

Reaping Hope

Sponsor a Grandparent Project (SAG Phase- II)

Grandparent Profile

Mandan Deupur - Kavre

Background:

Right after the massive earthquake, RH started construction of transitional shelters for senior citizens in Bhimdhunga, Irkhu and Kavre. After knowing the situation of senior citizens in all those areas, it was evident that one time support for them wasn't just enough. Most of the elders chosen for reconstruction were either living alone, with their spouse or physically impaired in some way. Thus, building a shelter for them was not enough for them and they needed their children who weren't with them to look after them at this old age.



Since the elders were unable to raise livelihood or get involved in any type of income generating activities, RH had started a new project named 'Sponsor a Grandparent' which, as the name suggests, supports senior citizens in need with basic supplies. The main target group for this project are the elders who are either living alone, those who cannot work or raise livelihood or who have been abandoned

by their children. RH aims to help these elderly every month with ration and basic toiletries for hygiene enough for each month. The project started from January 2016 (B.S 2073/10/02) with support to 8 senior citizens in Bhimdhunga and since RH has been able to get sponsors for all 8 of them, the SAG-II phase is being extended to Mandan Deupur Village in Kavre. The project is currently supported by Walk for Nepal (WFN) with support for 10 of the Senior Citizens. WFN will support the grandparents till December of 2018 and in the meantime, RH will search for individual sponsors to support the seniors for life.

Objective of the project

The primary objective of *"Sponsor a Grandparent"* project is to help senior citizens sustain their lives and overcome their financial crisis or distressful situation. Specifically, its objectives can be listed as follows:

- To economically support poor senior citizens.
- To provide relief to senior citizens during their financial crisis.

Grandparents' Profile (Mandan Deupur-Kavre)

1) Name: Setimaya Tamang (65 Years old)



Setimaya is a resident of Mandan Deupur, Jyamire-10 in **Kavre**. She has two daughters who are married and living in their respective homes. After her husband's death, she has been living alone, cultivating little land that she had and feeding herself while she can. Her house was fully destroyed by the earthquake in 2015 and she managed to build herself a temporary shelter made out of CGI Sheets with some support from the government and neighbors. As her strength weakened by the years, she became lesser productive in the field but she still goes to her land to plant vegetables for herself.

Although she gets monthly allowance of Rs. 3000 by the government as Elderly Single Woman Allowance (Elderly-2000 & Single Woman-1000), it is barely enough for her needs. She developed problems in her eyesight as she aged and her knees have weakened and ache a lot, she says. Her daughters visit her during festivals but besides that, she is on her own.

2) Manbahadur Shrestha (84 Years Old)

Manbahadur has already passed 8 decades of his life in Shreechaur- Kavre. His left leg has lost its function and he has trouble in speaking clearly as well. He lost his wife a few years back and has a daughter who is already married. He was supported by GMIN when he lost his house to earthquake. The organization donated him some CGI sheets with which he built a temporary shelter with the help of locals. His condition doesn't let him work and he is completely dependent on the Old Age Allowance of Rs. 2000 provided by the government. Most of his allowance is spent in food and thus, he has to depend on painkillers instead of actual medication for his leg.



He took us to his 'Home' which was far from other villagers. His house was built on the same premises where he has his tin house now. He showed us his kitchen, bed and around

his house. When asked what he expects as support, he said that food will be enough as he can then utilize his Old Age Allowance for other necessary things.

3) Kanchhi Damini (83 Years Old) - Sponsored



Born in 1992 BS, Kanchhi Damini has worked as a tailor her whole life until her eyesight became weak due to old age. She has 2 sons and 3 daughters of which 1 son is disabled. All of them live separately with their own family, however; one of her daughter comes to visit her occasionally. Her husband had passed away a long time ago.

