

Namaste Dear EPSA-Nepal Friends

Newsletter - December - 2023



to swinging trees. As the weather was colder, everyone was warmly dressed from head to toe and we opted to cook at the place as warmer meals would allow us to enjoy the weather more. It was an exciting day for everyone as we all had fun together and it was also the start of a new year where they could look forward to what's to come in the coming days. The day ended with smiles on everyone's faces.

We started this year with a group picnic at Bhutkhel where we cooked ourselves and had a fun time with small talks and fun activities. All the members could not be there but we tried to include as many members as possible. Bhutkhel was a calm place where we experienced the different sound of nature from chirping birds



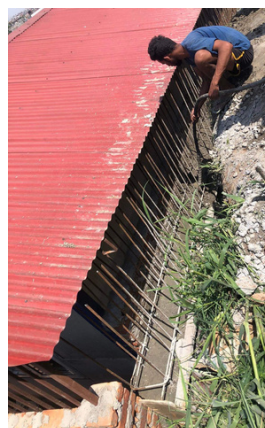
In March,
We celebrated International Women's day alongside had a puja for the beginning of construction of the new building just beside EPSA-Nepal home. For the puja we invited Lama's to conduct the ceremony with auspicious wishes and safe construction of the building. It was the start of the project mentioned last year called "KARUNA". The project undertook the steps towards building a universally accessible facility and weaving center which did not stop till early November when the only thing left was to settle the newly joined members.



In the month of June, we met with H.E. Dr. Thomas Prinze who is the residing Ambassador of Germany in Nepal. We discussed

his participation in the project “KARUNA”, for which we received a positive response and after multiple discussion and proposal submission we signed a MOU for the project which we are truly grateful for.

Similarly, in the month of July we reached out to our long time supporter Venerable Master Hueiguang Shi who was also quite delighted to learn about the project and provided tremendous support for the project to come into completion. We did have multiple meetings in regards to what the project will bring and how it will help the community of persons with disabilities. By the end of July, we received his personal support for Karuna home which did not stop there as in December he also gave us a helping hand with food, hygiene products and winter essentials, which we are truly thankful for.



In August, the Mayor of Tarakeshwor municipality helped us build a shear wall due to the dangers of landslide and rock falls from the slope behind EPSA-Nepal home. It made us feel relieved as we did not need to be afraid of the falling rocks and sands during the season.



In November, we had another puja for the beginning of our project “KARUNA” which also stated the end of the construction for our new facility. The members and



our partners for this project Karnor expressed their well wishes and auspicious blessings for the project to have fruitful outcomes and allow more people to be able to stand for themselves. The project concluded with the completion of our new office and the participation of our new members.



From November, new members started joining us for the project “KARUNA” where they learn both theoretical and practical skills to weave. All the members come from rural parts of Nepal among which some have never received education. We believe providing this opportunity will not only encourage other persons with disability but will also allow our new members to have a stand in today's society.

In November 12, we celebrated Tihar by playing Deusi/Bhailo at Tise hotel where we were invited by Karnor. We played some songs, danced to music and created a festive environment for everyone present there. It was a first for our new members while it was also a fun memory for everyone, for which we are grateful towards all the support we received from everyone.



EPSA-Nepal had an amazing experience this year with the changing seasons where we would like to thank all those who are still with EPSA-Nepal from the past till the present. We would like to thank SURYA VERIEEN Nepal for their continuous support for our girls where 5 students still receive education with their financial aid and also for their support in building the infrastructure of Karuna home. We also would like to express our gratitude towards Fondation Audrey Jacob (Astrid) for the help we received to complete the upper floor of Karuna Facility.

The year 2023 was a exciting ride for EPSA-Nepal as we got involved in multiple things alongside the completion of our collaborative project

“KARUNA” which is now established as

“Karuna Universal Weaving Facility”. We are truly grateful for the completion of this project and would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all the people who supported us throughout this journey. We truly would not be able to reach this point if it were not for the support we received since the establishment of EPSA-Nepal, we are quite grateful and hope for the well wishes of everyone.



THANK YOU

