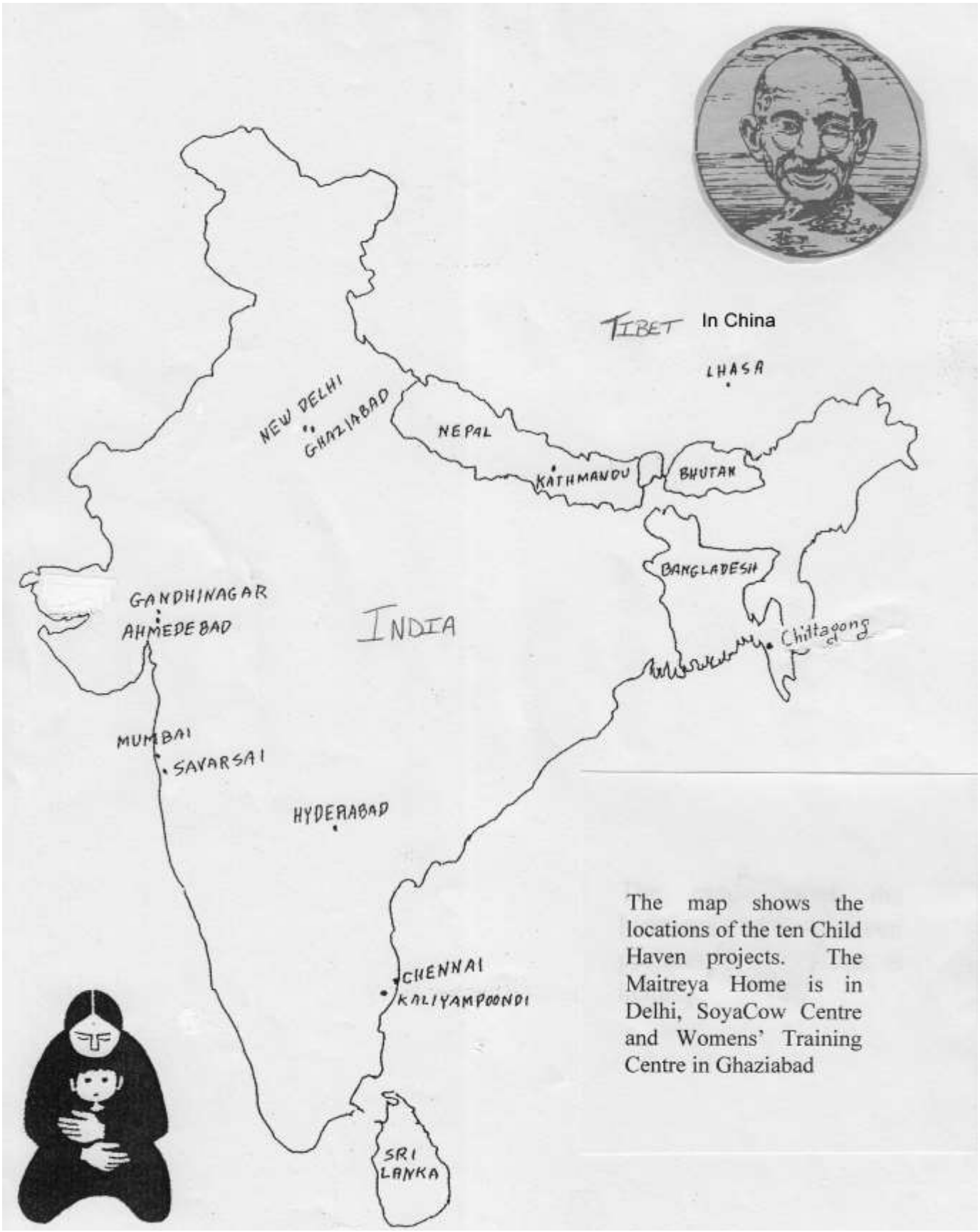
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June 2016



Kaliyampoondi – Yoga Sri, age 7, Kaviya, 8, and Preetha, also 8, are best squeezes.

