

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE



HIMALAYAN LIFE
ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

BUILDING UP LIVES: A NOTE FROM DANIEL



My work in the Himalayas began in 1995 in community development and building infrastructure. Having been trained as an engineer, I would naturally turn to technology to find solutions to the manifold problems of rural communities in Nepal. For example, we addressed the problem of deforestation by building small-scale hydro plants, thereby significantly reducing the women's daily drudgery of gathering firewood.

However, building infrastructure alone is not the answer. Instead, at Himalayan Life, we have been committed for nearly 20 years to building up lives and investing in children, young adults, and families. This is an exciting time for us as we see graduating students from Himalayan Life programs taking strides in life: choosing a career, starting a family, giving back, and serving. You will find some of their inspiring stories in this Annual Report!

Personally, I feel very privileged that we have the opportunity to play a role in these young people's journey. In some cases, it is literally a journey from abandonment in the garbage dump to living a life marked by reconciliation, purpose, and hope.

Thank you for your ongoing support through which you, too, are involved in building a brighter future for children in the Himalayas.

Daniel Burgi, CEO/Founder



ABOUT US: WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Himalayan Life invests in the lives of thousands of children and youths in the Himalayas, thereby aiming to make a lasting transformative impact on individuals, families, and communities. We provide comprehensive care and education for marginalized and disadvantaged children in the hope of seeing them flourish. We furthermore offer extracurricular programs for a wide range of community children in the Himalayas, encouraging them to live with hope, peace and joy.

Scarcity is an adequate word to describe life in isolated villages in the rugged hills of the Thakaltar region of Nepal. People earn a meagre living by farming small and stony fields, without much access to essential services. Schools are scarce, too, and children have to walk incredibly long distances through difficult terrain to attend the nearest school.

This home presently accommodates 71 children and provides them with the opportunity to attend school during the week, while returning to their families on the weekend. At the Thakaltar home, the children are cared for by loving home parents. Besides school work, their lives are being built up through sports, play and comradery.



LIVES IN THAKALTAR

“ My name is Elina* and I am 16 years old. My family lives in a village that is a two-hour walk from my school. I found it difficult to attend school regularly and so I began to neglect my studies. Now that I live at Thakaltar Children’s Home, I have the opportunity to focus on school and pursue my dream of becoming a teacher. Since I am one of the older students here, I can help the younger children with their homework so they, too, can chase their dreams. ”

**Name changed for privacy.*

REBUILDING THE

Five years ago, the Himalayan Life School in Yangri opened its doors to students from kindergarten to grade five. Every year, a grade has been added, and the school now has 280 students enrolled in K-9. The school has earned a reputation for its committed yet joyful learning environment, disciplined children, and highly committed and hard-working teachers and staff.

A flash flood in 2021 destroyed several buildings and rendered much of the school grounds useless. Thankfully, we were able to acquire a beautiful 10-acre property further up in the Yangri Valley to rebuild and eventually relocate the entire school. Construction of the first classroom buildings is in progress, with plans to move the upper grades to the new campus in 2024.

YANGRI SCHOOL



“ My name is Vikram, and I was born in India. Both my parents are Nepalese migrant workers in the mountains of northern India, working hard to simply put food on the table for our family. When I was nine years old, we heard about Himalayan Life’s Home and School for Nepalese children in Ladakh. My parents never had the chance to get an education and yet, they recognized the need for me to go to school! Thus, my journey with Himalayan Life began.

I completed my bachelor’s in 2022 and decided to move to my home country, Nepal. I was an intern with Himalayan Life for several months, and then I was hired as a teacher in Yangri, which provided me with the opportunity to give back and serve. Indeed, working at the school reminds me of my childhood, and it brings me such joy to help the students build their future. Himalayan Life has played a crucial role in my journey: providing me with a home and education when I was a child, and now, a meaningful and fulfilling job in my adulthood. ”

BUILDING UP BODY,

Typically, public schools in Nepal are narrowly focused on academics, without much attention to the holistic development of the children. Parents are so busy with life's chores and making ends meet that they can hardly spend quality time with their kids, and opportunities for sensible leisure activities for children are very limited.

