



Covid-19 hits SCAI's project areas

Dear Sponsors and Friends of SCAI,

We hope you are all keeping safe and well.

In our last update a few weeks ago, we brought you positive news that the children and families we support in Nepal had not yet been impacted from the Covid-19 virus. We regret to report now that **Covid-19 has spread into our 2 main working areas, which puts the vulnerable children and families we support like Saru and her mother, at significantly higher risk.**



Several staff from our local rural municipality office have recently tested positive and it is **spreading through our local communities. Currently there are limited facilities for testing, treatment and no isolation centres.**

We have been hesitant to reach out to you for emergency funds for Covid-19 in addition to our regular program activities, but with this latest development, **WE ARE NOW SEEKING YOUR HELP.**

In partnership with our 2 local rural municipalities in Nuwakot district, each home to around 29,000 people, we hope to **urgently set up an isolation centre in each area** (one being where our SCAI site office is, 4-5 hrs from Kathmandu). Each centre would provide:

PCR test kits (swabs)
Hospital beds and bedding (15 sets in one, 8 in other)
6 sets Personal Protective Equipment at each
Thermometers
1 water tank and soap for handwashing at Shivapuri centre
1 oxygen machine at each
1750 washable masks for frontline workers and children in our education scholarship programs
and their families.

Our goal is to raise AUD\$15,000



PCR tests are only free for patients in serious condition in Nepal. The standard cost of **\$70 prevents many extremely poor people from being tested**, let alone treated.

People who **test positive are returning to their families and suffering without medical care** as there are insufficient isolation centres or beds in most of the hospitals, including ICU.

Many medical and paramedical, security personnel and other government front line workers have reported **high infection rates due to lack of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**, so **understandably many are very hesitant to test and treat patients** without proper protection.

To give you an idea of how far your donations will go:

\$30 will buy 1 Infrared thermometer
\$40 will buy 10 PCR test kits (swabs)
\$50 will buy 1 set of Personal Protective Equipment
\$60 will buy 1 poly water tank with tap
\$100 will buy 500 masks
\$100 will buy 25 youth or their guardians Covid-19 medical insurance
\$230 will buy 1 hospital bed and bedding
\$1800 will buy an oxygen machine
(Donations of any amount will be gladly accepted!)



A human life is priceless, and in countries like Nepal where some people cannot even afford their basic needs, a life can be lost so easily and unnecessarily due to a lack of money and adequate health services.

Over 28,000 people have tested positive now in Nepal, a country smaller than the state of Victoria in Australia. The government and hospitals are struggling to contain the virus, and the huge loss of income is plunging thousands more people into extreme poverty. As always, it is the most vulnerable who suffer the most.

Please DONATE TODAY to help our brothers and sisters in need. A small amount goes a long way in Nepal – a small price to pay to help save precious lives!

As always, we are extremely humbled and grateful for any support you can provide, and please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries.