Kaliyampoondi	1, 7-10	Hyderabad	3-5	Nepal	7, 23-24
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Meu	19-20	Bangladesh	16-18	Tribal Home	14-15



The map shows the locations of the ten Child Haven projects. The Maitreya Home is in Delhi, SoyaCow Centre and Womens' Training Centre in Ghaziabad

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Hyderabad – Some of our distinguished delegation to the New Little Scholars English Medium School waiting for the school-bus. What treasure troves of knowledge await them today? Pam Hellstrom photo

Child Haven Homes

Meu (Gandhinagar), Gujarat, India 68 children 8 women, Language: Gujarati
Hyderabad, Telangana, India 183 children 14 women, Language: Telugu
Kaliyampoondi, Tamil Nadu, India 325 children 35 women, Language: Tamil
Maitreya Foundation, New Delhi, India 24 children 1 woman, Language: Tibetan & Hindi
Savarsai, Maharashtra, India 48 children 4 women, Language: Marathi
Tribal Home, City of Pen, near Savarsai Home, 55 children, Marathi plus tribal languages
Kathmandu, Nepal, 203 children 22 women, Language: Nepali
Tibet in China, sponsoring 14 children 4 women, Language: Tibetan
Chittagong, Bangladesh, 70 children 15 women, Language: Bengali
Ghaziabad Women's Centre, Uttar Pradesh, India, informal education in tailoring for 50 women at a time, inexpensive sanitary napkin production and sale, Beauty and Wellness Course, Language: Hindi
(Many other children are sponsored for education, but are not living in one of our Homes.)





Hyderabad Rajarao, (second from left above) came to Child Haven 2 years ago after his single mother could no longer care for him. He is now in 2nd Grade. His mother and little sisters come to see him when they can.

Care-giver Manjula, and her daughter Pujitha came to the Home after she was widowed in 2008. Pujitha is in Grade 9 and her older sister, who is also at the Home just completed Grade 10.



Hyderabad Above, left to right, catering students Yadagiri, Sandeep and Jalanila Shiva pose with Bonniema and the awards they received for their creations.

Below and to the right are some of the creations made for Bonniema and guests by our Child Haven catering specialists!





Child Haven Hero

Don Fraser, rescuer of Gods, kind of like Superman

Written By John Marsh, Minister of the First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa following a visit to our Kathmandu Home.

I have a new hero. His name is Don Fraser. He was my roommate at the Child Haven Home in Kathmandu, Nepal in February and March of this year (2016).

Like Superman's alter ego, Clarke Kent, Don is mild mannered and soft-spoken. Underneath the mild exterior, however, lie bold ideals and convictions of steel. And like Superman himself, Don has a remarkable ability to do whatever it is that needs to be done: from editing a web page to shelling peas in the kitchen; from helping older boys prepare resumes and polish interview skills in the daytime to reading bedtime stories to younger boys at night: from tutoring two classes at the Green Tara School to supervising and participating in the cutting and splitting of wood for the kitchen fires.

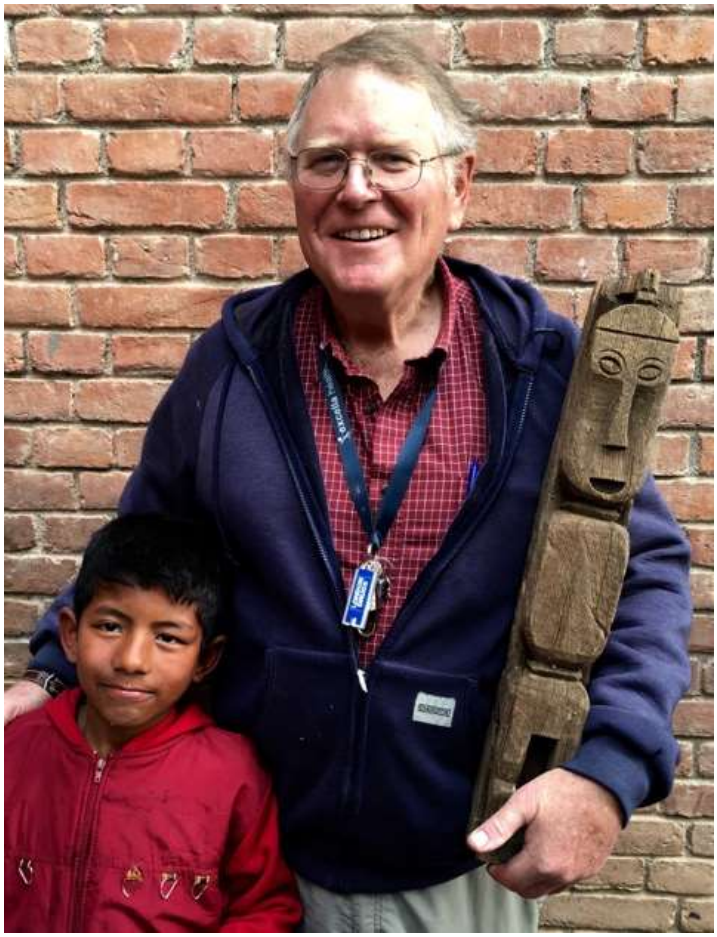
This cutting and splitting of wood was critical last winter because the trade embargo imposed by India made propane a scarce commodity in Nepal. Wood from houses demolished in the recent earthquake, however, was plentiful. It was in the midst of this cutting and splitting that Don had occasion to rescue a God. Amidst the wood destined for burning, he discovered an ornate carving that was once part of a doorframe. (see picture).

