



## LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

#### **DEAR FRIENDS,**

On behalf of our entire team, I am proud to share with you the progress we have made toward our mission of ensuring that every woman and her newborn can access the safe, equitable, and respectful high-quality healthcare they need to not only survive pregnancy and childbirth, but to thrive long after. In 2022 alone, 203,881 pregnant women and newborn infants were able to access the high-quality maternal and newborn care they needed thanks to our programs.

As we reflect on the many milestones achieved this past year, we recognize that traditional aid models have often perpetuated unequal power dynamics and disempowered the very communities we aim to uplift. This is why, as an organization, we are committed to fostering the agency of the communities we serve and amplifying local capacity to be the driver of change rather than leading it.

A cornerstone to the success of our model are our partnerships with local stakeholders who coimplement, co-invest, and ultimately own our intervention. This unique collaborative approach, which began as a small grassroots effort, has matured to reflect a comprehensive vision that is revolutionizing sustainable partnerships and redefining what is possible in the fight against the global burden of maternal and newborn deaths.

As part of our ongoing commitment to championing local capacity, we are excited to share that in 2022, we formalized a five-year renewal with the Government of Nepal. In addition to outlining our shared vision in Nepal, this agreement also highlighted an exciting expansion of the way we work with local NGO partners. We have joined forces with five local non-governmental organizations to help us carry out the implementation of our programs in our new districts. Each one of these local organizations is well-established in their respective districts and have earned local trust with many years of work with the local communities, which allows for greater community buy-in and more sustainable impact long-term.

Lastly, I want to thank each and everyone of you for your ongoing commitment to our mission. It is through your contributions that we can continue to work toward a world where every woman and newborn doesn't just survive, but thrives.

SINCERELY, **SARA SEIMS** CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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ONE HEART WORLDWIDE'S MISSION IS TO SAVE THE LIVES AND PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF PREGNANT MOTHERS AND THEIR NEWBORNS IN UNDERSERVED AREAS OF RURAL NEPAL.

OUR VISION IS TO PARTNER WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO CO-CREATE A LOCALLY-LED HEALTH SYSTEM PROVIDING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO QUALITY CARE FOR ALL PREGNANT MOTHERS AND NEWBORNS.

Pregnant woman visiting a Birthing Center for an antenatal check-up appointment.

## **OUR MODEL**

Our success is rooted in a firm understanding of sustainable integration of quality Maternal and Newborn Healthcare (MNH) services into local culture and communities within complex and remote operating environments that are prone to natural disasters.

We co-invest with the local government and leverage existing community channels to strengthen public MNH infrastructure to establish a continuum of care, known as the Network of Safety, that increases access to safe delivery and extends both the reach and quality of care offered by the local health system.

Our self-sustaining community-centric model addresses critical gaps in rural MNH service delivery, ensuring that every pregnant woman and newborn can access quality care from a well-trained medical provider no matter where she lives. We spend six years in each district working in partnership with local municipalities, local NGOs and local communities to strengthen the maternal and newborn health infrastructure by upgrading government health facilities, improving the skills and expertise of local health providers, and fostering community empowerment to create meaningful change that is locally driven.

YEAR 1

YEAR 2

YEAR 3

YEAR 4

YEAR 5

YEAR 6

#### **PHASE 1: PROGRAM SET-UP**

- Establish partnerships with local government representatives; each new District represents 4-20 Palikas (municipalities)
- Internal and external baseline surveys
- Customize the model to the local need

#### PHASE 2: PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

- Upgrade health facilities and launch quality improvement programs
- Train healthcare providers, community outreach providers, and local stakeholders
- Implement community outreach activities and specific research projects

