Annual Progress Report-ASSN 2022

RESCUING NEPALI DAUGHTGERS FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Submitted By: Aashish Social Service Nepal (ASSN), *Butwal-Nepal*Submitted to: Free The Beloved Nepali Daughters, *The Netherland*DATE OF SUBMISSION: 23RD MAY 2023

Dear Free The Beloved Nepali Daughters (FDBND),

We are delighted to present the annual progress report of Aashish Social Service Nepal (ASSN) for the year 2022. As a dedicated non-governmental organization working tirelessly to combat human trafficking in Nepal, This report serves as a comprehensive overview of our activities, impact, and outcomes achieved during the year. It will detail the various programs implemented by ASSN, including border surveillance efforts aimed at intercepting potential trafficking cases, skill development trainings designed to empower vulnerable individuals, and the provision of safe home facilities for survivors seeking refuge and rehabilitation. Throughout this report, you will find compelling narratives of lives transformed, testimonials from beneficiaries, and statistical data that reflects the tangible impact of our work. It is a testament to the resilience and strength of the individuals we serve, as well as the dedication of our team and the collaborative partnerships we have forged with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the FTBND team, our committed staff, board members, volunteers, and supporters whose unwavering dedication and support have been instrumental in our progress. We are also deeply grateful to the survivors who have shown tremendous courage in sharing their stories, inspiring us to continue our fight against human trafficking.

Thank you for standing with us on this important journey.

Sincerely,

Yubaraj Bishwokarma

Executive Director, ASSN

Our programs for the year 2022

ASSN's work in 2022 under the Anti-Human Trafficking Ministry was focused on three key categories: Prevention, Empowerment through Skill Development Trainings, Protection and Rehabilitation through Safe Home Facilities. The statistical data and detailed information regarding ASSN's activities within these categories during the year are as follows:

S.N.	Borders	Information sharing and counseling	Emergency Shelter Home and accommodation	Safe home referring and training	Family reunion and reintegration	Cases handed to the Police
1	Thori Booth	1560	109	9	79	67
2	Butwal Bus park	1872	128	11	98	93

Prevention:

- Border Surveillance

The prevention program includes the Border Surveillance, Emergency Shelter home and family reunion depending on the needs and best interest of the girls. All these works were successfully done in Coordination with the Nepal Police and the local government. Within this year 2022, a total of 3432 Nepali girls and women received awareness and counseling about the risk of human trafficking. During these counseling they were guided through how young vulnerable girls are allured and promised of a better life taking advantages of their poor financial situation, dreams and are deceived with fake promises. They also received the ways to reach out to ASSN in case of emergencies if anything regarding their safety occurs.







Some photos during the Border Surveillance

- <u>Emergency Shelter Home:</u>

A total of 109 girls at Thori Border and 128 girls at Butwal Bus Park were accommodated temporarily at the Emergency Shelter home where they received safe temporary accommodation, food and counseling. As most of them were handed over to their families and relatives and were thus reunited to their families with the help of the Nepal Police. The rest of the 20 girls were referred to the grace shelter home for further training and programs.





Some pictures from the Emergency Shelter Homes

Empowerment:

- Skill generating training:

ASSN conducted skill development trainings aimed at empowering individuals and reducing their vulnerability to human trafficking. Approximately 20 individuals in total were accommodated at the safe house facility, where they not only received shelter but also participated in skill-generating training programs. These trainings equipped participants

with valuable skills, enhancing their employability and providing them with sustainable livelihood opportunities.





