



**Ama Foundation**

Home & Education for At-Risk Children in Nepal



**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**



# ABOUT THE AMA FOUNDATION

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The Ama Foundation funds Ama Ghar, a permanent care home for children who have been abandoned, trafficked or have lost their home and family to poverty, drug/alcohol abuse or illness. We are dedicated to providing these children with a loving home, an excellent education, health care and the confidence to become productive, self-supporting adults.

The Ama Foundation is a California 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, Federal Tax ID #36-4478880.



In 2023, we welcomed the 100th child through our doors and have now cared for 101 total children over the past 22 years. We also have grown generationally, as several Ama Ghar alumni have children of their own! It is a joy to watch Ama Ghar alumni out in the world and cheer them on the different paths they take. Shrawan Nepali founded Ama Ghar with a vision for the future where the children who came through Ama Ghar’s doors grew into successful and productive members of their communities. We are seeing that plan in action, and are excited to share more good news through Bonnie’s letter and the following pages of this report.

The mission of The Ama Foundation in the US is to raise the funding that keeps Ama Ghar alive. We incurred some unexpected and rising costs in 2023, but our Ama Ghar staff was nimble and diligent, and we were able to stay on budget. We expect costs to rise again in 2024 due to inflation, increased government fees, and the rising costs to house our young adults as they transition out of Ama Ghar.

Historically, we have relied on the generosity of private donors and corporate matching programs, but we are continuing to work towards a more aggressive grant-writing campaign and a new Legacy Giving program. Our Ama Foundation endowment continues to be under attentive management with Roshani Pandey, CEO of True Root Financial, and it continues to grow under her guidance.

We deeply appreciate our Ama Foundation donor family, who have made the last 22 years possible, and continue to help us build towards a better future.

Mary Averill & Patricia Ellison  
Co-Chairs  
The Ama Foundation



*Mary Averill*



*Patricia Ellison*



2023 was a year full of activities, plus four new children, two graduations, two weddings and two new alumni - growth and change. Our new children are Kamal, age 7, his sister Maya age 5, Bipana, age 13 and Roshni, age 11.

We are delighted that our alumni have given us seven grandchildren. In addition to our emphasis on education and raising good citizens, an unspoken mission of mine has been to raise the next generation of good parents. We are proudly doing that!

Alumni continue to be involved in our mission and are giving back: there are four alumni on the Ama Ghar Board and many others who visit regularly and provide excellent feedback and bonding with the children. This was an early goal of our founder, Shawan Nepali.

As I become less active in day-to-day management, I am very pleased with our team at Ama Ghar. Bhesh Nepali retired and our new manager, Kyamuna Khadka, really knows the ropes after four years as administrator. She has great management strength and insights as a mother herself. Our new office assistant, Sajan Shakya is one of the original children who came to Ama Ghar in 2001, so he brings the perspective of having grown up at Ama Ghar. They are becoming a strong and effective management team.



*Bonnie Ellison*

Our proudest accomplishments are always those of the children! We have 37 attending secondary school.

Sabin, Rosina and Ajay completed Class 10 and moved on to Class 11 to start their higher education.

Bhupendra started a Bachelors and Jenuka and Samjhana completed their Bachelors and the transition out of Ama Ghar.

These are the numbers - but we celebrate and enjoy the growth of all of them. They have found new interests, new confidence, new types of mischief and all that comes with a happy childhood.

All this is possible because you care.

With gratitude,  
Bonnie Auntie



# EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S ADVANCEMENTS

Manisha – New mother of young son. Working in resort in Australia.

Mangel – Working in Mauritius.

Krishna – Working at Dental School in Kuwait.

Po-Po- Moved to India to find job in Aviation.

Jenuka – Personal Assistant to CEO of new Dog Chew company.

Samjana Sanu – Living with mother, working in a coffee shop.

Rama – Working at coffee shop in the airport.

Sajan S – Office Assistant at Ama Ghar office.

Sangita – Working for lawyer's office that specializes in citizenship cases.

Samjhana T – Starting internship in Park City, Utah in 2024.

