

## ANNUAL REPORT 2020



*Twenty one years of Journey  
to make Peaceful, Justice,  
Better society*

AAWAAJ [www.aawaaj.org.np](http://www.aawaaj.org.np)

## Aawaaj Focused Program

**Breaking the silence on sexual abuse and exploitation through social mobilization (working with children, youth and women network)**

**Establish community support mechanism (CSM) against gender based violence of children and women, working with community groups**

**Vocational Training, economic empowerment and Micro entrepreneurship program for marginalised community**

**Child Protection- Child help line, Child friendly space (Interim Care, fostering, Social Integration of Children, Play activities with children, access health and education)**

**Temporary emergency shelter support and social integration for women and children that faced violence, abuse and exploitation**

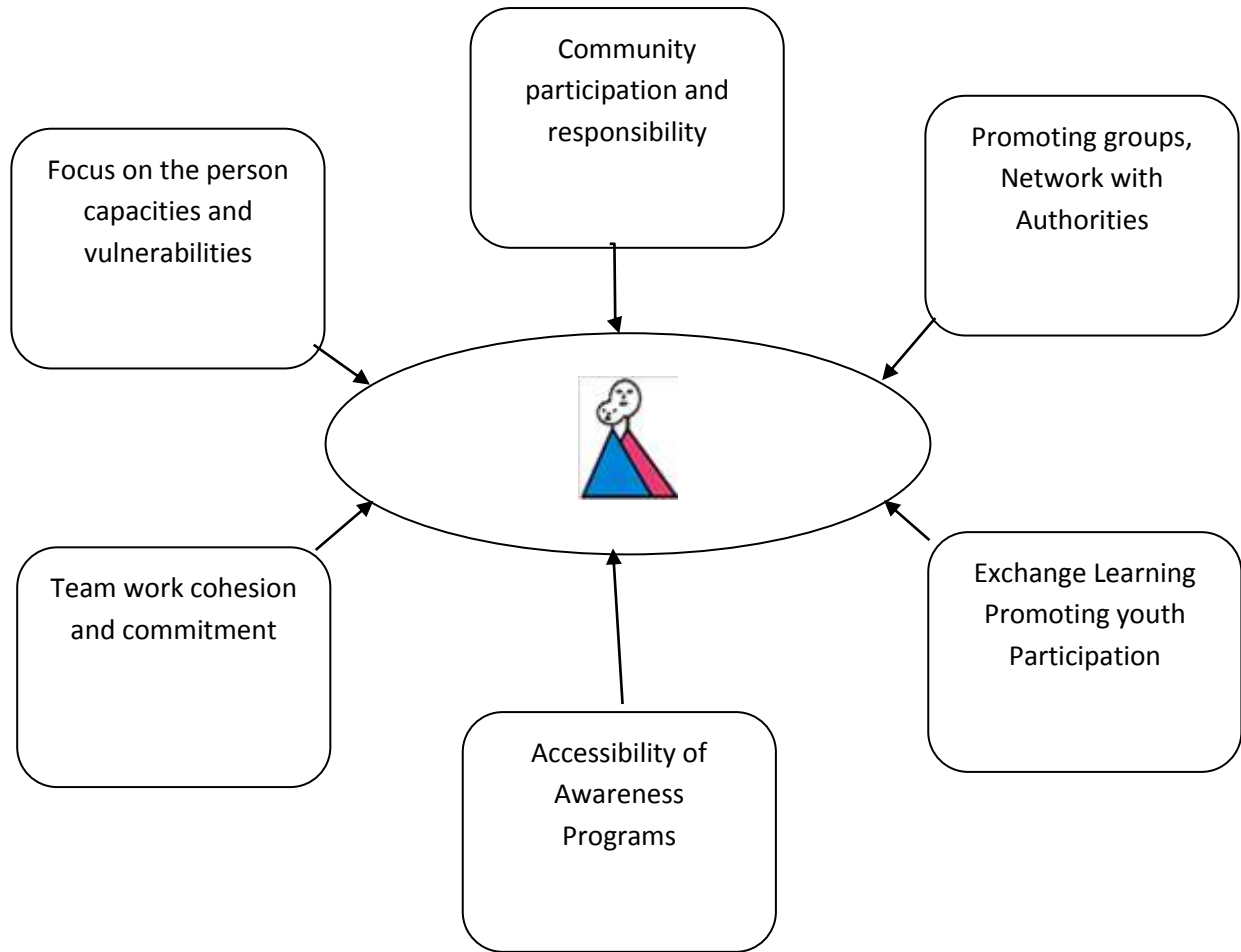
**Community and family mediation for the minor degree of violence**

**Counseling, Care and Emergency shelter support (psychosocial, legal, medical, education and economic support)**

**Advocacy and Campaigning against gender based violence, corporal punishment, child marriage and trafficking**

**Facilitation of local governance**

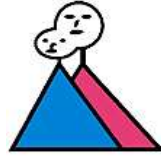
**KEY ASPECTS FOR GOOD PRACTICES IN PROGRAMMING**



**Culture of Solidarity**

**Legal System is working**

**Community and Social Justice**



Registration number – SKT 180/056/057, SWC – Affiliation 13616

**Where part of this text is used it is requested that it be used without alteration, with acknowledgment of its source, and that the copyright holder be informed.**

If you would like to make your contribution in effort to end violence, please contact

**Aawaaj Surkhet**

Aawaas Chhetra-8, Birendranagar, Surkhet

Phone No: 0835-22477, **Child Help-line** 1098 (Surkhet)

**For the contact;**

Kapan Panchakumari, Budhanilkhantha-10, Kathmandu, Nepal

PO Box: 8975, EPC: 4259

**Website:** [www.aawaaj.org](http://www.aawaaj.org)

Tel / Fax: 00977-1-4811001, Cell- 9851062124

Email: [ktm@aawaaj.org.np](mailto:ktm@aawaaj.org.np); [skt@aawaaj.org.np](mailto:skt@aawaaj.org.np)

President Contact:[iradapg@gmail.com](mailto:iradapg@gmail.com)

## Foreword of President

*Aawaaj was established in 1999 with joint initiatives of professionals with strong hope to demonstrate capacity against violence and discrimination of women in Karnali province. Aawaaj has strong presence in Mid-West and registered in district administration office, Surkhet with registration number: 180-056-057 and PAN number is 301819051. We are also affiliated to the Social Welfare Council (SWC) and its number is 13616. Over the years since developing the Aawaaj which is already 20 years, I have been heartened to see the steady successes of our work toward rights for women and children in holistic way.*



*We have capacity for a social change. Staffs are very competent to build, maintain networks and to work in collaboration with government authorities, local groups and communities. Aawaaj has always been mainstreaming gender equality and social inclusion in its programs keep gender disaggregated data of our beneficiaries and stakeholders. Our organization team has been led by the representation of women, ( 90%) and 10 % are men.*

*Community groups are coming together at local levels to address all kind of gender based violence, strengthening education system at local level, social taboos on reproductive health, STI, GBV, child marriage, discrimination and child sexual abuse. Aawaaj efforts made a huge difference in the lives of children and women by mobilizing and activating the existing forums, local government, and through effective networking. Social mobilization has been proven an effective vehicle to prompt action and to establish social respect and dignity for the children and women.*

*As an organization there are great challenges to meet the increasing demand to respond services with given limited resource. We urge all the partners to allocate more resources to access justice at grassroots level in Karnali province and Lumbini province, and seek commitment of concern authorities to ensure that program results will be sustained for children, youth and women.*

*It is crucial to acknowledge and be grateful to all international, national and local partners, individuals, volunteers, executive board members, dedicated staff, and general members who supported Aawaaj from the beginning and stand for your solidarity.*

*Despite challenged faced of Covid- 19 we did humanitarian support to our beneficiaries in Surkhet, Dailkeh, Bardiya and Kathmandu. Thank you for making a generous year-2020. Your small support allow us to reach more and for a better and safer future. Hope we learn to grow in strength, resilience, and collectiveness in the year ahead.*

*With warm wishes and much appreciation.*

Irada Gautam  
President

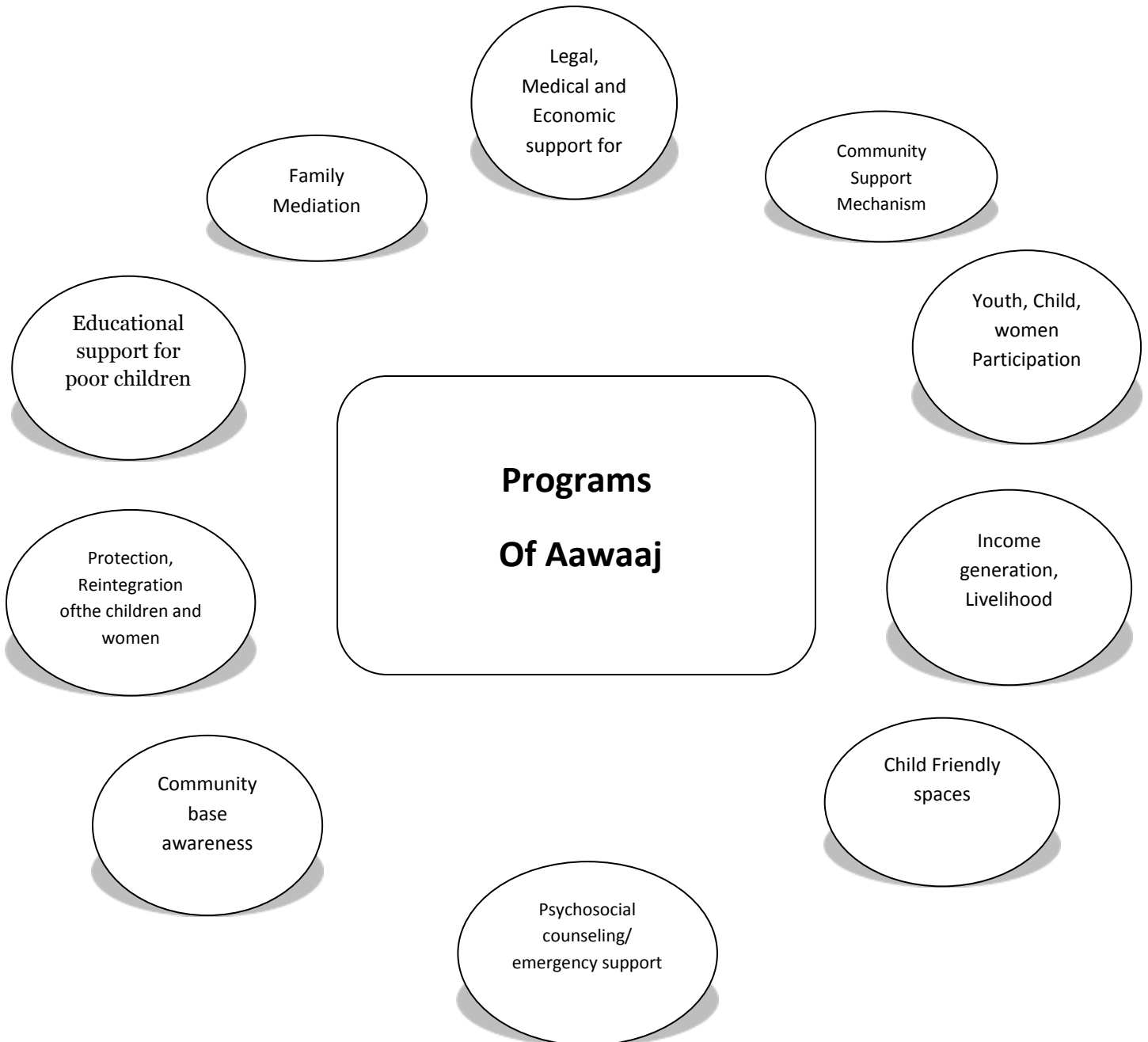
## Table of Contents

Foreword of President .....	4
Target Beneficiaries: .....	6
Background of Aawaaj .....	8
Services and Achievements provided by child help-line 1098 in 2020.....	11
SECTION A .....	13
Program Summary: .....	13
Major focused Program and its Results .....	14
II. “SANKALPA - Empowering Stakeholders, Raising Awareness and Protecting Children from Early and Forced Marriage in (mid-west) Nepal” .....	17
Significant problems and solutions applied. ....	18
VII. Counselling.....	27
X. Child Friendly Space (CFS).....	31
XI. Child Participation.....	33
XII. Community Support Mechanisms (CSM).....	34
SECTION B .....	37
Challenges and Learning .....	37
Success stories .....	39-54