#### **PHASE 3: TRANSITION**

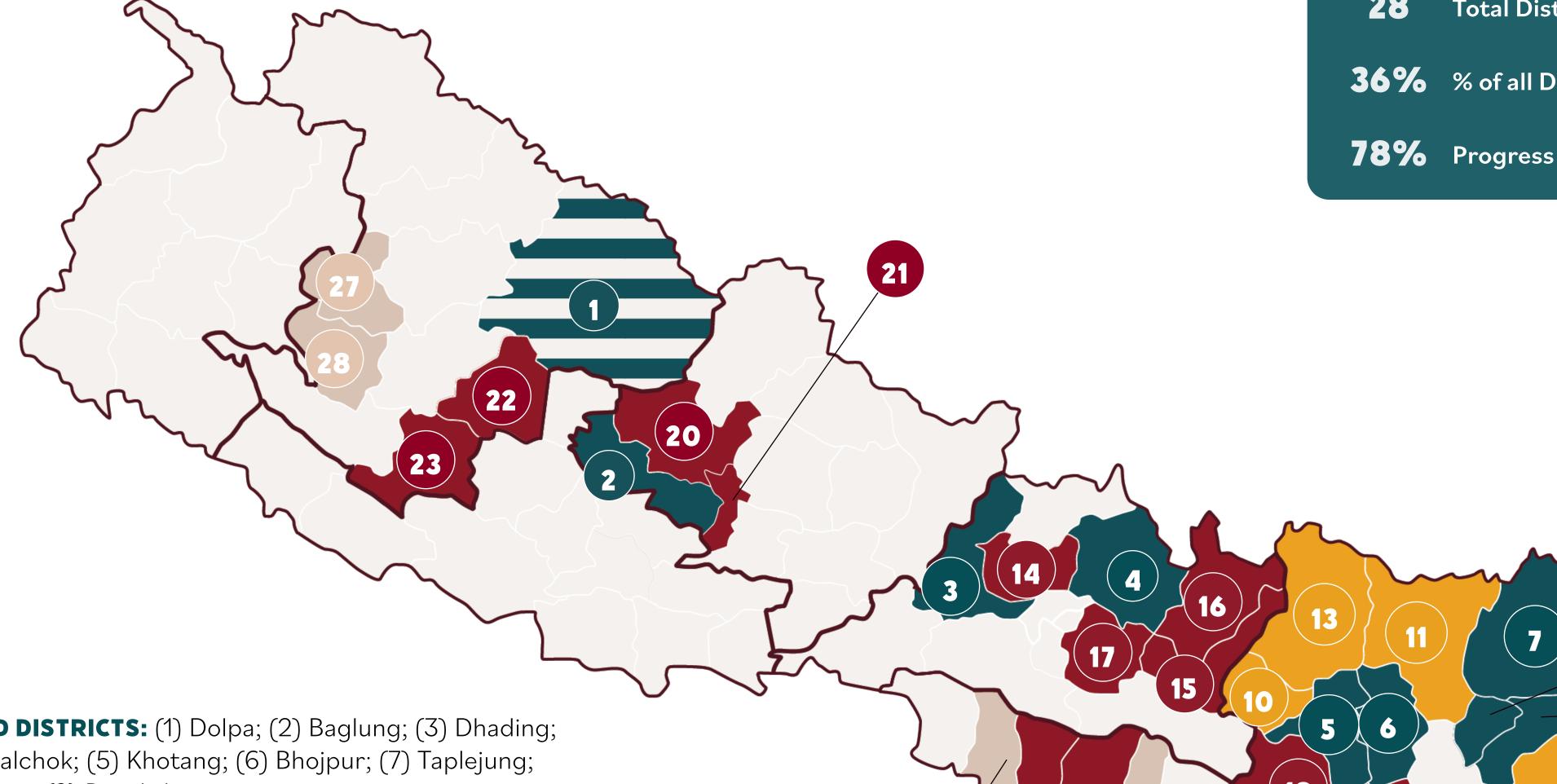
- Maintain program indicators and long-term maintenance
- Implement remedial activities as needed
- Transfer full oversight to the local government before exiting the District



**Total Districts Reached** 

**36%** % of all Districts in Nepal

**78%** Progress toward 2030 target



**COMPLETED DISTRICTS:** (1) Dolpa; (2) Baglung; (3) Dhading;

(4) Sindhupalchok; (5) Khotang; (6) Bhojpur; (7) Taplejung;

(8) Terhathum; (9) Panchthar;

WHERE WE WORK

TRANSITION PHASE: (10) Okhaldhunga; (11) Sankhuwasabha;

(12) Ilam; (13) Solukhumbu;

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE: (14) Nuwakot; (15) Ramechhap; (16) Dolakha;

(17) Kavrepalanchok; (18) Udayapur; (19) Sarlahi; (20) Myagdi; (21) Parbat;

(22) Rukum West; (23) Salyan; (24) Rautahat;

SET-UP PHASE: (25) Bara; (26) Mahottari; (27) Kalikot; (28) Dailekh



# THE RENEWAL OF OUR FIVE-YEAR PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE SOCIAL WELFARE COUNCIL

An exciting milestone in our deepening and ever-evolving partnership with the Government was the formal signing of our new project agreement with the Social Welfare Council (SWC), renewing our mutual priorities and activities for the next five years. This agreement ensures our continued alignment with our government partners in existing districts and formalizes our path forward as we prepare to onboard the remaining districts of our mandate in Nepal. As a part of the renewal process, we are very proud to share that the in-depth review of our program performance over the past five years showed successful achievement of all our deliverable targets outlined in the previous agreement.