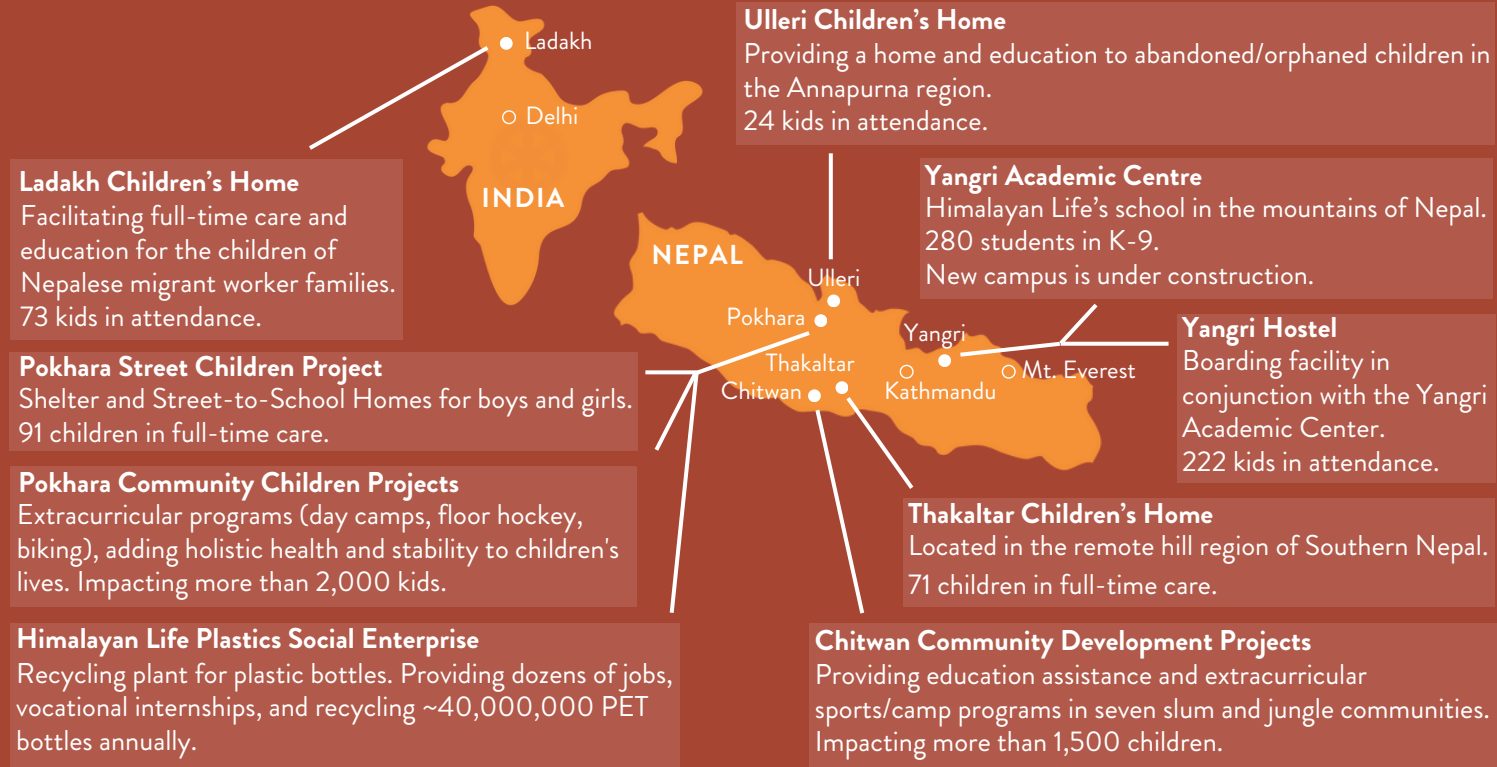
This is why, 15 years ago, Himalayan Life introduced floor hockey to Nepal. Today, thousands of children compete in hundreds of teams nationwide. Dozens of schools and communities have adopted the game, and Himalayan Life continues to train both coaches and players. The kids get to experience a sense of achievement when improving their skills and learn the thrill of winning and the art of losing while honing their social abilities and enjoying camaraderie with their team. Relationships are being built and lives transformed - one hockey stick at a time.



MIND, AND SOUL



PROJECTS



FINANCIAL REPORT & IMPACT NUMBERS 2022/23

International Revenue

Canada	\$1,108,137*	64%
Switzerland	\$632,902	36%
Total	\$1,741,039	



4,507
children impacted by
our programs



491
children provided full-time
care

International Expenses

Programs	\$1,840,634	87%
Administration	\$150,936	7%
Development	\$122,610	6%
Total	\$2,114,180	



741
children received a
formal education



7
students graduated from
our programs and returned
as interns or employees



93
migrant labour children
attended summer camp
in Ladakh



108,840
bottles recycled daily at
the Himalayan Life
Recycling Plant

*includes donations received from USA and UK.

All funds are in Canadian dollars. Detailed audited financial statements are available upon request.



153
amazing Nepalese
staff investing in the
lives of children



59
dedicated volunteers
giving their time to
Himalayan Life

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400-221 West Esplanade, North Vancouver, BC, V7M 3J3, Canada

www.himalayanlife.com · info@himalayanlife.com