**Target Beneficiaries:**







## **Background of Aawaaj**

Aawaaj was established in 1999 by the Irada Gautam who is the founder chair with joint initiatives of professionals with strong hope to demonstrate capacity against violence and discrimination of women in Midwest, Nepal. Aawaaj has strong presence in Mid-West and registered in district administration office, Surkhet with registration number: 180-056-057 (PAN number is 301819051). We are also affiliated to the Social Welfare Council (SWC) and its number is 13616. It has been addressed all forms of gender based violence through social mobilization, campaigning, establishing community support mechanism, lobbying, advocacy, networking, training, income generation, community mediation, psycho social counseling services, educational support and operating temporary crisis shelter for severe degree of GBV victims.

Aawaaj is working with boys and men along with girls and women to prepare better manhood and socialized against such wrong behavior as problems of violence that mostly comes from boys and men at large. It focused on three important aspects of human rights “Safe, Strong and Free.” Everyone has these rights and they are indispensable for human life. The basic and the most effective tricky ways of protecting rights are “Say No”; “Go Away” and “Talk to someone”. CRC and CEDAW are the guiding principles of Aawaaj for the policies, practices and programs related to fight against the violence. Aawaaj is the voices of those women and children who are living with violence, vulnerability and at risk, and who have no access in social and legal justice. Aawaaj used the concept of resilience to open new paths for the prevention and response against violence and discrimination. Girls and women when faced devastating trauma and adversity how they are able to develop their inner capacity in a harmonious and positive way? This question is at the starting point of work. Aawaaj is facilitating Rural Communities to Combat the Violence and Discrimination of Children and Women. Despite all adversities children and women didn't lose hopes and started fighting with the abuse, violence, discrimination and exploitation. Now more than 500 change makers are actively involved in helping others at community.

Aawaaj has developed a very good relationship with the local stakeholders since last 20 years. The active participation and networking of local groups, stakeholders, and communities are consulted and take consensus before doing any program. These groups are strengthened and their interest are respected and ensured the smooth running of program. We are sensitive with vulnerable group and seek the values of their participation throughout the process while at the same time explain the benefit for them. The focus will be brought back to the main issue of violence free society where children, girls and women feel peace through positive dialogue with police administration, district child welfare board, health personnel, legal authorities, municipal body, district development committee, political leaders and teachers in non-violent way.

It has capacity for a social change. Staffs are competent to build, maintain networks and to work in collaboration with government authorities, local groups and communities. Aawaaj has always been mainstreaming gender equality and social inclusion in its programs keep gender disaggregated data of

our beneficiaries and stakeholders. Our organization team has been led by the representation of women, ( 90%) and 10 % is men.

At Karnali Province; we are coordinating women human rights defenders, also played secretarial role for 2<sup>nd</sup> election of constitutional assembly in Surkhet, and member of various human rights alliance. At national level, we are member of national child protection alliance, AATWIN, Women security pressure group, campaign for rights network. At regional level; Aawaaj is member of we can campaign of south Asia and globally Aawaaj is also member of global alliance against trafficking and network member of child sexual abuse.

The decision around strategy and program development is the product of beneficiaries, stakeholders and actually reflected by social audit, general assembly, monitoring visit and program evaluation. Aawaaj acts merely as a facilitator in the process of project implementation and developing the capacity in the management of violence at all levels to effectively monitor and manage the violence (not only identifying cases). We believe that every member of community can be an active change agent in process and encourage them to fulfill their responsibilities on social issues.

Aawaaj has been focused on education, health, child rights, women rights, child protection, and livelihoods through community empowerment programs. Aawaaj mobilize communities to ensure access justice, and quality of services in package i.e. health, education, and livelihoods. Likewise, Aawaaj ensure that children and women are protected against all forms of discrimination, violence, abuse and harmful practices by creating awareness, strengthening systems and mechanisms at the community level, district level and do advocacy for better policies to protect child rights and women rights.

Aawaaj facilitate to access government services easily and also strengthen and enhance the capacity of citizen especially the marginalized, vulnerable, Dalit, ethnic and women to ensure easy and equitable access in public good and services. Aawaaj believes that ensuring engagement with communities and among parents will lead to better health, education and violence free society. If you have social hearts then please join our mission, we salute and admired everyone co-operation.

AAWAAJ- 2020

**Forms of Gender Based Violence (GBV) Registered from Jan to Dec 2020**  
**Service provided from Jan to December 2020**

Rape	Domestic Violence	Sexual assault	Stranded /missing	Denial of resources/ opportunity or services	Psychological /emotional abuse	Trafficking	Polygamy	Early child marriage	Total
18	122	4	36	29	25	3	31	41	309

Psycho social counseling	Family counseling	Mediation		Medical Support	Transportation and economical support	Application Writing	Legal Support	Case register in court	Emergency Shelter				Case preparation	Referral	Reintegration	Scholarship	Total case
		Office							Women	Girls	Boys	Total					
280	50	21	8	43	56	56	43	55	40	34	129	43	22	139	279	309	

Dalit- 94;

Janajati 53;

Brahaman chhetri- 162

**Services and Achievements provided by child help-line 1098 in 2020**

S.No.	Service Provided	Girls	Boys	Total
1	1098 service 24 hours	1615	596	2211
2	No. of calls by children's for service	382	223	605
3	Telephone counseling and directing services	250	183	433
4	Family consultation	211	170	381
5	Primary Health Services	10	12	23
6	Rescue and re-habitation using ambulance or other modes of transportation	11	19	30
7	Emergency of children hazardous situation	92	34	126
8	Aid provided for emergency rescue during hazardous situation	92	34	126
9	family reunion, reintegration and re-habitation after emergency rescue from hazardous situation	88	30	118
10	Family reunion, reintegration and re-habitation of lost	13	13	26
11	family reunion, reintegration and re-habitation of children found unaided	4	3	7
12	Conservation of emergency shelter home	40	34	74
13	placement in shelter homes for protection	4	4	8
14	Field visit and follow-up	50	16	66
15	legal services	5	0	5
16	Education support	129	83	212
17	Rescue and restoration of street children	0	0	0
18	Rescue and restoration of child labors	1	0	1
19	Rescue and restoration of children who underwent human crisis	0		0

20	rescue and restoration of trafficked children	0	3	3
----	---	---	---	---

## SECTION A

### Program Summary:

- I. **Project Name:** Facilitation of protecting mechanism and access gender justice in western Surkhet, Karnali

**Main Objective:** To empower, sensitize, mobilize communities and influence duty-bearers to reduce and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation of children and women

**Working Area:** Panchapuri Municipality 1 to 6 ward (Babiyachaur and Salkot), Karnali Province

**Implementing Local organization:** Aawaaj with Support of AEIN / TDH Germany

### Beneficiaries of Program till 2020

S.N.	Activities / groups	Unit	Total Members		Grand total
			Female	Male	
1.	Womengroups	18	359	0	359
2.	Youthgroups	18	194	157	376
3.	Childrengroups	18	219	157	376
4.	Parentsgroup	4	83	10	93
5.	Ward level Child network	6	50	41	91
6.	Ward level Women network	6	121	0	121
7.	Ward level Youth network	6	39	53	92
8.	ECM survivor group	4	42	0	42
9.	Child Friendly Space	4	88	37	125
10.	Education support to student	90	56	34	90
11.	Polyhouse support to youth	20	11	9	20
12.	Economic support to youth	38	20	18	38
13.	Economic support to Survivor	72	72	0	72
14.	Emergency Support to vulnerable Children, Women	232	198	34	232
15.	Legal Support to vulnerable Children, Women	97	97	0	97
16.	Reintegration of Children	58	48	10	58
17.	Family/communitymediation	67	67	0	67

## **Major focused Program and its Results**

### **1. Community Mobilization**

#### **Results**

- Understand local situation of violence, early child marriage and corporal punishment its trend, why and how they children affected. We understand we can play vital role and form immediate actions group to end violence, child marriage and CP related behaviors at school, household and community level.
- Beneficiaries work as change agents and sensitize on the issues.
- Reporting, listening, make immediate emotional support for children and women who have gone through corporal punishment, early child marriage
- Children and women receive appropriate support services at the family and community levels.
- Communities are initiated for the legal process for reporting , child sexual abuse, child marriage including report to ( CSM member, child club, youth club, children network, teachers, CPC members, Aawaaj, Police, DCWB), and aware on reporting detail and when to report
- Children and parents understand a) 3 importance of delaying marriage and b) 3 reasons why it is important to report of child marriage and corporal punishment
- Participants observed positive changes in the attitudes and/or behavior of their parents /peers / siblings since they joined the group
- Mass Awareness Materials are attractive, interesting and easy to understand
- Train parents association, SMC in each school are ready to fight against severe punishment in schools and make code of conducts for both teachers, parents and children and realize his/her mistake and not to repeat it again.
- Strengthen relationship between various groups, service providers and maintain protocols within school, VCPC, and district Child Protection Committee for reporting and work as watch dog and strengthen groups
- There is enabling environment and the community people take action in holistic way to support survivors by mobilizing children, youth and helped for sharing, caring to get justice in the target communities and schools.
- The group monitor, reporting and manage for the prompt response
- Children take help line and access for counseling if children face problems
- The children, youth group and its network at VDC and district level work with high motivation and taking ownership of the project

### **2. Capacity Building Training**

#### **Results:**

- Concern staff understand the project concept, process, and implement smoothly
- After receiving temporary and legal services ; beneficiaries report satisfaction with a) attitude and treatment of staff and b) quality of services
- CFS facilitators are more sensitive for reporting, listening, and make immediate emotional support for children and teachers value the child friendly learning.
- Aware on consequences of early child marriage, corporal punishment such as non-violent teaching, on alternatives ways and use the media to make the public aware.
- Monthly review, planning with staff help for sharing experiences and changing strategies as per need and situation