In addition to all his regular duties, Don also found time to play a card game of whist with me most evenings as we wound down our day. It was during one of these games that Don told me that as much as he gives to Child Haven, he always gets more in return.

We volunteer at Child Haven in order to help children get a good start in life. In return we get back their smiles and affection, and the opportunity to make a real difference in their lives. We also get the opportunity to get to be part of a wonderful team of volunteers, with people like Don.

I am not claiming that Don is a saint. He snores like a lion with a bad cold. And while I would never accuse him of cheating at cards, he does seem to win more games than odds would allow.

So no, Don is not a saint, but he is a new hero of mine.



Arun Bhandari, Don Fraser, and their wooden god-friend from the woodpile.

Overseas Interns Needed:

Don Fraser, from Kamloops, recently completed his third stay at our Child Haven Nepal Home. We have space for more volunteers who will pay their own travel and commit three to six months interning in India, Nepal, or Bangladesh. Please contact our office in Maxville 613-527-2829. A $50 fee covers processing costs and your attendance at a two-day Orientation in Maxville. An additional $200 donation to partially cover overseas room and board is also asked of Interns. You can check out our new Intern Brochure on our web-site, childhaven.ca



Kaliyampoondi and Nepal In every Home, some of the best conversations happen over rolling chapatis or chopping vegetables. Above Kaliyampoondi cook Kutiyama shares some chapatti chat with volunteer-intern Sharon Fialco while Tamil Selvi looks on.

Below, Lucie Barre from Quebec, Kathmandu care-giver Maya, Ginny Kowalski from Winnipeg, Cook Bishnumaya and care-giver Kamala share chopping chuckles.







Kaliyampoondi – One of the great pleasures of working with children is watching them grow and flourish. Here is a series of pictures of Durga, who came to the Home when she was 5 and is now in Grade 11. Durga came to the Home with her single mother who is blind, who also lives at the Home.

Below is Bonniema congratulating Bhagia Lakshmi, age 16, on being the top student in her class. To the right below is a picture of Bhagia Lakshmi at an earlier age. She also came to the Home when she was 5(right).






Kaliyampoondi

There are a great many fine artists at the Home. Rachita (left) age 11 and in 3rd Grade came at the age of one with her older sister Ramya, now in Grade 7, her older brother Vishwa in Grade 8, and her recently widowed mother, Jothi. Jothi has been a dedicated care-giver at the Home ever since. Photo by Seenu.

Below, Durga Devi, 6 years old, is new to the Home. Her father passed away and her mother was unable to care for her. She was referred to the Home by a relative who knew about Child Haven.





Kaliyampoondi - Joyappan, (left), and Appa Durai, (right) and three other community members come every day for lunch and dinner to the Home. Joyappan worked for Child Haven caring for our cows some years ago. Appa Durai is differently-abled and has no family. An additional 20 low-income people receive one bag of rice per month.

Below, some exceedingly well used playground equipment.



Bonnie Lore (*written by her long-suffering husband*)



On a recent trip to our Children's Home in Meu, Bonniema asked if the fence had been completed around the compound yet. No, the answer came, one neighboring farmer is still not in agreement with the boundary set by three different surveyors on three separate surveys done at his request on the border between our properties. The staff had met with him many times, the town fathers met with him, but he would not budge. So Bonniema said, "This is a Children's Home and we need a wall for the safety of the children. I'd like to meet our neighbor too". "OK" she was told, "but don't get your hopes up, he is pretty stubborn".

The neighbor came over dressed in the traditional billowing white clothing and head scarf of the local farmers. "We are very happy to be your neighbor" Bonniema told him, "and we are happy to be out in the country. It is a good place for our children to be. I know because my grand-father was a farmer, and my father worked on farms while I was growing up. My grand-father had big hands just like you do. I can tell by your hands that you are a hard-working and capable farmer. Now we need your help to complete the fence between our properties so that our children stay safe. Won't you help us with that?" After some more conversation the farmer agreed.