Rupa – Completed Lab Technician Bachelors – looking for a job.

Akriti – Completed Travel and Tourism Bachelors -looking for a job.

Laxmi S. - Third year of Bachelors Psychology/Social Work.

Aruneema – Third year of Accounting/Banking Bachelors.

Santosh – Second year of IT Engineering Bachelors.

Bhupendra – First year of Bachelors in Travel and Tourism.



*Jenuka celebrating her graduation*



# 2023 IN PHOTOS

*2023 was full of celebrations. Outside of the many holidays we celebrate, we also celebrated several academic promotions and two Ama Ghar alumni weddings!*



*A group photo during Dashain.*



*The Ama Ghar family at Sajan's wedding party!*



*Honoring our staff who have dedicated 20 years to Ama Ghar.*



*Samjhana graduates!*



*Meena helps Maya give tika to Kamal during Bhai Tika.*



*Celebrating Teej at Ama Ghar.*



*Holi 2023 at Ama Ghar*



*Sabin, Rosina, and Ajay's SEE Exam celebration.*



# 2023 IN PHOTOS

*Part of our philosophy is ensuring that the Ama Ghar children get a full, enriching experience, which includes arts, sports, and fun outings together and in groups.*



*Rekha learning to play the guitar.*



*Ajay, Sabin, Rosina and the team during 5 day Quest Trek.*



*Bipana won 3rd place in a singing contest!*



*Badiram at the jump house.*



*Amusement park group photo.*



*Sabin and Ramit performing a song. Sabin is teaching guitar lessons at Ama Ghar and has started recording songs and publishing them on YouTube.*



# 2023 IN PHOTOS

*Holidays, birthdays, celebrations, and extracurricular activities are important, but it's these everyday moments that we cherish. Here's a peek at our family album from the past year.*



*Rojina and Ashika.*



*Enjoying lunch outside.*



*Alisha and Rijan helping prepare dinner for the family.*



*Sajan and Sandesh on staff at Ama Ghar.*



*Rosina and Jamuna.*



*Group photo during rice planting.*



*Jeevan taking a break during rice harvest.*



*Maya and Amrita heading to school.*



# FROM OUR GUEST BOOK

So nice to see them growing, changing and being more confident in life. Many thanks to all of you for all you do for the children. You have been a part of our heart for more than 10 years and we look forward to sharing more and more with you. All the best and take care.

**The Momo Family, Geneva, Switzerland**

It was the most heart warming moment in my life visiting you. I am blown away by the way you designed the home, keeping every simple details in mind. I observed the children enjoying life and I am sure they will be great citizens in the future.

**Dr. M Devasitham, Kathmandu, Nepal**

What a great blessing to have been invited to Ama Ghar! It feels like family even after 2 minutes! Very inspiring to hear the story and love behind the walls of the building. Sabin is a great musician. I was really impressed by his skills, talent and expression on the guitar! Very nice to play in duo with him. Thank you!!!

**Bram (Musician that played at Jazzmandu),  
Netherlands**

*We are so grateful that 2023 brought more visitors from around the world, and from within Nepal, back to Ama Ghar.*



*Madelynn, a visitor from the US, with Ashika, Sarita, and Roshni during Tihar.*

Bless you all for what you are doing in this place, teaching the children how to love and be loved. Please know how important your work is, and that your light is spreading through these children into the world. Thank you for sharing this with us today!

**Ross and Sam Phillips, Wisconsin and  
Minnesota**



*Sherry, a returning visitor and supporter from the UK, with Sabin.*

It has been a real joy to spend 10 days with you all, learning a little of what you do to create such a wonderful family – for that is what this is. All the love, kindness, the rules and respect everyone shown each other has been inspiring to see. I will miss you all very much and hope to return one day. Bless you all.