- Targeted group and communities, rights-holders and their supporters actively engaged in promoting awareness and create support mechanism for children.
- Survivors, families, stakeholders and concerned community members are willing to take a public stance against violence, early child marriage, and corporal punishment

### **3. Management and respond to children and women affected from violence:**

#### **Results:**

- Vulnerable children have improved access and quality of educational recreational services and their families are less arguing and more supportive to children
- Rights-holders and related stakeholders take collective action and started reporting
- Survivors are willing and able to access counseling services and legal services
- Survivors of early child marriage and corporal punishment have improved emotional, social, and family functioning and able to join support groups
- Survivors support group are effective for the referral, mediation, emotional support, advocacy and for the solidarity of early child marriage
- Parents/children receiving mediation services, improved attitudes and behaviors towards each other after completing mediation (e.g. listening, respect,
- Children do a) complete daily homework, b) achieve 80% school attendance c) pass final school exams d) explain ways of delaying marriage and safety measures
- CFS children regularly joining extra-curricular activities and can describe 3 ways that they have benefited from their activities
- 100% of drop-out/unschooled children receiving scholarships have 80% school attendance and ensure safety.
- After family mediation its easy to do social integration and facilitate beneficiaries to work as change agents and sensitize on the issues.
- Increase children enrolment and retention in school and have safe place to meet and share consequences and skills to deal with the challenges, take normal life.
- They bring positive feelings and build up self-confidence, self-esteem, self-respect and continue education.
- Marginalized populations have reduced vulnerability via increased social, educational and economic resources

### **4. Meeting, Interaction and Discussion with duty bearers**

#### **Results:**

- Key stakeholders demonstrate positive attitudes and practices related to the prevention, reporting, rescue and reintegration of children and women
- Mainstreaming issues with Key Duty-Bearers and local authorities
- Duty bearers are active and fulfilling their responsibilities to rights-holders.
- Local duty-bearers develop improved mechanism / policies to stop corporal punishment and for the prevention of child marriage and services to benefit
- It's easy to integrate within a development plan of district development plan and with participation and empowerment of communities in mass awareness.
- Good Co-ordination & Collaboration with authorities and increase ownership, easy to linkages with government (Municipality, Police, women and children office, doctors, Lawyers, district court) for prompt action.
- The Local government, all political parties at VDC, and related stakeholders work with high motivation and taking ownership of the project

- Child Protection Committee are formed at schools and engaged against corporal punishment and early child marriage.
- DCPC mandates and procedures have been developed to respond all forms of abuse and exploitation, including child marriage and corporal punishment.
- 80% of members are in school and allow CPCs are operated
- Duty-bearers, service providers, leaders are sensitive and responsive to the needs and demands of survivors.



## II. "SANKALPA - Empowering Stakeholders, Raising Awareness and Protecting Children from Early and Forced Marriage in (mid-west) Nepal"

**1.1.5. Project Area:** Dullu municipality-6, 7, 8 Dailekh, Karnali province and Badhaiyataal Rural municipality-1, 4 &5 Bardiya, Lumbini province

**1.1.5 Project Goal:** Reduction in incidence of early and forced marriage in rural and marginalized communities in (mid-west) Nepal

Achievements: Dullu municipality runs 4 CFS in their financial support, Aawaaj has been providing technical support to run CFS, and they were established under previous project.

### ***Broadcasting Radio Program-***

Ministry of social development, Karnali province have supported to product and broadcast Radio Program "Sankalpa" Nrs. 3,00,000 (Three lakhs), by the synergy the radio program has been broadcasting from 11 FM station; Radio Dhurbatara-Dailekh, Radio Rapti-Salyan, Radio Sisne-Pashim Rukum, Radio Hamro Paila-Jajarkot, Radio-Nepali Aawaaj-Kalikot, Radio Suryadaya-Mughu, Radio Dolpa-Dolpa, Radio Karnali Aawaaj-Humla, Radio Khula Aakas-Jumla, Radio Gurbaba-Bardiya and Jagaran FM-Surkhet. Even to prioritize the issues/subject to prepared radio program, Province governments, ministry of social development, Karnali province has been supporting.

### **Online Campaign against child marriage:**

On the occasion of National children's day we organized weekly online campaign against child marriage on "***My pledge Against Child marriage***", *ministry of social development Karnali province had support to conduct, collect information and to coordinate with the participants.*

### **Rescue the survivor**

At Bardiya, we rescue a girl with the support of community people, civil society, Nepal police Also shelter and counseling support has done by Services center, Gulariya, the cases was reported by youth group member.

Ministry of social development, Karnali province had supported Aawaaj to publish IEC materials . Total amount 20,000/-

**Room support from community to run CFS.**

Gandarva community is most vulnerable community of Nepal. Children of the community are more vulnerable with low quality of life and education. At Gandarva community in Bardiya, there was no public school and public place, the Nepal Gandarva society, CBO has been supporting their office room to run CFS.

**Significant problems and solutions applied.**

S.N.	Problems	Solution Sought
1	Child marriage has taken new form that, grooms and brides live together but formally they do not marry	Continue follow up of the case; provide counseling services, lobbying to local and provincial government to address the issues.
2	Difficult to conducted the physical activities	We conducted the online campaign against child marriage where, from community people to chief minister took part at the campaign as per suggestion we start Radio Program on child marriage which is broadcasting all over the Karnali Province and some district of Lumbini province.
3	Community people are not aware on legal provision.	We conducted legal orientation and plan conducted more in community as well as plan to develop video of legal awareness share through facebook page and youtube, and projector.
4	To publish compile of online campaign	We request to social development, Karnali province to publish compile of online campaign in hard copy.
5	Difficult to rescue to the cases of child marriage/sexual abuse	We closely coordinate with Nepal police and local governments to response the case positively and support to the victims.
6	Staff left the job.	We request to them to support till the December 2020. Now, we start requirement process for new staff.
7	Less project staff	Due to COVID-19, we recruited less project staff, well planned and communicated through phone, internet and PC move field as per need to conduct activities.
8	Cases of child marriage under	We plan to focus to the age group in our project activities.

	the age of 18 are high.	
9	No province level strategy plan of Karnali province to end child marriage	We conducted advocacy level activities too.
10	COVID-19 positive to staffs	At the moment, we use office as isolation and other staffs work from home. Frequently, update with staffs through email, message and phone calls.

“विद्युत् बाल अभिचार को नुमिश्चलता : हामी सबैको सार्थक प्रतिक्रिया”

## राष्ट्रिय बाल दिवसको अवसरमा 'बाल विवाह विरुद्ध मेरो संकल्प' अभियान-२०७७

आजका बालबालिका धनी देशका अग्रगण्य हुन् । उनीहरू सक्षम भए भने सोसियोको अवस्थामा विकास आउने अपेक्षा गर्ने सकिन्छ । यस्तै कसार्थी प्रदेश सरकारले बालबालिकालाई लक्षणीय सार्वजनिक दुई स्थान हुन सक्ने कुराहरूको बारेमा जानकारी गराउनु सक्नुपर्छ ।

विद्युत् बाल अभिचारको अवसरमा हुनु पर्ने बाल विवाह विरुद्धको अभियान चलाउनु पर्ने उनीहरूको संस्थाको अवस्थाका अनुसार हुनुपर्छ ।

सोसियोको लागि सम्भावनाको



श्री. अनिल कुमार शर्माले  
सुदूरपश्चिम प्रदेश

आजका बालबालिका धनी देशका अग्रगण्य हुन् । उनीहरू सक्षम भए भने सोसियोको अवस्थामा विकास आउने अपेक्षा गर्ने सकिन्छ । यस्तै कसार्थी प्रदेश सरकारले बालबालिकालाई लक्षणीय सार्वजनिक दुई स्थान हुन सक्ने कुराहरूको बारेमा जानकारी गराउनु सक्नुपर्छ ।

विद्युत् बाल अभिचारको अवसरमा हुनु पर्ने बाल विवाह विरुद्धको अभियान चलाउनु पर्ने उनीहरूको संस्थाको अवस्थाका अनुसार हुनुपर्छ ।

सोसियोको लागि सम्भावनाको

आजका बालबालिका धनी देशका अग्रगण्य हुन् । उनीहरू सक्षम भए भने सोसियोको अवस्थामा विकास आउने अपेक्षा गर्ने सकिन्छ । यस्तै कसार्थी प्रदेश सरकारले बालबालिकालाई लक्षणीय सार्वजनिक दुई स्थान हुन सक्ने कुराहरूको बारेमा जानकारी गराउनु सक्नुपर्छ ।

विद्युत् बाल अभिचारको अवसरमा हुनु पर्ने बाल विवाह विरुद्धको अभियान चलाउनु पर्ने उनीहरूको संस्थाको अवस्थाका अनुसार हुनुपर्छ ।

सोसियोको लागि सम्भावनाको

**बालविवाहको अन्त्य सम्भव छ ।**

सुदूरपश्चिम प्रदेश सरकारको संयोजकतामा

सुदूरपश्चिम प्रदेश सरकारको संयोजकतामा

“विद्युत् बाल अभिचार को नुमिश्चलता : हामी सबैको सार्थक प्रतिक्रिया”

## राष्ट्रिय बाल दिवसको अवसरमा 'बाल विवाह विरुद्ध मेरो संकल्प' अभियान-२०७७

आजका बालबालिका धनी देशका अग्रगण्य हुन् । उनीहरू सक्षम भए भने सोसियोको अवस्थामा विकास आउने अपेक्षा गर्ने सकिन्छ । यस्तै कसार्थी प्रदेश सरकारले बालबालिकालाई लक्षणीय सार्वजनिक दुई स्थान हुन सक्ने कुराहरूको बारेमा जानकारी गराउनु सक्नुपर्छ ।

विद्युत् बाल अभिचारको अवसरमा हुनु पर्ने बाल विवाह विरुद्धको अभियान चलाउनु पर्ने उनीहरूको संस्थाको अवस्थाका अनुसार हुनुपर्छ ।

सोसियोको लागि सम्भावनाको



श्री. अनिल कुमार शर्माले  
सुदूरपश्चिम प्रदेश

आजका बालबालिका धनी देशका अग्रगण्य हुन् । उनीहरू सक्षम भए भने सोसियोको अवस्थामा विकास आउने अपेक्षा गर्ने सकिन्छ । यस्तै कसार्थी प्रदेश सरकारले बालबालिकालाई लक्षणीय सार्वजनिक दुई स्थान हुन सक्ने कुराहरूको बारेमा जानकारी गराउनु सक्नुपर्छ ।

विद्युत् बाल अभिचारको अवसरमा हुनु पर्ने बाल विवाह विरुद्धको अभियान चलाउनु पर्ने उनीहरूको संस्थाको अवस्थाका अनुसार हुनुपर्छ ।

सोसियोको लागि सम्भावनाको



श्री. अंशु  
सुदूरपश्चिम प्रदेश

आजका बालबालिका धनी देशका अग्रगण्य हुन् । उनीहरू सक्षम भए भने सोसियोको अवस्थामा विकास आउने अपेक्षा गर्ने सकिन्छ । यस्तै कसार्थी प्रदेश सरकारले बालबालिकालाई लक्षणीय सार्वजनिक दुई स्थान हुन सक्ने कुराहरूको बारेमा जानकारी गराउनु सक्नुपर्छ ।

विद्युत् बाल अभिचारको अवसरमा हुनु पर्ने बाल विवाह विरुद्धको अभियान चलाउनु पर्ने उनीहरूको संस्थाको अवस्थाका अनुसार हुनुपर्छ ।

सोसियोको लागि सम्भावनाको

**बालविवाहको अन्त्य सम्भव छ ।**

सुदूरपश्चिम प्रदेश सरकारको संयोजकतामा

सुदूरपश्चिम प्रदेश सरकारको संयोजकतामा



**V. Improving Livelihood through Empowerment” at Pataljharna (previously Thirpu and Ramnakot VDCs) in Kalikot district, Karnali Pradesh Nepal:**

Aawaaj has been working in partnership with Fastenopfer since 2014 in very remote Village Development Committees Thirpu and Ramnakot of Kalikot district. The project has been focused to enable to access basic health, education facilities and strengthen locally available natural resources like forests, water, wind, and land. The project has been implemented in an integrated approach of basic education, health, agriculture and ensure especially on improve quality of service on health, education and agriculture through awareness, empowering couple and community awareness.

