

Children enjoyong in their classroom (Before COVID-19 outbreak)

# **Keeping Hopes In Crisis**

Challenges do not come alone, they come with possibilities. We believe that there are always rays of hope and windows of opportunities even in the time of despair and crisis. Children, all over the world, have no choice than to stay at home all the time these days as the entire world is hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Children need extra and special care during this challenging and critical time. As parents and guardians, we need to understand the needs and interest of our children and spend more time with them during this time. We should teach and make them aware about the virus and the different ways to stay safe from it. However, exposing them to the disturbing news in the media could increase their anxiety level, we need to be very careful and sensitive about it. We need to help them to become positive and hopeful. For this, we should fully support and encourage them to be engaged in productive and creative activities. This also helps to give children an important message- "We can fight against the COVID-19 virus not being afraid of it but by being adequately alert and prepared."

All the regular project activities of Right4Children are on hold due to the lock-down. However, we have been carrying out various activities to respond to the needs of our beneficiaries during the time of COVID-19 pandemic. In this issue, we have presented the highlights of those programmes and activities. Through this issue of our newsletter, we would like to spread hopes and appeal to fight with the corona virus with optimism and positivity.

Finally, we would like to thank all our partners and supporters for helping us and being with us in such a critical and challenging time!

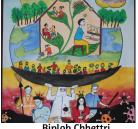
Take care of yourself and your loved ones!

#### Art

## **Project Updates**

- Art Exhibition was conducted in 2 schools in which 400 people visited.
- Due to COVID-19 lockdown and restriction in mobility, we conducted an Online Art Competition for children this time. 151 children from Kaski District participated in the competition.

Children express the effect of COVID-19 through Art









Sholan Shripali

Krisha Shrestha

## Child Friendly School (CFS)

 As a response to COVID-19, Right4Children, in collaboration with the local authorities in Kaski district, published 'Self-Learning Exercise Book' to enable and facilitate children to continue learning during the time of lock-down and closure of schools. A total of 9918 children of 70 schools are benefitting from the book.





### FAB Hospitality School

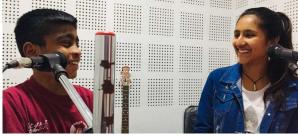
- The 3rd phase of construction in FAB School for Spa Therapy and Laundry Operation has started.
- The families of 60 FAB School trainees were provided with COVID-19 emergency relief support package that included food items and sanitary supplies.

SOYEE





 The radio magazine programme 'Hamro Kaam Ramro Kaam' has been on air once every two weeks. The theme of the programme is decent work and gender equality.



- 5 PSAs in 2 different topics (COVID-19 awareness and child marriage) were produced and broadcasted.
- 11 radio episodes were produced and aired focusing on COVID-19 awareness.



Safin Pandey, a class-6 student, spent most of his time learning a piano, drawing and playing with his siblings at home during the lockdown. He missed his school, teachers and friends. Like Safin, other 8 million school going children in Nepal are being forced to stay at home. Over 35 thousand schools in Nepal have been closed since March due to the coronavirus outbreak.



'Our teachers are regularly monitoring children in the community and we have found that most of the children are spending their time playing and supporting parents in household works', says Indra Subedi, the Principal of Sewamilan Basic School. As an alternative way, many private schools have been running online classes for their students. However, public schools have been unable to offer any alternative modes of learning and this has largely affected the education of the children in public schools.



A porter carrying self-learning exercise book to deliver in school.

Recently, after the lock-down was lifted, some public schools were found running classes in school maintaining certain standards and regulations. Though this has somehow addressed children's learning needs and provided them the opportunity for social interaction, it has, on the other hand, increased the risk of infection. Parents, therefore, are quite reluctant to send their children to school.

Considering the situation, Right4Children published 'Self-Learning Exercise Book' to facilitate children for continuous learning. The book contains exercises and activities in all the different subjects they have to study which they can practice at home on their own. Almost 10 thousand children have received this book from R4C.

#### Story of Bina

Bina who studies in grade 12 in Mirmee Basic School in Syangja has a different story than many other youth. The 'lockdown period' turned out to be a very productive time for her. Bina is associated with the Milijuli Bolaun radio programme supported by R4C. She spent her time producing corona virus related awareness programmes for children and parents. She, along with her team, produced 2 short films about corona virus. Her family and teachers have continuously been supporting her work which has further motivated her to keep up her creative and exemplary works.