Girls at Safe home learning Sewing Cutting Training

- <u>Social Leadership Development Training (SLDT):</u>

Under the Empowerment through Skill Development Trainings category, Aashish Social Service Nepal (ASSN) conducted the Social Leadership Development Training (SLDT) program. As part of this program, the girls received an extensive six-month training covering various essential topics delivered by expert trainers. These topics included *Law and its Implementation, Moral and Ethical Values, Financial Management, Personality Development, and Communication Skills.*

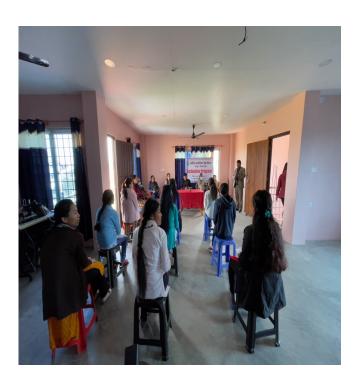
The SLDT aimed to equip the girls with valuable knowledge and skills to foster their social leadership abilities. Through expert-led sessions, they gained a deeper understanding of the

legal framework, enabling them to navigate legal matters effectively. Additionally, the training emphasized the importance of moral and ethical values, instilling a strong foundation for making responsible choices in their lives.

Financial management skills were also imparted during the training, empowering the girls with the ability to handle finances effectively and make informed financial decisions. The program further focused on enhancing their personality development, encouraging self-awareness, confidence, and personal growth.

Communication skills formed an integral part of the training, as effective communication is crucial for expressing ideas, building relationships, and advocating for oneself and others. Through targeted sessions, the girls developed their communication abilities, including verbal and non-verbal communication, active listening, and assertiveness.

By providing the girls with this comprehensive training program, ASSN aimed to nurture their leadership potential, equipping them with the necessary knowledge, skills, and values to become influential change-makers in their communities. The SLDT played a crucial role in empowering the girls and preparing them for a brighter and more resilient future.





Girls at safe home participating in the SLDT classes

Protection and Rehabilitation:

- <u>Safe home (Grace Shelter Home)</u>

In situations where girls intercepted at the border find their homes and immediate surroundings unsafe to return to, Aashish Social Service Nepal (ASSN) recognizes the critical need for a secure and supportive environment. To address this need, ASSN operates a Safe Home known as Grace Shelter Home, where these girls can seek refuge, receive comprehensive care, and undergo counseling as part of their mental and physical recovery process.

The primary purpose of the Safe Home is to ensure the safety and well-being of the girls who have experienced the traumatic effects of human trafficking. Within the nurturing environment of the Grace Shelter Home, they receive appropriate accommodations and are provided with essential services to support their recovery. These services include professional counseling, which aids in addressing their emotional and psychological needs and facilitates their healing process.

During the year, **a total of 20 girls** were accommodated at the Safe Home, where they found solace and protection from further harm. In addition to a secure and comfortable living space, the girls were given individualized care and support, tailored to their unique circumstances and requirements. The dedicated team at the Grace Shelter Home ensured that their physical, emotional, and mental well-being were prioritized and attended to.

Through the Safe Home program, ASSN demonstrates its unwavering commitment to protecting and supporting these vulnerable girls, offering them the care and support they need during their journey towards healing and empowerment.

ASSN recognizes that providing a safe and nurturing environment is paramount to the girls' overall recovery and reintegration into society. The Grace Shelter Home serves as a sanctuary where they can rebuild their lives, regain their self-esteem, and develop the necessary skills and resilience for a brighter future.



One of our daughters receiving Christmas gifts



Birthday Celebration of One of our daughters

- Reintegration:

Aashish Social Service Nepal (ASSN) recognizes that the process of combating human trafficking goes beyond rescue and rehabilitation. To ensure the long-term well-being and successful reintegration of survivors, ASSN places significant emphasis on comprehensive reintegration support. Reintegration is a critical phase in the journey of survivors, as they

transition from the safe environment of shelters or safe homes back into society. ASSN worked diligently this year to provide survivors with the necessary tools, resources, and support systems to rebuild their lives and reintegrate into their communities.

For **20** girls at the safe home ASSN was able to provide the educational support, facilitating access to non-formal education opportunities, vocational training, and skill development programs. By equipping survivors with knowledge and practical skills, ASSN was able to help them to pursue sustainable livelihoods and become self-reliant.