In the proposed district child marriage prevalence rate is very high - 47% in Kalikot, and its impact on education of girls and health is measurable. There is High infant and maternal mortality rates due to a lack of basic health services and high malnutrition, low literacy rate, insufficient school facilities and limited access to quality education; Lack of transport facilities and road networks across the districts. There is lack of employment and high seasonal migration to India and high prevalence of HIV/AIDs among migrants. There is low agricultural productivity and poor rural infrastructure (e.g. roads, irrigation) that limits production and markets.

**Program achievements:**

53% of households (HHs) of women establish all season kitchen gardens and groups actively function to promote kitchen garden in community. 80 HHs visit nearest agriculture sub centers. Every couple has established small kitchen garden, give attention in personal hygiene, mange dish wash place, garbage management and sanitation.

Network and group members strongly empowered and active for promoting participation in decision making process and raising voice against women and girls' issues. 12% increase reporting of women violence cases in police and 1 case registered in sub police station, 3% referring to district police or court among reporting cases. 25% women increase active represent in school management and health post management committee as executive members and 15% HHS of group members remove menstrual sheds

Community people and network members are actively working to supportive and encourage to regular check-up. 66% visit for antenatal checkup, 46% delivery in birthing center. DHO provides financial support to run birthing center in Thirpu and Ramnakot; At least one district level duty bearers (DHO, DADO, DEO or WDO) visit Thirpu or Ramnakot and interact with the community. In recent days, birthing center is establish well management and also trying to give 24 hours service after our regular meeting, discussion with staffs, management committee and technical support, now they are managing mothers to keep at least 4/5 hours after delivery.

Parents, teachers, students and school management committee actively functioning to create good teaching and learning environment. 4 schools conducted social audit, 102 girls enrolled in 5, 8 and 12 grades and appear in final exam

Couple and community people have submitted 15 proposals in VDC council that was for fruit plants purchase, health camp, awareness on early marriage / menstruation and birthing center management. They motivate own neighbor for kitchen gardening, sending children at school and regular health checkup of pregnant women and lactating mother. Couples' have been slowly developing their sharing and talking habit with community people and also they are introducing as the community couple in their own area (ward).

After training and meeting with School and health post management committee, they are doing regular meeting, trying to get more scholarship schemes for students and make rules/ policies like these; teachers and health post staffs are not allowed to take leave without permission from MC or at least need to inform. In case if they do not follow the rule, the authorized post will be bound to disagree to accept their leave and also deduct from the salary equivalent to the number of leave taken days.

**Kitchen Garden and Seeds:** The kitchen garden in Aawaaj's working area reflect its commitment to work. Just to make it better, local vegetables that are already in place or even vanishing like Koiro (sweet choti) can be incorporated in the present kitchen garden. Result chain also mentions atleast two indigenous/local vegetables.

**Groups:** The work that Aawaaj has done in mobilizing groups has been a herculean task. The results have also been significant. However, groups total to 72 in the working area. This is definitely too big to manage for three staff. It was informed that some groups are less active and if possible groups can be discontinued, if not appropriate. Less groups can mean better engagement as well. This will also reduce unnecessary staff burden.

Including much needy people who are left by the group, such as the single old women we met who complained that she didn't receive seeds is important. Currently, women in Lapha village say that they are already part of around 8 groups and they have to save around NRs 500 per month to keep their association alive in these groups. People who will be left out need to be identified and ways to support them incorporated.

**Birthing Center:** Birthing center in Pataljharna was observed to be working quite well. In terms of Aawaaj's engagement they could serve as the epicenter. For example, birthing center in Nanikot had an average of 2/3 daily delivery. Information dissemination as well as advocacy could be effective through this channel.

**LRP orientation:** Different LRPs had different perspective on what 'success' meant for them. For one, he believed his primary role was to establish dish washing stands (*Chyang*). There was one LRP who was coaxing the single lady who had not received seeds through Aawaaj to convey to us that she had received. LRPs need to be oriented to understand their expectation as well as understand their limitations. Failures and groups planning especially when LRP are highly educated (even having bachelors) are part of the team can facilitate ownership and enhance work.



**Reasons behind increase in number of maternity visits:**

- Regular door to door visits and information dissemination about the reproductive health and services offered to the pregnant and lactating women by the representatives from AAWAJ, Red Cross, Health center volunteers and Mother's groups.
- Women receive the remuneration and services in time these days which they used to receive after 5-6 months in earlier days
- There is the provision of living and food arrangement for a day after delivery in the health centres.

**Reasons behind increase in number of Chhaupadi shed free households:**

- Regular door to door visits, awareness programs and monitoring activities conducted in joint collaboration by Ward office, AAWAJ and mother's groups.
- Action plan made by the Ward for regular monitoring, door to door visits and meetings.
- Inclusion of one representative from each Tole in the monitoring committee

**Reasons behind increase in number of cases reporting women violence:**

- Interaction, discussion, cooperation and collaboration among legal body, women and children's committee, women's network
- Discussion and interaction regarding women violence and child marriage in every groups
- Facilitation of training regarding legal awareness in every wards
- Cooperation and collaboration with police and friendly behaviour with victims and affected by police and legal bodies
- Writing of application/ reports without any charge

**Impacts and achievements of COVID pandemic and lockdown**

There was huge impact of COVID in world as well as in Nepal. The nationwide lockdown that began from April 2020 for up to 3 months, forced AAWAJ to work from home for a month. Even though there was bigger impact in urban areas, there was not much effect in the rural areas and the local resource person and field officer who belonged to the community itself were mobilized with the task division for the relief distribution as well as conduction of awareness campaigns in collaboration with local government. In the similar manner, the local resource person had conducted awareness related campaigns about COVID in the local communities of ward no 4 and 6. Similarly, door to door campaigns and distribution of a soap to every households teaching the hand washing techniques through participatory approach was done in total of 372 households. The information dissemination was also done among pregnant and lactating mothers as well as women from the communities and their families on

the preventive measures against COVID. There were regular meetings with the ward and municipal level officials as well as leaders of the community regarding the impact reduction of COVID on women and children as well as vulnerable groups. Similarly AAWAJ had also supported in the quarantine management as well as monitoring activities in the community.



Figure: A room is allocated for women and now it's no more buffalo shed



Figure: A pregnant women stays in a cleaned shed in Nanikot. On the right is buffalo shed. Since a girl was born no celebration will happen.



Figure: A utensil drying stand below which are some vegetables. The land is arid but the will strong

### VI. Child Helpline (1098)

Aawaaj has been operated free child helpline (1098) in Surkhet district in collaboration and co-ordination with Ministry of women and child social welfare, central child welfare board, district child welfare board, district development committee and Nepal Tele-communication since 2010. A child helpline is a phone and outreach service for children. It is accessible to all children whenever they require assistance or just need someone to talk to. A child helpline places children and their protection as its core principle, providing emergency assistance and linking children to long term services. A child helpline is accessible to children and young people around the clock, free of cost and enables them to contact someone in any emergency situation. It provides children and young people with an opportunity to express their concerns and talk about the issues directly affecting them. A child helpline is founded on the belief that children and young people have rights, and that they can identify their problems. Phone calls from children are received in contact centers, where helpline staff and volunteers attend to the calls.



The helpline team member will go out, meet the child and help the child to safety. The helpline will have to act immediately to get the child out of the dangerous or emergency situation and after that make sure the child is linked to the appropriate services for long term follow up.

Government of Nepal, Working Procedure of Child Helpline-2064 (2007) defines the term 'children at risk' indicate the following children.

- Street children
- Children at high risk labour



- Lost and abandoned children
- Children in bonded labour or forced labour
- Children who are victims of physical and mental torture, discrimination, exploitation of labour and misbehaviour
- Children who are suffered from severe illness, accident and disaster
- Children of arrested or imprisoned parents or children in conflict with law
- Children living under difficult situations
- Children who are victims or are prone to sexual harassment, sexual abuse and trafficking
- Children seeking psycho-social counselling.
- Children affected by armed conflict and wars
- Children who are victim of insolvency