## **OUR NEW NGO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS:**

Towards our goal of long-term sustainability and integration of our programs within existing local systems, in 2022, One Heart Worldwide (OHW) began implementing some of our community-based program activities through local non-governmental organization (NGO) partners. Official partnership agreements have been signed with five NGO partners working in Salyan, Rukum West, Dolpa, and Rautahat including:

- 1. Women Empowerment Center, Dolpa
- 2. Dalit Development Society, Salyan
- 3. Rukumeli Social Development Center, Rukum West
- 4. Campaign Nepal for Research & Development, Rautahat
- 5. Mandwi, Rautahat

The team developed a full set of manuals, policies, and program implementation guidelines to clarify expectations on both sides and ensure that all of our programs are effectively implemented by our local NGO partners.











"Working with OHW has been a remarkable experience for me. Being a part of this organization has allowed me to grow personally and professionally. One of the most significant benefits of working with OHW is confidence boost. Through my interactions with the team and the community, I have gained self-assurance in my abilities.

By engaging with the community and listening to their stories and experiences, I have gained valuable insights into the challenges mothers and newborns face in this region. This has allowed me to approach my work with increased empathy and understanding, making me more effective in my efforts to improve maternal health outcomes."

- NEHA SAH, CLINICAL FIELD OFFICER, MANDWI, RAUTAHAT DISTRICT





## PROGRAM DELIVERY SINCE 2010

694

Skilled Birth Attendants (SBAs) Trained

640 Birthing Centers Upgraded

20,953

Community Outreach Providers Trained

13,403

Medical Providers who Received Continuing Medical Education

18,180

Community Stakeholders Trained

## **2022 PROGRAM DELIVERY**



1,442
Local Community Groups
Mobilized for MNH



Stakeholders Trained

2,737
Community Outreach
Providers Trained



**89**SBAs Trained

77
New Birthing Center
(BC) upgrades

35
BCs receiving supplemental medical supplies & equipment

266

113

Quality of Care support follow-up visits to BCs

BCs receiving Quality of

Care support - first visit







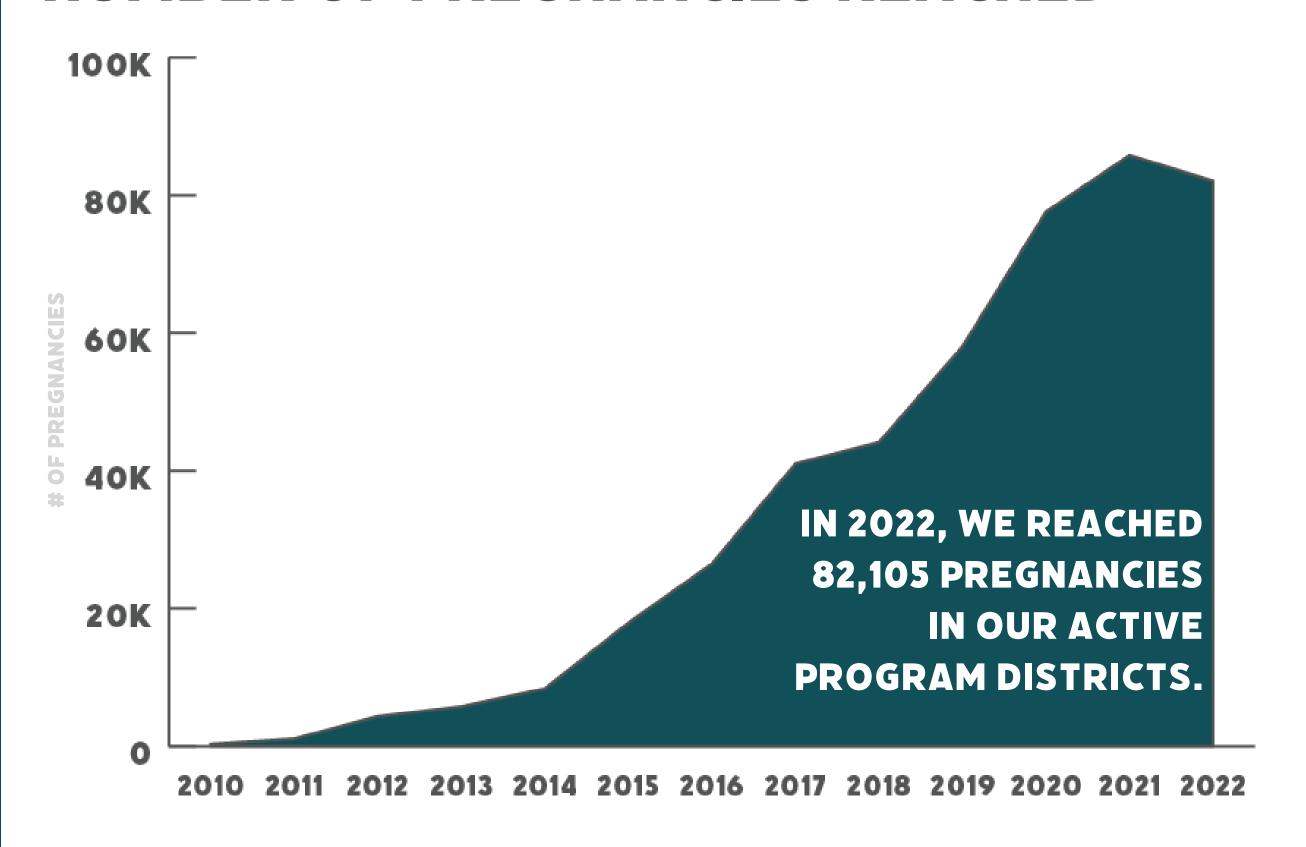
BC governance strengthening activities



**20**Rural Obstetric Ultrasound
Training for SBAs



## NUMBER OF PREGNANCIES REACHED



"In 2022, we made significant strides in improving rural maternal and neonatal healthcare services by providing comprehensive two-month long Skilled Birth Attendant (SBA) training to rural health service providers as well as Rural Obstetric Ultrasound training, onsite coaching and mentoring to ensure service providers had access to the latest techniques and knowledge. In addition, we held virtual monthly sessions to provide ongoing support and updates on new knowledge and skills to over 2000 rural nurses. With this comprehensive training and support, we enhanced the capacity of rural healthcare service providers and improved the quality of maternal and neonatal healthcare for rural communities in Nepal."