Now we will have him come over and give advice about our new garden!





Above left is Bonniema's Grandfather Mueller with some of our children and their cousins camped out in front of his farm-house in rural Minnesota.

Above right are some of the staff and older boys completing the new fence.

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DONATING BY CREDIT CARD can be made through our web site or by calling Child Haven directly, 613-527-2829.

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To give through United Way, just designate your donation to 'Child Haven International' and include our Registered Charity # 11885 1922 RR0001. Receipts are issued by United Way. IN SOME CASES THE NAME OF THE DONOR IS NOT GIVEN TO US. WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR DONATION. GIVERS THROUGH CANADA HELPS ARE ALSO ANONYMOUS.

We are also able to receive **gifts of stocks and securities.** (better tax advantages than donating cash.)

Another way to offer your support is by **leaving Child Haven a bequest in your will**. There is a brochure on several ways to do this on our web-site under "Donating"



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Maitreya Home – Above left, the most beautiful baby in the world, Tenzin Dhasel, in a typical laid-back pose, and above right, Ngawang Dolma are two of the youngest children at the Home.

Below, Gawang Lhazom, Grade 12, Phuntsok Wangmo, Grade 11, and Rinchin Chomu, studying in her 2nd year of Biology, are some of the older ones at the Home. They are helping to serve lunch on the covered rooftop of the Home where welcome breezes cool the diners.







Tribal Home – Ganesh (above) has spent eight years in the Tribal Home. He has just completed 11th Grade. Ganesh and his family belong to the Kathkari Tribe, original inhabitants of Maharashtra State. Two years ago he lost his father to Tuberculosis. His father was not able to make regular visits to the hospital because of loss of wages. He has one sister by the name of Sarita in the 7th Grade and has been at the tribal home for the last three years. They grow vegetables on forest land during June to August. For the rest of the year Ganesh's mother (above right with Ganesh) works making bricks. She is working at the brick kiln because she has taken a loan from the owner and is now repaying it. Ganesh, the first person in his family to go to school, is pursuing his studies so that he can support his family in the future.

To the right is Tulsi whose family also belongs to a nomadic tribe. Their ancestral occupation is selling milk, curds, and buttermilk. Because of their cows and buffaloes, they used to be constantly moving in search of pastures and water for their animals. Now they are more settled but officially still categorized as a nomadic tribe. Tulsi's father cannot afford to own cattle, hence both her father and mother are working as construction workers and live in a make-shift home at the site.



Tulsi is a bright student and is studying in the 4th Grade. Her younger brother is too young to start schooling. Tulsi has been in the tribal home for the last two years. She is energetic and inquisitive, wanting to know the "what" and "why" of everything.







Tribal Home Gauri (above left) is 11 years old and in the 6th Grade. Her family also belongs to a Nomadic Tribe.

Vishal (above right) is a bright student. He is studying in the 8th Grade and belongs to the Kathkari Tribe. His father died three years ago, electrocuted by a live wire while working on a farm. Vishal has a sister Usha, studying in 7th standard. Finances are a huge challenge for their family. Vishal wants to study hard so he can get a well-paying job to support his sister and mother.

Samadhan (right) also belongs to the Kathkari Tribe. He is the first person in his family to be able to read. His parents are wage earners and own no land. Samadhan tends to be cheerful and always ready to give a helping hand work at the Tribal Home. He has just finished the 10th Grade exams and plans to take up a vocational course.



Bangladesh

Some of the older girls take a moment to explore the pictures and stories of their Home and our other Homes in the pages of this elegant and erudite journal.