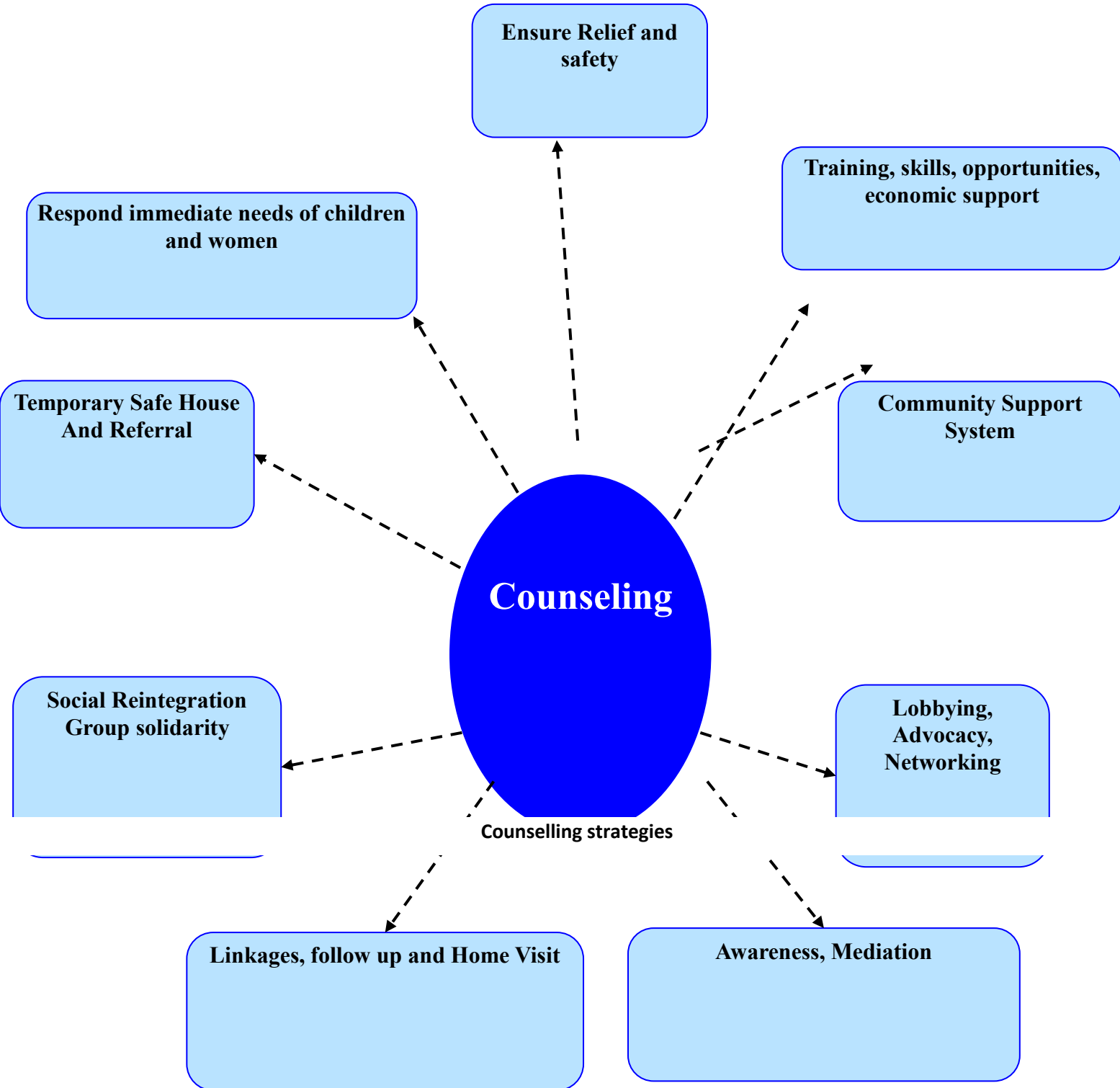




Figure: Art by the children

VII. Counselling

**How Positive Impacts for Survivors**



Aawaaj has been providing counseling care and support to people who are in need especially to violence survivor, vulnerable women and children. Aawaaj has an experienced and trained counselor who provides counseling to the sufferers of violence hence helping to build their self-confidence; self-esteem, self-respect, self-reliance and bring positive feelings in their own life and help them live in the society with dignity.

**Working Strategies that we believe and Important for the Positive Impact to Survivors**

**1. Respect and Dignity**

- To find their own identity, aware on self-respect - I have full right over my body, it's not my fault, I am not alone-drawing
- Active Listening in a way s/he feels that we are caring you
- Raising voice to get justice continuously with allies, family
- Believe what's the survivor said and understand her sense,
- Develop self-strength of survivors and able to control own rights and have decision making capacity- encourage.
- Work together; let them understand and recognize the problems; together think and explore the ways to address the problems and respect survivor's views, participation.
- Maintain confidentiality throughout the process.

**2. Empowerment**

- Give opportunity for skills, fun, play, song, game, dance
- Ensure her / his safety and look after short term basic needs
- Positively influence Men's and Boys who are change makers
- Give information on legal rights, women and children rights, legal procedure and services provided by Aawaaj, authorities
- Active participation in development activities through awareness, training and skills for good results
- Exploring resources for solving their own problem through linkages and Support economically self-sustained activities
- Support school fees, personal safety training/peer education and follow-up meetings to protect survivors.
- Engage to play the supportive role in community to manage and referral the affected person, monitoring and follow up of economic and education support, and identify those children and women who are living in violence and Abuse.





- Sharing feelings and problems among survivor network
- Vocational Skills training, business entrepreneurship and life skills, Job placement in local area or start self-employment

### **3. Partnership of Survivors**

- Facilitate family and community mediation and seek survivors participation for their own or while it happened to others
- Engage them at community for the immediate reporting, involve them in various awareness program, emotional support to other children and women who have similar problems
- Visit on the spot after reporting and interaction with people to whom survivor's feel important;
- Facilitate the survivors to work as change makers at community, and schools to end violence, abuse, neglect
- Creative Arts ( drawing, song, dance, street drama, Events (competitions, campaign, media/press releases)

### **4. Partnership and Sustainability**

- Working on what local resources, skills is available at community for long-term emotional and social recovery to promote protection and survival, development rights and to restore dignity of survivors
- Work with authorities for justice, Application Assistance, friends for legal process, birth registration, lobby to compensate Half salary, food and fees for children education
- Working with private sectors and their support to provide job.
- Build capacity of existing groups, Establish Support System, linkages with CSM, child group, Creating Conducive Environment through coordination and collaboration with authorities, civil society and various groups
- Support the strength of families, communities and work with them to support survivors as per need.

### **5. What we do in 1<sup>st</sup> session of counselling?**

- Greetings and welcome, allow to drink water , tea
- Pre information – Name, from where it come, why they visited at Aawaaj
- Again welcome politely and emotional support in counseling room, see the situation, Rapport building, introduce each other
- Relaxation -allow to take rest, sleep,
- Listening the affected person, make immediate plan by counselor

### **Staff Preparation**

- The place for counseling, level of sitting
- News print, colors, play materials, flip chart,
- Drinking water, emergency kit-
- Level of closeness, -talking, sitting in L shape
- Care the dress up of counselor
- Time preparation,

### **What we do not do in counseling**

- Not discrimination based on caste/ ethnicity, gender, age, disability, status, geography,
- Not raising any expectation and not promising things which we can't do
- Not pressurized to give information if they are not ready and make ensure to prevent from re-victimized
- Do not disclose with their status without consent of her / his
- Not increased fear, humiliation, or sadness, not labeled, blame, guilt
- Do not ask too many questions at a time and don't show the power

### **Working with family**

- Regular home visit, family counseling ask them not to leave children alone,
- Inform parents what to talk, what shouldn't talk and how to talk with children. Do telephone or contact in case of emergency
- Invite them in our program, training or send parents to attend meeting, workshop organized by others
- Legal information, economic support and scholarship support
- Ask them to join in network, women group, CSM.

## X. Child Friendly Space (CFS)

Aawaaj is running seventeen (17) Child Friendly Spaces in Surkhet, Dailkeh (Karnali province), province -5 Bardiya and one in Kathmandu Kapan for the protection and care of vulnerable children. The CFS is a structured in safe place where children and youth meet their peers to play, learn competencies and skills to deal with the risks they face, be involved in some educational activities and relax in a safe place. It gives the children the sense of safety, structure and continuity that provides support. It gives them a sense of belongingness after having been displaced. It builds cohesion and a sense of community. Children who are from marginalized community used to come for tuition classes to improve the school performance and child friendly activities to build the confident. CFS has helped the children in following ways:

- CFS has helped to develop children’s reading/studying habit. They do not miss any CFS class.
- In the CFS class, talented student helps weak student to study, sing a song and jointly plays a drama as well, thus, CFS children use to learn faster and effectively.
- Likewise a senior student helps new students in the CFS, thus they have built a habit of helping each other and sense of unity has developed among them.



Figure: Child friendly space

### Target Children Beneficiaries for CFS

#### Community Level:

- High Incidence of Abuse/Addictions/Poverty/Crime
- Lack of Law Enforcement Capacity / Commitment
- Lack of Prevention and Protection Mechanisms for Children
- Lack of Access to Primary Education & Basic Health Care Services

#### Family Level:

- History of Sexual Abuse / Domestic Violence Among One or Both Parents
- Female Headed Household, esp. no property rights
- Illiteracy in Parents
- Lack of Parenting / Discipline Skills
- Extreme Family Poverty / Unemployment of Parents, inc. Children not in school, poor food security, large family debt, poor housing, poor health care,
- Lack of Understanding of Sexual Abuse /Legal Mechanisms

#### Individual Child Level:

- History of Physical/Sexual Abuse, Neglect or Bullying of Child
- History of Child Substance Abuse
- 
- Child with Disability

- Child is Especially Unattractive, especially discriminate against girls
- Child is Extremely Shy / Poor Social Skills
- Child is Isolated in Family / Community (lacks social/protection network)
- Child is Out of School / Illiterate
- Child has Lack of Nutrition and Poor Hygiene
- Child Working / Living Away from Biological Parents
- Child Lacks Understanding of Sexual Abuse /Legal Mechanisms

#### **Achievements on Child Friendly Spaces**

- From marginalized communities, 181 children are taking tuition services and other extra activities services from CFS. Children have developed their habits of going to school regularly, studying, learning and knowing new things, doing homework as well as they are maintaining discipline, health and sanitation.
- Children have started to show social feelings (we feeling) as well as they are showing interest in extra activities like; singing, dancing, writing poem, saying story, jokes and playing creative games.
- Children of CFS are known on Child Rights, Child Marriage, and child sexual abuse along with good and bad habits. Students of CFS have started to protest and speak out against misbehaviors and abuse and share their problems and sharing habit is developed

## **XI. Child Participation**

**Child Participation** is key pillar of Aawaaj program. It has found that the participation of children and its mobilization to address the issues at grass root level has taken positively by all stakeholders. Children are speaking up and demanding to get services from NGOs, DCWB, DEO, VDC, WCO and DHO.

Their self-confidence and strength has also increased due to group solidarity. The children indicated that when they came in the training they have a chance to share their issues. This also helped them in solving their problems through sharing and discussions.

“They demonstrated their capacity with strong resilient and can manage their lives. They can identify the issues and refer the children to different organizations to receive the services. The children stated that they have to listen to the children, and also to meet children's need as per condition. It was repeatedly mentioned by all children " now we move ahead and develop confidence ourselves and to look after other children and secure their future”. Those people who were against them now support and pay a good respect. In the beginning, the children did not talk with each other but now they have started to trust each other and create a positive environment for building their strength. They developed confidence, self-respect, and learned to solve their problems by themselves. As they were worried about themselves, they mentioned that children have to be loved and cared which has helped in making their life comfortable.



**Figure: Children participation on different celebration**



## **XII. Community Support Mechanisms (CSM)**

### **Who are the members of CSM?**

Men, women, social leaders, political leaders, school teachers, youths and children are the members of community support groups and they are representative of various groups existed in community such as women group, agriculture group, forest user's group, mothers group, political leaders, teachers, youth and child club.

### **Why CSM groups are formed?**

- To create social mobilization against violence of children and women
- To promote culture of supporting vulnerable/abused children and women
- To avoid stigmatization and blame to women and children that faced violence

### **The activities that are carried out by CSM group are follows:**

- Raise awareness in the community.
- Support the women and children in providing emotional support and help them to access services (safe place and safe person) in each community are promoted for threatened or abused children and women. For serious type of violence, they are referred to the temporary crisis support center.
- Identify children and women in the community who are most seriously in need.
- Decide those who will benefit from educational support, vocational training and Income generation activities targeted for vulnerable or who have faced violence.
- Organize group discussion and find solution. Sharing with others give some relief and hope, particularly when discussion is part of the culture.
- Campaigning- lobbying, advocacy, work as pressure group
- Organize community mediation.



