

**MINORITY FOCUS**  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2023**



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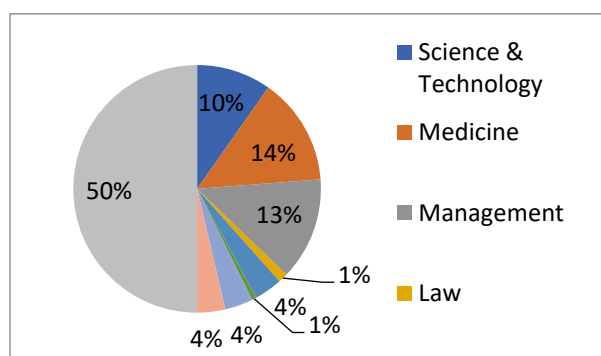
**Greetings from Minority FOCUS**

We are so glad to provide you Annual Report for 2023. Thank you so much for your prayers and love for the work of the FOCUS in Nepal. We are very much pleased to have your partnership to continue to achieve the mission of developing future leaders for holistic services in Nepal.

**The status of FOCUS students and graduates**

There were 125 Scholars who received scholarship support (male: 58, female 67). The number of students completed(graduated) were 53 (Female 29, Male24).

This year the total applicants were 87 (female 62 and male 25). Out of it, 46 were selected (31F,15M ) for new scholarship (batch 2023-2024). There is a growing need for scholarship. There is decreasing funding status due to an increasing number of withdrawals of abroad partners because their agreements ended and they have changed their priorities. Please pray how shall we manage the scholarship with the accessible funds.



**Correspondence to Graduates**

Our office communicated with the FOCUS graduates and sent reminding letters them to contribute to the scholarship program of FOCUS. Some graduates working abroad sent an appreciable amount of funds. We are waiting to hear their positive responses We are doing follow up. We hope many of our graduates will contribute in future.

**Evaluation and monitoring (SWC)**

The January to March months, we were busy in facilitating the evaluation and monitoring of the last 2 years project. The SWC (Social Welfare Council) evaluation and monitoring team visited our office.Finally, a report was provided with advices for future undertakings of the projects. The team greatly appreciated the important work the FOCUS is doing. They have advised to make more efforts in sustainability of the organization.

**Board Important Decision**

Our Board of Directors or company Board has made an important decision about initiating an Endowment Fund aiming to sustain the program. The Board has earnestly requested its local and abroad partners to contribute towards the fund.

## Project Approval

This time for the year 2023, we designed 3 types of scholarship projects: Result Based Scholarship Program, Medical & Technical Scholarship Support Program and General Scholarship Support Program.

We obtained preapproval from Lalitpur metro-municipality and final approval from SWC after much efforts and visits to this office.

## Funding Discussion workshop

Dr. Narayan and Sony Shah attended a on day workshop on funding strategies organized by an INGO, Philanthropic team at Kupandol. Mrs. Eva was the expert who led the workshop which has encouraged us as to how could approach and what strategies to be designed to seek funding possibilities. There were more than half NGOs representation followed by a good open discussion.

## Sony Shah visit to Israel

On her personal contact and communication with ICEJ, Ms. Sony Shah, program & Finance Manager of Minority Focus was invited to join a global assembly Of International Christian Israel Jerusalem in Oct 2023. She had wonderful and blessed time to celebrate with the ICEJ international team and global participants. She has expressed thanks to all who encouraged with prayer and supports. She has also thanked to Minority Focus for its prayer and support. Praise God for her safe journey back to Nepal.



## SUCCESS STORY

### **Staff Nurse Graduate**



First of all. I am Kamala Budhathoki from western district named Kailali. Tikapur is the down town. Sitapur is native village from where I come from.

I belong to a middleclass family. Because of poor economic condition, my family was unable to afford my education. My church supported me to finish my schooling. I longed to study nursing to serve my country. Because of costly nature of technical education, I had to seek scholarship. I came to know about Minority Focus Scholarship. I applied for it. I really expected full scholarship but any way I received partial scholarship support which was a great help. I joined the course and completed it successfully. I passed my Nepal nursing council license examination too. I have joined a Nursing job at Sooriya Diagnostic hospital. I am committed to provide patients care by building good interpersonal relationship and I am also interested to read nursing and medical book to equip myself with knowledge and skills to produce quality nursing care. This scholarship support helped me to reach to achieve my career goal in nursing. Same time now I can earn to support my family as well. I have been able to provide nursing service to my people where ever I serve. I highly appreciate your partnership with Minority Focus to support the underprivileged person like me.