Child Haven Support Groups and our Fundraising Dinners

Please check our web site for updated information

Sept 10	**Vancouver, BC**	Katherine Doyle & Ian Cameron 604-255-4077, Yamini 604-476-0264
Sept 16	**Perth, ON**	Sally Ziskowski 613-772-0678, Liisa Rissanen 613-268-2137
Sept 25	**Winnipeg, MB**	Zobida Ambtman 204-489-7630, Arvind Naran 204-891-7510
Oct 01	**Montreal, QC**	Sheila Laursen 514-697-4195, Conny Belanger 514-542-3381
Oct 19	**Comox/Courtenay, BC**	Heather Holm 250-338-2181
Oct 20	**Qualicum/Parksville, BC**	Leona Matte 250-752-7404
Oct 29	**Glengarry, ON**	Alyson Graham 613-525-0796, Susan Joiner 613-525-5177
Oct	**Hardwick, VT, USA**	Robin Cappuccino 802-533-2296, Rachel Davey 413-250-6204
Fall	**Victoria, BC (Group 2)**	Jenny Farkas 250-721-1579
Fall	**Canmore, AB**	Paula Duncan, Simon Bryant 403-609-8125
Fall	**Naniamo, BC**	Robert & Wendy Stewart 250-758-7532, Dale Lawlor 413-250-6204
Apr, 2017	**Cornwall, ON**	Elaine MacDonald 613-938-7763
Apr, 2017	**Victoria, BC (Group 3)**	Surinder & Ann Kumar 250-412-5135
Apr 08, 17	**Calgary, AB**	Dave Greene 403-816-1705, Lata Patel 403-462-5474
Apr 21, 17	**Ottawa, ON**	Lynda Inkster 613-837-3532, Dave Basu & Parin Bhimani 613-422-1573
Apr 29, 17	**Mississauga, ON**	Shyam Sheth & Leena Motwani 647-876-8488, Tushar Mehta 416-839-1938
Apr 30, 17	**Waterloo, ON**	Deepti Celetti 519-846-0505, Carol Burrows 519-744-8449
Spring, 17	**Kingston, ON**	Andrew Rush 613-542-6992 or 343-333-1974
Spring, 17	**Victoria, BC (Group 1)**	Christine Johnston 250-385-5444
Spring, 17	**Lincoln, MA, USA**	Christine Damon 781-879-5870
Spring, 17	**Lennoxville, QC**	Keith Baxter 819-346-8273
Fall, 2017	**Edmonton, AB**	Sylvia Krogh 780-454-6216





Bangladesh - Lalkunai and Rana (left and years later, right) have been buddies for a long time!

Below, Staff members Monir, center, and Nikodim, far right, seem to have their hands full!

Rene Cappuccino photos





Bangladesh – The boys, above, sing a heart-felt song at the dedication of several new table tennis tables at the Home. Two were constructed there, and one donated by a Board Member.
The girls, below, rose to the occasion with a spirited dance evoking the collaboration and rise of women and girls the world over. Much table tennis joy ensued.





Meu – Above, how many feet have travelled this sandy path across the court-yard?

Below budding arborists and staff find a cool spot in the recently planted grove of fruit and shade trees surrounding the Home. Reservoirs have been left around the trees to water them in the early stages of their growth. These trees hold the promise of many shady moments and tasty treats to come.





Meu – of course every day is Children's Day at a Child Haven Home, but once a year the rest of the world also celebrates children on a special day. On that day at our Home in Meu, a plethora of activities was engaged in. Above the boys demonstrate their fastest moves and below the girls show how gracefully they can co-ordinate jumping and rope swirling. Ah the vigor of youth! Photos by Sandy MacFarlane





Savarsai – Canadian readers of this erudite journal might have a hard time even imagining the heat-wave in India at this writing with temperatures well up into the 100's Fahrenheit. Easier to imagine might be the joy of the concurrent mango and jackfruit season, providing a pleasuresome distraction from the sun's radiance. Once again we are fortunate that the Home's beloved now deceased founder, Mukunda Kolhatkar, had the foresight to plant a legacy of mango, jackfruit, coconut and other fruit-bearing trees on the site. Above, girls with mangoes, and below some of the boys, serious about mangoes and jack-fruit. In the center is our gardener Ashok.
Prakash Patil photos







$\mathcal{MVP}$ – Above, one of the students in our new beautician's training program at work on a fellow student. The women in the community requested the program as a vocational skills development opportunity.

Lakshmi, left, demonstrates one of the low-cost sanitary napkin pad machines to Karma from the Maitreya Home who was accompanying Bonniema on one of her recent visits. Lakshmi and two other technicians make the pads which are sold from the facility at low cost to area women and a local hospital.



Nepal Care-giver Samjhana Bista with some of her charges putting coloured pencils to paper. Ginny Kowalski photo

Let me light my light, says the star,
And never debate if it will dispel the dark
Rabindranath Tagore



Nepal – Maya and two of her charges having their afternoon tea in the dining hall.

For donations please make cheque out to CHILD HAVEN, and mail this portion to CHILD HAVEN, 19014 Conc. 7, Maxville, ON K0C 1T0 (or to Box 5099, Massena, NY 13662-5099, USA.) Donations to Child Haven are tax receiptable in Canada, India and the USA. General Full sponsorship is $30/month or $360/year. Half-sponsorship is $15/month or $180/year.

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