**Figure: Children Involvement on Outdoor activities**

## **12. Mediation:**

Mediation is done to manage for the minor degree of violence in the community and family. Once the mediation process proceeds and understanding between the two parties is made along with community then the person affected will return to their own place. Following are the steps followed in the mediation process.

- 1) First step: Identifying the concern person
- 2) Informal interaction
- 3) Problem Identification

### **HOW TO START THE MEDIATION**

- Have to listen actively the problem of problem faced people.
- When the problem faced people are sharing their problem in between mediator should shake their head by saying “yes ...yes”. go on”
- Mediator have to support the client by saying you mean to say this....in odd situation where client is not able to express.
- Mediator should summarized the first party problem or client problem by saying this are the thought of first party now let’s listen the second party , mention the main point and listen them actively and mediator should shake his or her head saying “yes ...yes” and summarized the points at last.
- For the problem faced people identifying the problem at first its affect and informed about its effect.
- Mediator should prioritize the good point of both parties and should repeat them.
- Mediator should encourage both to come in conclusion by identifying their weakness and make them realize that it is their problem, what are yours hidden interest, take decision on how to solve problem.
- Mediator should not show biasness to either party. Should behave equally.

Create win-win situation for both parties, if they both are not agree mediator should not force them to take decision.



Figure: Interaction with children's and their parents



## **SECTION B**

### **Challenges and Learning**

#### **Challenges:**

- In some cases, though we receive urgent request from the community to visit in their area; it is difficult to make visit. Because, in some places staff security is prime concern due to the threat received from abusers.
- There is an increasing demand of the scholarship quota than budget to the children with disability, poor and marginalized students.
- The youth clubs request to expand more program in the rural villages, so mobilizing and continuing support to those youth group in long run is question.
- While Aawaaj deals with the problem of violence affected children and women, request for other issues such as of legal written document of the ownership of land was also raised and dealing in this process is very complicated and a long.
- The offender threatens Aawaaj staff. In solving problem, both the parties the offender and the affected victims feel money is everything and that try to solve their problem on the basis of money matter. Also, while mediating many people keeps their views for and against the community, rather than solving problem of the victims of violence, they put forward their views according to nepotism and relationship due to which there is problem while facilitating to Aawaaj.
- After the victims come to Aawaaj for help, the way the community looks at them is different due to which the victims felt acquired and hesitant.
- Still the women are being dependent and hesitate to take decisions which impact to access services and opportunities provided to them.

#### **Learning's:**

- Many men are involved in the awareness program of Aawaaj; they are playing a supportive role in dealing with the problems of violence at community. So, in the future day's too men should be included in various programs and training.
- Facilitating regular formal and informal interactions between the service providers and service receivers has helped to reduce the gap between them. It also has helped to strengthen the relationship, also helped in facilitating in immediate access of service in friendly manner rather blaming each other.
- Involving journalist, human right activists and working together in dealing the issues of women and children is found to be beneficial in overcoming the problems.
- When conducting training, stories, poems, games are found to be very effective among the target group to understand the issues more clearly.
- When children are actively involved in the matter of social issues they work with full dedication in bringing a significant change. So, children should not be isolated and make them active participant in community issues rather seen beneficiaries only.
- When the experience of survivors are shared among the network; it helped to encourage the new ones to report and gave strength in recovering their life in a dignified manner.

- When follow-up visits are made after mediation, it is found that the families change a lot in a positive and constructive manner. Even their behavior and attitude changes and one of such change is notified through the way they speak. The couples whose problems are solved through mediation are actively involved as change makers in their society.
- When dealing with victims problems it is necessary to identify the challenges, the alternative solutions of the problem and also have to analyses whether the problem is genuine or not, from the victim's perspective.
- Having patience and listening to others are the essential qualities in society.
- A good relationship has to be kept with all the section of the society. Also, before working out any issues, listing the positive areas of development of the planned work.
- Positive thinking is inevitable factors for an effective working mechanism. It brings a healthy environment in every aspects of life; and leads a better society.
- Team work is a key to success for an excellent output of the organization
- Clarity in language plays a vital role as we should be in direct contact with the community people. Moreover, use of appropriate words is a must. The expression of words and languages must be polite and informative.
- Local staff could contribute to conduct project activities and coordination with local stakeholders.
- Distribution of full package relief could be more effective then more number of beneficiaries.
- Make involvements of community people, volunteers, representative of political parties and local governments could reduce conflict of interest at working area.
  - At the pandemic/difficult situation project staffs could work from home/safe place but need to do frequently communication, response the cases and well guidance to project staffs.
  - Only children are not responsible in eloped marriage, their parents, relatives and teachers and community people, social stigma/values are more responsible.
  - Inclusive participation of community people, volunteers, representative of political parties and local governments could reduce conflict of interest.
  - Strong coordination with justice committee, local governments, Nepal Police, and other related organizations who have been working in child protection would be supportive on rescue, reintegrate, and shelter support, legal aid and emergency support.
  - Prepared Plan of Action as per convenient time of communities' people for proper implementation.
  - Collaboration and coordination with government lead to sustainability.

**Success stories**

**"Creative Entrepreneur Mina Inspired by Entrepreneurship"**

**Name: Mina Shahi (Women's Group)**

**Age: 27 years**

**Family members: 4**

**Permanent Address: Panchpuri Napa 4, Baraiche, Surkhet**

**Occupation: Goat raising**

My name is Mina Shahi. From the womb of father Hem raj Shahi and mother Gaumati, I was born on 11th June, 2050 BS in Panchpuri N.P. 8 in Dulalathai. I am the eldest daughter of the family. Since we were 5 brothers and 4 sisters' total 9 brothers and sisters in our house, it was very difficult for us to be properly clothed and fed at home. My father had gone to Kalapahad, India in search of work after he had many problems in running his household. While working in India he had an accident, he broke his back, and he was brought to home by our relatives. Father could not even earn and the family was

large, so there were many problems at home. As I was the elder daughter of the house, I had to do all the housework. I used to study in class 3 and started doing housework instead of going to school. I was sad to see my friends going to school. I used to graze goats and collect firewood every day. I was 18 years old when my father got me married to a person in a place called 4 Baraiche in Panchpuri.

After the wedding I thought some happy days would come. My husband has been suffering from back pain since childhood. My husband has 5 brothers, he is the eldest son. The husband said that he could not earn anything, so the family members separated him within six months of the marriage and asked us to live in the goat shed. Considering the same shed as home, and gave birth to our two sons and daughters. It was even more difficult because my husband could not earn money. The family's financial situation was so fragile. I started plowing on less than 1 ropani of land in our area which we owned. I went to my mother's house and took some food to save our children.

The Aawaaj organization was working in our area. A women's group was formed in the community. I also became a member of the group. We have a women's group meeting once a month to discuss any issue.



During the meeting of our group, while discussing for the selection of members under the income generation program to improve the economic condition of women members, the group recommended my name and I was selected after the ward office also approved me. The organization provided the first 3 days of entrepreneurship development training to 30 women and youths like me. During the training, we got the information about the benefits of doing enterprise and business, businesses that can be done in Panchpuri NPA, business planning, qualities of a successful entrepreneur, risk taking. On the day of the training, all the participants chose the business based on the local resources, the interest of the entrepreneur and the demand of the customer. I decided to raise goats. Later, the organization imparted skill-based training to the goat rearing group on how to make goat pens, diseases and treatment of goats, and proper food for the goats. After completing all the training, the organization helped me to buy goats for Rs. 13,000. I bought 1 goat and 1 small male goat for Rs. 13,000 and the goat gave me 2 goats. After 3 months, I sold the little goat for Rs. 9,000 and bought two kids for Rs. 4500 each. I later sold them for Rs 7,000 each. Gradually, I went to the market every Saturday to buy and sell goats. I went to the market on Saturday and bought and sold goats, which started to make 3-4 profit. I bought a goat of Bayar breed for Rs. 15,000 and the goat became bigger. After buying goats in the community, people bring their goats for breeding. I take Rs. 3 to 500 per goat. I have been using the proceeds for the purchase of donations for the goats and some of the proceeds have been deposited in the Birendranagar Cooperative Society.

I have been working to prevent the spread of Covid 19, so I don't have to go to the market on Saturday. At least 1 - 2 thousand profit is made from one purchase. My husband also goes to the village to find out where the goat is and we have been buying, cutting and selling. During this lockdown period, I have made a profit of Rs. 34,000. There are 10-12 thousand profits of buying goats on a monthly basis. I have 4 goats in my house. Now my mother-in-law and father-in-law praise me and ask me for money if they need it. If there is money, the attitude of the society will also be different. It is said that business can be done in the village even with a small amount of money. Aawaaj has made it easier for women in the community to live financially. I would like to thank the women's group, Aawaaj, very much.

**“Continuing Business in Lockdown”**

**Name: Lokendra Vishta (Young Entrepreneur)**

**Age: 33 years**

**Family Members: 4**

**Permanent Address: Panchpuri Municipality 6, Tilakpur, Surkhet**

**Occupation: Furniture**



Surkhet, District Panchpuri Municipality Ward No. Lokendra Bista was born on June 3, 2008 as the youngest son of 6 daughters and 3 sons from the womb of father Nartim Bista and mother Mysara Bista. The brothers were married and there were 10 members in the house. The total land in the name of the family was only 3 ropanis. Due to the scarcity of land, there was not enough food for farming, so my father and brothers went to India for work. Some of the money sent by father and brothers from India used to cover our daily household expenses. After some time, my father had a lot of problems with asthma and my father and brothers came home. My father died in 2057 BS while undergoing treatment. At that time, I was studying in class 7. As it became difficult for us to manage my household expenses, I left school and got married at the age of 18. I left my wife and mother at home and went to India in search of work. My monthly salary was Rs 3,000 when I got a job at Vijay Hotel in Rajkot, India. This money was used to run the household expenses. I had worked in India for about 2 years. I returned home unconscious after the news of my mother's untimely demise.

Later, I started working as a laborer at home. Shortly after, my son was born. Happiness and burden both were added to my life.

On the 2074/02/05 B. S, Panchpuri Municipality in Tilakpur Tole of Ward No. 6, there was a discussion for the formation of a youth group by Aawaaj. I also went and became a member of the youth group. The group discussed and named the group the Green Youth Group. We, the youth, had started saving Rs. 20 per month. In the group, we would discuss various issues on a monthly basis and also discuss how the youth can become self-employed in the country.

Later, there was a discussion about sending 2 youths from our group as there is a program to provide entrepreneurship training to 2 youths from each youth group and to help them by developing their

skills. Later, the ward office and our youth group chose me because my financially weak group was very active. I was selected from the group and I participated in 3-day entrepreneurship training. The training provided information on what kind of ventures can be done in the community, the benefits of entrepreneurship, how to choose a business, how to do business, business plan. Later, I told them that I wanted to do some wood work, that there was a market for it and that I wanted to start a furniture business because I was interested. The organization gave me 10,000 rupees. I searched for 20,000 rupees and bought all the tools needed to operate the furniture for a total of 30,000 rupees. After opening the furniture factory, I told everyone about the construction of houses, doors, chairs, benches, tables and other materials as per the order while constructing houses in youth group and community. As my venture was going on, I needed an electric motor to cut wood, so I bought the electric motor with the money deposited in the youth group and another loan of Rs. 30,000 from seed money. I am currently making the furniture for the doors and windows of the houses to be built in the community.