She was having her house built with the help of Caritas Nepal when we visited her. This is the only support she has ever gotten after the earthquake. She lived in a tin house for more than 2 years until recently. She will be moving to her small but a permanent house soon. With the Old Age Allowance as her only income source, she often faces challenges managing her daily needs. She cannot go work because of her old age and also because she belongs to a caste that other 'Higher' caste don't allow inside their homes. **She is currently being sponsored by Ranu Bista since February 2018.**

4) Dal Bahadur Bhujel (69 Years Old)

Born in 1948, 69 Years Old Dalbahadur has problems in speaking and understanding things due to which, he never married and is still single. He used to stay in Panchkhal, working as a construction labor with no certainty of job, which he had to quit because of his disability.



After the earthquake, he moved to Mandan Deupur-10, his birthplace, where he relies on his brother's family for two meals a day. He sometimes helps around house in exchange. His brother is not well-off himself and relies on little farming they have done to provide themselves with dinner.

5) Manmaya Nepal (80 Years Old)



Living in ward 10 of Mandan Deupur, Manmaya lost her husband a few years ago leaving behind 7 daughters and a step son to take care of. Her step son stayed with her until he left his wife in the village and fled with another woman and is not in contact since then. She is now living with her step daughter in law and her little grandchildren. They have a little piece of land where they grow maize and mostly rely on farming and labor work. Manmaya couldn't continue working as she grew older and started doing small household chores after that. Her family got some support from CARITAS Nepal after the earthquake with which they built huts for shelter.

6) Harka Bahadur Tamang (79 Years Old) - Sponsored

79 years old Harka Bahadur suffers from poor hearing and has problem in walking. He also has Vitiligo, which cause white pigmentation in skin. He was never married and was well off until he grew older and he could no longer be actively involved in income generation.

Without any partner or children as caretakers,



times became hard for him, to a point where he now roams around his neighbors' houses in search of dinner and gets to eat only if someone feeds him.

We spoke to his nephew during the visit and got commitment from him that his family will take him in and cook food for him if we provide him with monthly ration.

Ms. Roshni Thapa Magar, a resident of U.K, has taken the responsibility of being his sponsor from December 2018.

7) Murali Kami (65 Years Old)

Murali used to work in farms and did labor work while he was young. He is still unmarried at the age of 65 because he has a learning disability (mentally disabled). He resides in ward-10- Kami tole of Mandan Deupur. As he aged, he started having asthma attacks on top of his disability. Being from a 'Kami' community, he is often ignored by people of other 'Higher' caste, as it is in rural parts of Nepal.

He does not have a house of his own and spends his nights at his (far-related) brother's in-laws' house (*Parako nata parne bhai ko sasurali*) and depends on his neighbors for on emeal a day.



8) Panmati Majhi (76 Years Old)



The Majhi community is considerably backwards, economically and socially, in Nepal. Panmati Majhi is not an exception. She resides in Majhigaun-10, of Mandan Deupur Kavre. She lives with her daughter Nilkumari Majhi (unmarried) who is disabled (weak knee joints) and cannot earn a living. Panmati herself cannot walk easily due to problems in her joints and usually spends her day beside

her hut, unable to do anything. With the hereditary disease causing major problems, the earthquake added more to their misery which wiped out their entire community. Her husband had passed away a long time ago leaving her and her daughter with no one to look after them.

She gets her old-age allowance of Rs. 2000 a month with which she has to buy food, supplies and pay for healthcare.

9) Dupchi Tamang (71 Years Old)

Dupchi is a 71 years old senior who lives in Ratmata-10, Mandan Deupur. Her husband passed away a long time ago leaving her with 2 sons to take care of. As time went by, her sons became old enough to work but to her misery, her elder son fled the village with the love of his life and was never heard of since then. Adding to the tragedy, her younger son also passed away a year ago (2016) leaving her alone and unable to work during her old age.

Today, she lives all alone in her tin house and relying on her little earned old-age allowance of Rs. 2000. She has to feed herself, buy household items and buy medications for her occasional illness. The cost of medication is increasing by the years as she grew older and her body has become vulnerable to illness.