In addition to educational support, ASSN also provided the support for the psychosocial and emotional well-being as survivors often face significant trauma and may require ongoing counseling and therapy. ASSN provided comprehensive mental health support, ensuring that survivors have access to professional counseling services, trauma-informed care, and support groups. We believe this assistance aided in their healing process and promoted resilience as they navigate their post-trafficking journey.

Furthermore, ASSN actively collaborated with governmental agencies, community leaders, and local organizations to create a supportive environment for survivors. By raising awareness, challenging stigmas, and fostering community acceptance, ASSN was able to create a safe and inclusive space where survivors went back and rebuilt their lives without fear of discrimination or re-victimization.

Ultimately, successful reintegration is a collaborative effort that requires the involvement of survivors, their families, communities, and various stakeholders. ASSN plans to facilitate community reintegration by continuing organizing sensitization programs, engaging in advocacy campaigns, and promoting social inclusion. By fostering understanding, acceptance, and empathy, ASSN aims to create a society where survivors can lead dignified and fulfilling lives.



Reintegration of one of the daughters after finishing the safe home training

Other Important Programs:

In addition to the core initiatives of interception, skill development, safe home facilities, and reintegration support, Aashish Social Service Nepal (ASSN) also undertook significant efforts in organizing **public awareness generating programs.** These programs aimed to raise awareness and promote a deeper understanding of crucial issues related to women's rights, human trafficking, and legal matters.

One notable event organized by ASSN was a street rally held in Thori on **International Women's Day.** The rally garnered substantial participation, with over 600 individuals joining to show their support. Through this event, ASSN sought to create a visible platform for advocacy, emphasizing the importance of women's rights and addressing the issue of human trafficking. Participants were provided with information and resources to enhance their understanding of these critical topics, including legal issues surrounding trafficking. Similarly, in Butwal, ASSN organized a public awareness program that attracted the attendance of approximately 200 individuals. This program focused on spreading awareness and knowledge regarding women's rights, human trafficking, and related legal concerns. By facilitating discussions and sharing information, ASSN aimed to empower community members with the necessary tools to recognize and combat these issues.

Furthermore, during the **16 Days of Movement against Gender-based Violence,** ASSN organized public awareness programs in both Butwal and Thori. These programs, held over a period of 16 days, aimed to engage the community in meaningful discussions, challenge societal norms, and address the prevalence of gender-based violence. Through these initiatives, ASSN encouraged dialogue, education, and collective action to combat gender-based violence and promote a culture of respect and equality.

The public awareness generating programs organized by ASSN were instrumental in fostering community engagement, disseminating information, and promoting active participation in combating human trafficking and promoting women's rights. By organizing events and providing platforms for discussion, ASSN strives to create a society that is well-informed, aware, and committed to addressing the challenges faced by vulnerable individuals and promoting gender equality.

Recognizing the importance of collaboration and partnership in effectively combating human trafficking, Aashish Social Service Nepal (ASSN) has been actively organizing and participating in coordination programs and events. These initiatives aim to enhance the efficiency of engagement with other departments, including local government and police, fostering a collective effort towards eradicating human trafficking.

Throughout the year, ASSN organized **four coordination meetings,** providing a platform for stakeholders to come together, share insights, and strategize collaborative approaches. These meetings served as valuable opportunities to discuss challenges, exchange information, and synchronize efforts in addressing human trafficking. In addition to organizing coordination meetings, **ASSN actively participated in approximately 10 programs** organized by various concerned organizations. These collaborative events allowed ASSN to contribute its expertise and perspectives while also learning from the experiences and insights of other organizations working in the field. By actively engaging in these programs, ASSN sought to build networks, share best practices, and strengthen partnerships with like-minded organizations, ultimately amplifying the collective impact in the fight against human trafficking.

The organization recognized that the fight against trafficking requires a coordinated effort involving multiple stakeholders, including government agencies, law enforcement, civil society organizations, and concerned individuals. Through collaboration and coordination, ASSN aimed to maximize resources, avoid duplication of efforts, and enhance the overall efficiency and effectiveness of its interventions.





Some photos from the Coordination meetings from the year 2022