Currently, my family of 4 is happily living at home together. At present, my monthly income from furniture is around Rs. 20,000. Out of Rs 20,000, I have been saving Rs 10,000 for household expenses and saving Rs 10,000 in banks and cooperatives for the future. So far, I have saved about Rs. 150,000. My wife has also helped me with household expenses by cultivating vegetables on a small plot of land. Currently, our green youth group has played a big role in making me a successful entrepreneur. I am currently working as the Treasurer of the Green Youth Group. I am also active in social work. I have also found a difference in the way society behaves then and now. Currently, Nepali youths have returned home from abroad due to corona infection and I am doing furniture work safely at home. Corona infection has made no difference to my business. Finally, I would like to thank the Aawaaj organization family very much.



**“Business and dedication bring family together”**

**Name: Mina Sharma (Women's Group)**

**Age: 26 years**

**Family Members: 3**

**Permanent Address: Panchpuri Municipality 2, Chiurikhet, Surkhet**

**Occupation: Vegetable farming**



Mina Sharma is the eldest daughter of father Ganesh Sharma and mother Januka Sharma living in Bagadi Municipality Ward No. 1, Bardiya. Her leg was a little short at birth. Due to the poor financial condition of her family, she could not get treatment and her leg problem remained the same. After her S.L.C result came out she found out she failed the exam so she ran away and got married to Yuvaraj Kadel, son of Moti Prasad Kadel of Chiurikhet. For a few months after the marriage, she was treated well by her family. Later, when she could not do the household work well in the family, she was treated with contempt. Some family members talked to her husband and tried to bridge the gap between the two. Later, there were misunderstandings between husband and wife. After 2 years of marriage, her daughter was born. Mina's husband left for India three years ago. Her husband has not returned since she left for India. He does not even send money home and threatens to come back only after Mina leaves the house. After Mina had a lot of problems, she came to the meeting of the women's group crying and shared her problem. After she spoke, members of the women's group went to her house to remind her family. She has been separated from her family after her family told her to do so.



Mina Panchpuri N.P. is a member of the “*Bihani Samuha*” and comes to the group regularly. She participated in a three-day entrepreneurship development training program in 2019 after the group recommended her name and the ward selected her for the problem-affected women in the program. She said that she was interested in vegetable farming and wanted to make good use of the land she had after learning that she could earn money on small investment by doing enterprise in the community.

Later, after undergoing a two-day vegetable farming training, she learned about the methods of growing vegetables.

After undergoing skill-based training, Aawaaj provided her Rs. 15,000 to buy plastic tunnels, bipals, irrigation canals and bamboos. After getting the help of the organization, she cultivated vegetables on 2 ropanis of land and planted chichinda, bitter gourd, beans, cucumber and tomatoes. The vegetables produced by Mina are taken in Bamboo Basket and sold far and wide. She has been working at the Rawal Vegetable Market in Paleta Bazaar, Salkot. She says that there is no problem in the vegetable market now that vegetables are being bought by Rawal Vegetable Mandi. In this way, she is busy in producing and selling vegetables regularly. She says that she has made vegetables her main occupation. She says that she gets a profit of up to Rs 5,000 per month and sometimes up to Rs 9,000 per month. She saves some of the money she earns from selling vegetables and manages household expenses. Mina has also saved Rs 2,000 in the women's group and Rs 10,000 in the Salkot Savings and Loan Cooperative. Mina has also raised 2 goats. She says that it is better to use goat manure in vegetables.

Currently, her family is doing well for her. Her husband also came home from India in the month of Baisakh, 2076 and used to take the vegetables planted by Mina, who lives with Mina, to the market. Her husband also helps her in vegetable farming. At present, Mina has been treated very well by her family and her husband. Mina's business and dedication has helped to improve the deteriorating house today. Mina says that the Aawaaj organization has helped the helpless women to become self-reliant by providing financial support. Currently, I have been telling the victims of violence in the community to start a small investment venture and increase their income, which will reduce violence, she says.

### **“Her hope is awakened by mediation”**

Born in Dailekh district, Rita is 42 years old. Her parents married her when she was 13 years old. She had 4 children and the family was fine. When the financial condition of the family was weak, her husband went to India to earn money by consulting with the family, for the better future of their children. First year after he went to India he used to call his family and send money, but later he gradually lost contact. She married off her 4 sons and daughters. She used to feel lonely, but she could not help but look at her children's faces. In Surkhet, there is a man who has lost his wife and has few children. As both of them had suffered so much so their relatives suggested them to get married. After one year of marriage, everything was fine. After that, her husband started listening to his children, drinking alcohol, beating her and abusing her. It has been 6 years now that she has endured everything. Even after tolerating all this, her husband sold the house where she lived and took the money away where she is not aware of. She was kicked out of the house, locked, and her husband took his children and started living where he used to work. When she was in so much pain she asked what to do with her neighbor. Her neighbor advised her to go to Aawaaj Organization and thus she came to Aawaaj Organization.

After listening to her in Aawaaj, she was provided psychological-counseling services and counseling. Her husband was called and both of them were kept in the hall of Aawaaj organization for discussion and mediation. She had lost all the hope towards her family, but now her husband's behavior has changed dramatically since the mediation. Her husband treats her well now. Because of the Aawaaj Organization, she has found new life.

**“Her courage saved her life”**

Dailekh resident, Goma (name changed) is now 15 years old. She suffered a lot from a young age due to poor financial condition of the house. Her father is mentally retarded so she and her mother were in charge of the whole house. She never went to school because of the financial situation at home. A man from the village looked down at her and he proposed to her for marriage. She did not like the man, so she said no to the man's marriage proposal. As she was not willing to get married to him, the man forcibly took her home. She was sexually abused and beaten for about a month. After she managed to escape from there, she came to Aawaaj, Surkhet and asked for help.

Aawaaj's psychosocial counselor took all the information about the incident and coordinated the case with the police office to help register a case. She was given psychosocial counseling and legal counseling as well as psychosocial counseling to her family. Now her life has changed.

Her case has been decided in her favor. After receiving a scholarship from Aawaaj, she has started studying now. Now she is living a normal life.

**“Mediation helped bring my life back to normal”**

My name is Sita. I am now 30 years old. I was born in 2046 B.S as 4th daughter. Due to poor financial situation at home, my parents arranged my marriage when I was 15 years old. I have 3 children, 2 daughters and 1 son. My husband drives an auto. After receiving training from the municipality, I also learned to drive the auto and bought an auto. At the time of farming, you go to the village and cultivate the rice and pulses that you can get, while at other times you are earning your living by driving the auto. Our family's financial situation is moderate. My husband used to drink alcohol. At other times, my husband, who used to love me the most while sober, insults me raises his finger on my character and beats me while he is drunk. This caused me a lot of mental stress and I couldn't stand it and came to Aawaaj organization to understand the legal issues.

Aawaaj called my husband from the organization and asked him to keep his word. After listening to the two of us, they helped us correct our shortcomings and advised us to get along for our family and

children. My husband also realized his mistake and decided to give up alcohol. Now the relationship between me and my husband is better. He also stopped drinking. Now my son and daughter are very happy.

Surviving mental and physical stress has given me a new life with Aawaaj organization. What I want to say to sisters who are having problems like me is if you feel stressed or have domestic violence, don't keep quiet. If you go to the relevant body and put your problem, you will surely get a new life like me.

### **“The sacrifice of the mother for the child”**

My name is Depika (changed name). As the first child of my parents, I was born 36 years ago in Surkhet district. I belong to middle class family. When I was 17 years old, I met a young brother from my village. When I was in my period of time, I used to stay in the cowshed which was far from home. I had to sleep there alone. When I went to sleep there, he would come and visit me. He used to say that he loved me very much and could not see me sad. He also told me that he wanted to marry me. Seeing his love or care melted my heart and we started loving each other and in the meantime, we had a physical relationship. I got pregnant. But when he knew that I was pregnant, he refused, saying that he would not marry a woman who was older than him. Because he was younger than I was, his family refused to accept me. I gave birth to my son on my maternal home and nurtured him, enduring the joys and sorrows with bearing the humiliation of the society. He married another and moved on with his wife and children. Remembering the game of fortune, I endured everything. I did not and will not interfere in his personal life. But my son's education has been stopped due to a lack of birth certificate. When I begged him, he refused to give his name for a birth certificate to a son. After he didn't understand my problem one day I told my sister nearby my house what to do and she advised me to go to the Aawaaj organization.

In this way, I came to the Aawaaj organization for the inquire. Aawaaj gave me complete information about my rights and legal issues. They sent me to the judiciary committee( Nyayik Committee) saying that there is a judicial committee in the municipality which works for the people who are in trouble like us, but my problem was not solved even by the judicial committee.

After that, with the help of Aawaaj, a case related to share and food expenses has been registered in the court. Because of the voice organization, I did not know my right to speak before, but today I am able to speak for myself.

### **“Courageous Sunita”**

Surkhet resident Sunita (name changed) is now 40 years old. She was the first child of her family. Her father died when she was two years old. And her mother kept her with her brother and sister in laws. Again her mother died at that time she was only 13 years old. After her parent’s death, her uncle and aunt married her at the age of 14. She has been married for 24 years now. She has 2 children, 1 son, and 1 daughter. Her husband used to work abroad and she was living at home. Her well-being was full of stress after her husband came from abroad. Her husband started harassing, beating and abusing her. She came to the police station and after discussing it with the police they went home with happiness, again he tortured her. Unable to bear all torture and pain, she found out about Aawaaj Organization through her neighbor and came with her neighbor.

She was given full information about her legal rights and entitlements in Aawaaj. After legal counseling and psychological-counseling, she decided not to stay with her husband. She was sent with Nanda Sir to prepare her case through the Aawaaj organization.

Now her case has been decided in her favor. She is now happily living with her children.

**“Mediation Enlighten New Life”**

Manju Malla, a resident of Surkhet district, used to live in India with her husband. When she came to her maternal family in 2060 BS, she was raped by his nephew Krishna Shahi. Due to the fear and shame of the society, she did not tell anyone about this, but she had a baby Krishna in her womb. After the two months of the incident, she went to India to her husband's place of residence. Her husband left her after Prakash's birth. Manju stayed with her mother and started taking care of Prakash. A few years later, Manju got married again and Prakash also lived with his mother and father. When Prakash was 15 years old, he asked for birth registration in his school to fill up the 8th class form. Then Krishna refused to go to make the birth certificate of his stepson. He refused to give the name on the birth certificate even after a discussion at the District Police Office after that Prakash's mother came to Aawaaj Organization to know how she can make a birth certificate of her son.