## Som Bahadur Danuwar Rai



### Diploma in Pharmacy (3 years course)

Mr. Som Bahadur comes from Kavrepalanchok of Bagmati Province, one of the most earthquake affected districts.

He completed his Diploma in Pharmacy from a college named Surya Gandhi Samudayik (Public) Campus located at Nuwakot. After he graduated, he has been engaged in Pharmacy Companies. He got an opportunity to gain skills and about managing pharmacy.

“I am very much grateful to Minority Focus and

its inbound partner for financial and encouraging support to me during my studies. Please pray for me. I dreamed of starting a Pharmacy Company in the future. I long to be a leading Pharmacy with justifiable costs of medicines so that our community can be served better.”

### Career Helpers Training of Trainers(Career Counseling)

17 Leaders attended Career Helper Training (Career counselling) of Trainers in Mid December 2023.



After a long time of realization of need of Career Counselling Training associated with the strategic plan stated “to educate the local partners (churches) strategy”. We communicated with Career Disha Nepal NGO managed the course. The name of the course was Basic Career Helper Training TOT. There were 17 participants from local church partners from Lalitpur and Kathmandu.

After we had introductory sessions with background of the participants were known and the objectives of the course were explained. The list of expectations was highlighted. The courses were condensed to 2 days focused on subjects that can equip the responsible leaders to help the students pursuing higher education (technical and theology) such as Informed career decision, job market, education system of Nepal and interests, strengths and value-based and Psychometric assessment subjects to facilitate career decision. After all we are much grateful to PCI, UK for financial support that made this training possible to be undertaken. We have plans to operate trainings by our Minority FOCUS Team in various centers of Nepal during 2024-2025. The report produced by the expert team of Career Disha Nepal reflects the training activities about the course.



## Impact of Children Education

There were 3 female graduates from Southern Lalitpur out of students (Our Study Place), a pilot project implemented in partnership with FELM, they were graduated in dental health and hygiene, civil engineering and food and diary technology, now joined jobs in their respected fields. This was the outcomes or impacts of the pilot project. There are more scholars from this rural villages taking technical and secular courses currently. These graduates if they had not had the scholarship support, they might have been either in abroad low-level jobs or in domestic family lives. The



majority of rural girls after SEE are unable to pursue further studies in Nepal. Console Mission cooperated with Minority Focus and facilitated as copartner of the target community of Bagmati rural municipality of Southern Lalitpur in children education including Diploma education of said girls under 3 years project plan with FELM, Finland. This Console Mission continues to work for the children's education, is seeking financial resources though the 3 years plan was ended.

The enrollment of rural girls to college is very very low in Nepal. This has been the legacy of education in Nepal.

## Word of thanks

We thank abroad and local partners (church partners) and graduates for their regular contributions to the scholarship program. Similarly, we are grateful to our local governments and officials supported and facilitated our scholarship programs for successful implementation of the plan during the period. We are equally thankful to our Board Chairman, Treasurer and Directors for their valuable time and effective roles to manage and lead the company. We also thank the management team for every effort they made in implementing the program.

## Prayer Points:

- Please pray for various programs of 2024, the exploring new partners for funding has been started already.
- Please pray for the FOCUS company board members and the decisions they take, and for the staff team in implementing projects.
- Over 4 decades, we are operating our FOCUS in rented flat, the rental cost has been increased, we strongly feel to manage our own property, firstly we aim to buy a land.
- Pray for staff development especially executive course.
- Building relations with local government for funding support.
- Update of maximum number of graduates.
- We plan to implement Career counselling helper courses in appropriate centers of the provinces in Nepal.
- Plans to visit our abroad partners: especially US, Australia if everything is favorable, depending on the generous invitations of the partners and financial resources are accessible for part of the costs aiming to update and renew our partnerships.

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