10) Sukman Tamang (67 Years Old)

Sukman Tamang lives with his wife in Tindhara, Mandan Deupur. Though they tried having children in their early days, they were unable to conceive one. He says that either he or his wife might have some medical condition that they are unaware of so they decided to live with each other, without children. It was okay during their younger days but now, as they've grown older and weaker, they are feeling the need of a caretaker.



They have a small farm where they grow a little amount of maize seasonally and besides that, Sukman occasionally makes traditional Nepali 'Doko' and have 6 goats which he sells during Dashain Festival, which is the only income source for them. As the couple grow older, it is getting harder for them to carry on rearing goats for income. They have not yet applied for Old Age allowance because of the age limit from Nepal government. (Should be 70+ for Old Age Allowance).

11) Maili Tamangni - (80 Years Old)

Maili Tamang is an example of a pure rural elderly woman who only speaks her mother tongue and understands little Nepali. The RH team needed a translator to speak with her during the assessment. Her husband died in 2005 AD after which she was left with her youngest daughter, who is deaf and is unmarried till date. Other children of hers are already married and live far away from her, leaving her alone with her disabled daughter.



She has 1 old buffalo and 4 goats and her old age allowance as the only income source. She has knee problems which restrains her from walking. She stays in her tin house and takes care of the buffalo and goats.

Modes of support

1) Sponsor a grandparent

The supporter can choose to sponsor a grandparent and commit on supporting him/her every month for their necessities as long as the supporter can. RH is trying to link the senior citizens with such kind sponsors for the sustainability of the support. The funds collected for the cause is limited and does not ensure the sustainability of the support. The supporter, however, can choose to stop the support any time if he/she wants to but will have to inform RH 1 month in advance. 8 grandparents in Bhimdhunga have been sponsored till date.

2) Donation for the cause

The supporter can also choose to provide a one-time donation for the cause. RH has created a fund account for Sponsor a Grandparent which is currently being used for the non-sponsored grandparents and will continue to do so until all of the grandparents are sponsored. Once all 8 grandparents are sponsored by kind individuals, the remaining fund will be used to expand the project beneficiaries in other areas.

List of items

Supported items per month for 1 grandparent

SN	Support item	Quantity
1.	Rice	10 Kg
2.	Lentil	3 Kg
3.	Cooking oil	2 Ltrs
4.	Salt	2 Pkts
5.	Washing soap	5 bars
6.	Bathing Soap	1 bar



The total amount required to support one grandparent is Rs. 2300/month.

** The materials are delivered on the first day (1 gatay) of every month. We are more than happy if any of the sponsors are interested in joining us on the day of delivery.*

*** The price of rice and lentil varies every month. In case of surplus, the amount goes to the Sponsor a Grandparent's core fund and in case of deficit, the core fund will cover the amount.*



How do I support?

- **For sponsors from within Nepal**, You can deposit the monthly amount in Sponsor a Grandparent's bank account:
 - **Nepal Investment Bank Limited**
 - **A/C Name: Reaping Hope**
 - **A/C Num: 05301050001159**
 - **SWIFT: NIBLNPKT**
 - **Address: Jawalakhel, Kathmandu**
- You can choose to deposit the amount of each month or deposit the amount for 6 months or a year in advance, as per your ease.
- **For sponsors residing out of Nepal**, you can choose to send the amount directly to the bank account mentioned above using the SWIFT Code.
- You can also send the amount via Western Union if that's easier for you. We will provide you the details of the receiver upon request.

Send us an email at info@reapinghope.org.np OR reapinghope@gmail.com / sajana.reapinghope@gmail.com for further inquiries.

Visit our Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/reapinghope to see pictures and send messages about the support.

Log in to www.reapinghope.org.np to know more about Reaping Hope (RH)

Thank you for your interest in **Sponsor a Grandparent**.
Together with **you** all, RH aims to support **one hundred** destitute
elderly this year through Sponsor a Grandparent (SAG)