**Jessica Pocock, Hants, UK**



# 2023 A NIGHT IN NEPAL FUNDRAISER



*This year, we honored our longtime supporters and friends Paramesh Adhikari and Barbara Moffat. Board Member Matthew Mason served as our auctioneer. Thanks to our generous community and sponsors, we raised nearly \$100,000 for Ama Ghar. This is nearly half of our annual budget!*



# 2023 STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## ***Ama Foundation Board of Directors***

Shrawan Nepali, Founder  
Mary Averill, Board Chair  
Patricia Ellison, Co-Chair  
Yasmijn Adhikari, Treasurer  
Jacole Douglas, Secretary  
Bonnie Ellison, Country Director  
Sarah Nikles  
Suyesh Kharki  
Jane Ellison  
Nick Ray  
Andrea Osbon  
Matthew Mason

## ***Ama Foundation Staff***

Stacy Hersher, Communications Director  
Cathy Clifton, Administrator  
Barbara Moffat, Volunteer Administrative Assistant

## ***Ama Ghar Board of Directors***

Lalita Thapa, President  
Bandana Shrestha, Vice President  
Rabindra Shrestha, Treasurer  
Samjhana Nepali, Joint Treasurer  
Ashok Shrestha, Secretary  
Pabita Basnet, Joint Secretary  
Shekhar Silwal  
Jogendra K.C.  
Kanchhakagi Basnet  
Laxman Prashad Shrestha  
Ashok Raj Pandey  
Saradha Adhikari  
Jenuka Dhodari  
Vijaya K.C.  
Pradip Kumar K.C.

## ***Ama Ghar Staff***

Kyamuna Khadka, Manager  
Sajan Shakya, Office Assistant  
Uma Singh, House Supervisor  
Dhana Devi Adhikari, House Mother  
Bindu Laxmi Tamang, House Mother  
Anita Khadka, House Mother  
Apsara Gurung, House Mother  
Ram Bahadur Bohara, House Father  
Sandesh Shrestha, House Father  
Dil Maya Majhi, House Cleaner  
Radhika Silwal, Laundry Woman  
Pashupati Tamang, Gardener  
Urmila Dutraj, Gardener



# CONTACT INFORMATION

## ***In Nepal***

The Ama Ghar offices are located in the Ama Ghar Home at  
Bishankhu Narayan - 2, Godavari

Mail: GPO Box 8975 EPC 2089, Kathmandu, Nepal

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Email: [info@amaghar.org](mailto:info@amaghar.org)

## ***In the U.S.***

Mail: Ama Foundation

PO Box 7075

Berkeley, CA 94707

Office Phone: 520-255-3556

Skype: AmaFoundation

Email: [info@ama-foundation.org](mailto:info@ama-foundation.org)

[www.ama-foundation.org](http://www.ama-foundation.org)

## ***Social Media:***

Facebook: [@amagharnepal](https://www.facebook.com/amagharnepal)

Instagram: [@amaghar\\_nepal](https://www.instagram.com/amaghar_nepal)