After Prakash's mother came to the Aawaaj organization and told him everything, the psychologist of the Aawaaj organization spoke to Prakash's father on the phone and called for mediation. Prakash's father, mother, and Prakash's father's current wife also came to mediate. After a long discussion, Prakash's father said that Prakash was his own son and from now on he would give Prakash the same rights as his son.

Prakash's birth was registered on 2076/10/29 B.S and after that, he presented to the school. Now Prakash and his mother are very happy. He is happy that he got a birth certificate due to mediation.



**“Dhana Decided to leave alone rather in bad relation”**

Dailekh resident Dhana (name changed) is now 32 years old. She got married when she was 16 years old. She has 2 sons and 1 daughter. Her husband works in a government agency and she has a small family. Suddenly there was a fight in the house where they were an example of a happy family in the society. Her husband started to beat her, not to pay for her care, not to care for her children not to take care of her even when she was sick. Dhana, who had been patient for some time, decided to leave after the problem recurred. She knew that Aawaaj was working for the justice of women and children, so she decided to come to Aawaaj.

The counselor from Aawaaj took all the information about the incident and helped to register the case. Her case was registered in the court with all the evidence and now she has decided to divorce. In which she also got a part of her rights. Now she has started her own fancy shop. Now she is strong with both financially and mentally. She has also admitted her children to good schools.

**“Reunion with mother”**

**Name: Kripal Nepali**

**Age: 5**

**Address: Surkhet**

**Problem: Ignorance**

Kripal Nepali, 5, of Dailekh district and currently living in Erichok, Ward No. 4, Birendranagar Municipality, Surkhet District, is the only son of his father and mother. When he was 2 years old, his mother left him and remarried. Kripal's father used to drive a cart. His father used to drink alcohol day and night and sleep on the road and he used to sleep with him on the road. Due to his father's lack of management and hygiene, he would urinate in his own body. Since his father had no place to stay, his father and he slept on the road and ate food thrown in the drain. Kripal's father did not give proper food to eat or proper clothes to wear. Even if other people gave Kripal food or clothes his father would fight with them. A person, who lived near to where Kripal and his father lived, called the children's helpline and brought Kripal to the helpline.

After Kripal came to the child helpline, after checking his health and teaching him to go to the toilet regularly, he learned to go to the toilet. His body also became healthy after regular support. To

understand his family environment, the staff of Aawaaj went to his father's place of residence and found that his father's mental condition was not right and Kripal could not be rehabilitated with his father. Aawaaj Organization, in collaboration with Manav Sewa Ashram, informed them about his father and took him to Manav Sewa Ashram.

While searching for his mother, his mother was living in Birendranagar 12 Neware and working as a painter. She was renting a room near her place of work and she and her husband were divorced. After consulting and advising Kripal's mother, Kripal was rehabilitated at her mother's house. Kripal's mother has now enrolled him in the school. He is happy to live with his mother.

**“The child helpline reunited with the family”**

**Name: Arika Rawat**

**Age: 13**

**Address: Salyan**

**Problem: Stranded**

Arika, who was born as the only child of her parents in Salyan district, is now 13 years old. Her father and mother used to come and go to India. She also used to live in India with her parents. Her mother died a year ago and her father left her at the uncle's house in Sallibazar and went to India. She fled to Birendranagar after her uncle and aunt started not sending her to school, abusing her, beating her and neglecting her. She was found stranded at the Birendranagar Bus Park by the District Police Office and sent to the Child Helpline Surkhet run by Aawaaj for shelter.

She was provided psychological counseling and counseling services at Aawaaj. During her counselling she said that she wanted to live with her grandmother as her father lived in India. Her uncle did not send her to school and made her work at home, so she said that she wanted to stay with her grandmother and go to the school. Talking to her grandmother on the phone, she said that she would keep Arika with her and send her to school, but she could not come to Surkhet due to housework and requested to bring her granddaughter to her house. After that, with the help of the staff of the Child Helpline, Arika was rehabilitated with her grandparents living in Sallibazar.

She is happy with her grandmother now. Her grandmother has decided to send her to school after the new enrollment opens. The helpline brought happiness to Arika's life.

**“A life robbed by the faith of a friend's “**

**Name: Mamata Bhandari (name change)**

**Age: 15 years**

**Address: Surkhet District**

**Problem: Forced Sex (Raped)**



Mamata (name changed) was born as the youngest daughter of her parents in the Surkhet district. Her father works in India as her family's financial situation is weak. Her sister already got married. There are 5 people living in her house including mother, brother, sister-in-law, and brother-in-law. 15 years old Mamata, is studying in class 6. Anju is her close friend, and they go to school together. She used to stay at Anju's house sometimes as her friend Anju was studying in 10th class and with the hope of, Anju can help her study. The day she went to Anju's house, Anju's boyfriend used to visit Anju. When Anju's boyfriend came, he used to bring another friend with his. One day Anju's boyfriend's friend raped Mamata and threatened her to kill if she told anything about it to anybody. She did not tell anyone. The other boys later found out that Mamata had been raped. After that, the same boy and other boys kept forcing sex to her while she was alone. She did not tell anyone about the incident.

After a while, Mamata's Abdomen felt like it was growing, but she didn't tell anyone. Later, Mamata's mother found out that she had a baby and took her to a health post. After checking at the health post, the doctors advised her not to have an abortion as she was more than 12 weeks pregnant and to be taken to a hospital in Surkhet. Her mother took her daughter to the state hospital in Surkhet. State Hospital told that Mamata is a child and was over 12 weeks pregnant so she could not be done abortion until a case was reported to the police. After that, she took her daughter to the District Police Office.

All this made Mamata was very nervous and scared. She was interrogated at the police station but did not say anything. After not saying anything at the district police office, the police sent her to the Aawaaj for Child Helpline and Safe Home for counseling. After the psychiatrist took her to a safe house in the Aawaaj organization and she took continuous classes, after that she told openly about all the incidents. After a discussion about the incident between the psychologist of Aawaaj and the District Police Office, it was agreed to file a complaint with the organization and register the incident. After the organization made a complaint and registered it with the police and interrogated him, the police have arrested six

persons related to the incident and is conducting an inquiry. Police are also working to present the grounds of the incident to the court but the case is in the legal process due to the lockdown (Global pandemic COVID-19). For Mamata's abortion, the organization has coordinated with the state hospital to perform the abortion on 2077/02/01 B.S. She is currently resting at home.

**“After being raped by her own Birthright Father”**

**Name: Sarita (name change)**

**Age: 13 years**

**Address: Surkhet District**

**Problem: Rape by her own father**

Sarita (name changed) was born in Surkhet district as the second child of her father and mother. In her house, there are 5 families including mother, father, two sisters, and a brother. 13 years old Sarita, is currently studying in 7th grade. Her father is a retired service holder of the Nepal Army. After retirement, he works in India. He came to Nepal one month ago. While her brother and mother had gone to the village on 2076/12/24 B.S to fetch vegetable seedlings. She was alone at home. Her father used to sexually harass her after drinking alcohol. She told her mother about it all but her mother told her not to tell anyone that he had done this without knowing while he has consumed alcohol. Listening to her mother's words, she could not tell anyone. The next day, at around 10 am, her father came home drunk, and when people from neighbors heard her screaming during the rape, and came and called the police and handed her father over to the police. The District Police Office, Surkhet transferred her to Aawaaj for shelter service and psychotherapy services. Aawaaj provided her with complete information about the incident and also provided psychotherapy services, shelter services, and legal advice. Now her case was registered in the rover of the organization. His case is now in the legal process. She is now under the care of her own great-grandfather and great-grandmother.



**"Incidents of raped by forcible escape from mother-in-law home during lockdown "**

**Name: Prema Bhandari**

**Age: 14 years**

**Education: 7th class**

**Parent's profession: Both work as wage laborers in India**

**Number of families: currently 4 at home (herself, martyred sisters and 2 brothers)**

**Permanent Address: Bardia**

**Problem: Raped**



Born as the stepdaughter of father Bimal Bhandari and mother Mina Bhandari in Bardia district, Prema's financial situation at home is very poor, and both her parents go to India to work for wages. She had one sister and two brothers in a total of four siblings used to live in the house. Father and mother go to India and come home once a year. She used to call time to time with her parents and ask to send some money for household expenses.

Before the lockdown, her maternal grandmother had come to her house. At that time, her school was closed, so she went to her mother's maternal house in Surkhet with her grandmother. Only her grandmother and grandfather lived in her mother's maternal house. One day a guest came there. After her aunt's brother arrived, they became familiar with each other. Maternal aunt brother started telling her, "I love you, I like you, let's get married." Later, they both ran away from their uncle's house to get married. When both of them were not at home, her maternal grandfather's reported to the local police that my child's grandson had run away. The two were on their way to Surkhet in the morning when they were found by the police at Bagesimal Naka on the Surkhet Valley border.

After questioning both of them, she said to the police that she had come to the boy's house in Latikoili, Surkhet. When the police of Bangesimal asked her who is close to your family, she said that she had the eldest maternal aunt in Surkhet. Police handed over the boy to the boy's family and the girl to her maternal aunt. Since her maternal aunt was renting a room and it was the time of lockdown, her aunt kept her for 4 to 5 days and sent her to a relative's house to do housework. She went there and did all the housework from morning till evening. That family did not treat her even when she was ill. Even when she was sick, she did all work from morning till night. She had been doing housework in the house

for about a month during the lockdown. On the 11th April, 2020 the boy who ran away from her (aunt's brother) came looking for her where she was working and again ran away at night.

During the lockdown, the boy went house at night and kept her in an upstairs room without letting anyone know. He was also forced to have sex with her at night, saying that it would not be good to not tell anyone about it. In the morning, the people of the boy's house found out that he had come. The next day, the boy and his family told her that they would marry her when he was old enough. The boy also told her to go to the house where she works and told her if anyone asks tell people that she had just gone to aunt's house.

When she returned where she worked, they asked her where you went and she said I had gone to my aunt's house. After the incident, she started to cry because she was not able to work at home properly, she was sitting on the floor, she found it difficult to work, and when she asked her aunt what had happened to her, she said that the boy had taken her away and sent her here the next day. After hearing this, the homeowner took her to the District Police Office, Surkhet.

She was handed over to Aawaaj for psychiatric consultation and shelter services, saying that the district police should take her to the legal process on 13th April. The Aawaaj organizations said that this is a time of corona so we told her to, sanitized and washed her hands, gave her a mask, and tell her to take bath after that provided her new clothes. She started staying in the safe house of the organization. After that, the organization called her close aunt and held a discussion. The psychoanalysis of the organization took all the information about her of the incident. He told her not to panic and that there was nothing wrong with her. Later, the organization, in coordination with the police through a lawyer, prepared a case of rape and registered it with the police. After the case was registered with the police, the police arrested the boy and kept him at the police station. The case is currently in the process due to lockdown. The organization called her maternal aunt to the organization and provided her with information about the legal process of the incident. She was given the phone numbers of the child helpline, psychologists, and police. And provided safety measures to protect from COVID-19 she is currently living with her maternal aunt.



Photo Gallery:





















# AAWAAJ - Pictorial Reflection