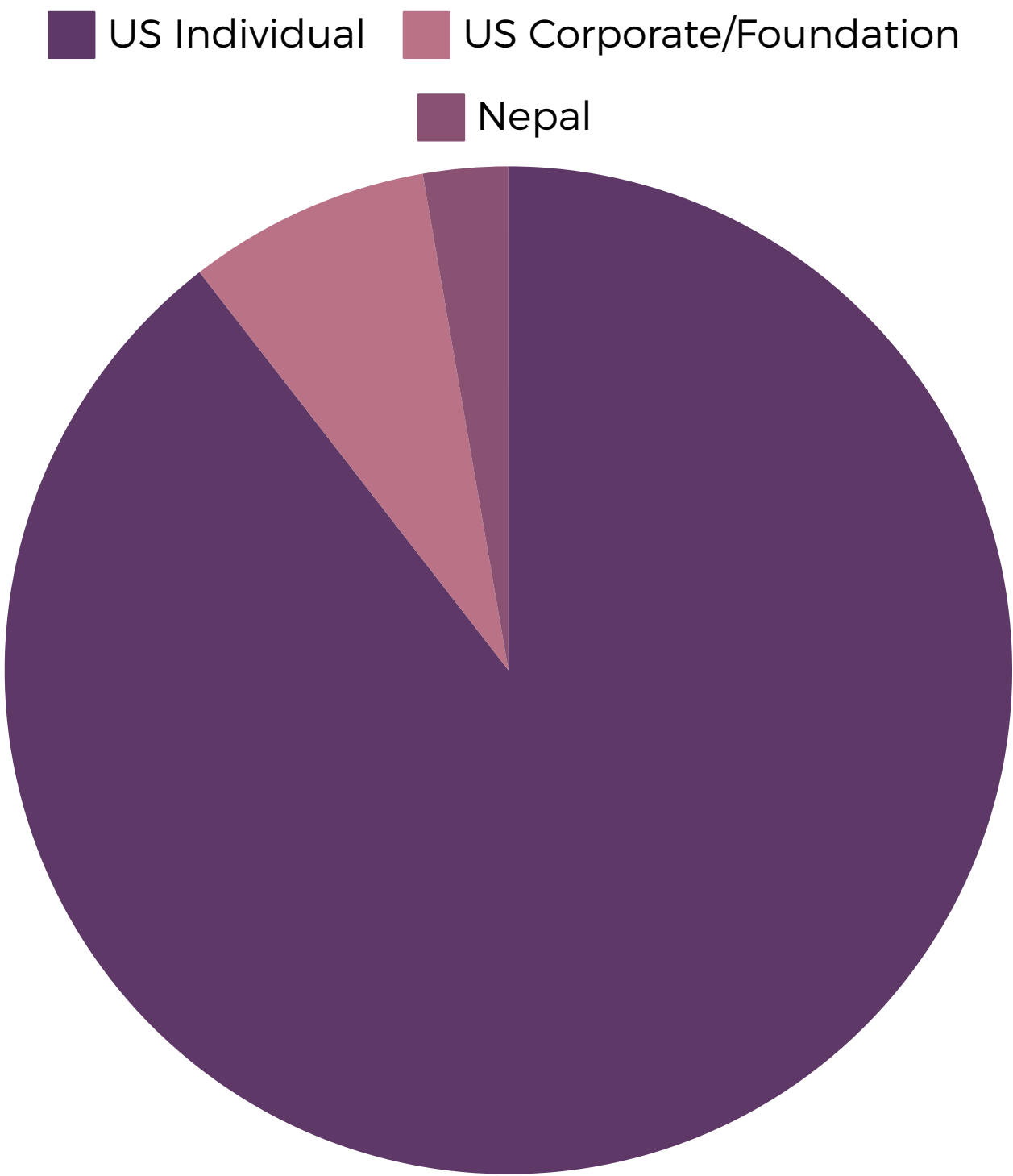
# AMA FOUNDATION 2023 CONTRIBUTIONS

## Revenue Sources, Operating Fund

In the U.S in 2023, individuals, corporations, foundations and corporate matching programs made up the Ama Foundation’s donor base. In total, they made 400 donations to the AF Operating fund. Individuals made up 92% of AF’s total U.S..contributions. Foundations, corporations and their employer matching programs made up 8% of total U.S. contributions.

The average individual donation was \$565 and the average corporate or foundation donation was \$300. Individuals made donations ranging from \$10 to \$10,000.

In addition to the operating fund, Ama Foundation’s endowment account totaled \$1,153,825 at year end, which included a \$1,000,000 donation from an individual donor. International donations received in Nepal, accounted for separately, were \$6,700.



2023 Donations, Operating Fund



# AMA FOUNDATION 2023 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES



**Ama Foundation US Revenue**

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| US Operating Revenue | \$245,742 |
| Interest/Dividends   | \$49,382  |
| Total US Revenue     | \$295,124 |

**Ama Foundation US Expenses**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Professional Fees                                | \$80,175  |
| Fundraising                                      | \$26,565  |
| Office, Technology, Postage,<br>Fees & Insurance | \$1,873   |
| Funds sent to Ama Ghar                           | \$220,000 |
| Total US Expenses                                | \$328,613 |

**2023 Ama Ghar Expenses**