- MS. BHAGAWATI SHRESTHA, OHW TRAINING MANAGER





# **COST-SHARING CONTRIBUTION FROM OUR LOCAL MUNICIPALITY PARTNERS**

As an integral part of our program scale-up strategy in Nepal, OHW aims to transition our partners at the local (Palika) level government into an increased payers' role, with OHW transitioning out of an implementation role and into more of a technical advisory role with limited funding expectations. This would signal an official transfer from program co-ownership (between OHW and the Palikas) to exclusive local program ownership.

55%

Average cost-share contribution from municipalities toward facility renovation costs (100% participation) 51%

Percent of municipalities contributing to other aspects of our program (equipment/supplies or training)

In addition to local Palika-level cost-sharing, we are also encouraged to see costsharing initiatives and partnerships established with several Provincial Governments, which amplifies the support and resources available for broader health system investment.

## **PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:**

## DIRECT RELIEF

Ensuring better access to life-saving vaccines is vitally important to protect pregnant women and their newborn infants' survival. In Nepal, this access is hampered by the lack of appropriate available cold storage facilities. We teamed up with Direct Relief and the Government of Nepal to increase our government partners' capacity to store essential vaccines and reduce the national burden of COVID-19 infections and other illnesses by constructing a cold chain storage facility able to store all types of vaccines, including those typically harder to store due to colder temperature requirements.



"I really want to offer my thanks to One Heart Worldwide for their support. This facility built over 1500 sq. feet of land will enable us to extend our medical storage of both routine and COVID-19 vaccines."

- DR. ROSHAN POKHAREL, SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND POPULATION

"We are really grateful for the funding support of Direct Relief. OHW is honored to be partnered with the Government of Nepal. We would like to say thank you very much to the Government of Nepal for this great partnership where we are able to come together to help strengthen Nepal's health system."

- MR. DAVID MURPHY, CEO OF OHW







## STORY FROM THE FIELD

#### FOOTPRINTS FOR SUSTAINING QUALITY MATERNAL AND NEONATAL HEALTHCARE

Local government efforts and investments in Sankhuwasabha are helping to work towards a strengthened health system with the support of One Heart Worldwide.

By Naresh Newar in Sankhuwasabha



In the wee hours of a rainy morning, 27-yearold Ramuna Sherpa began to feel excruciating pain she had never experienced before during her pregnancy. She needed emergency aid and was running out of time. The government-run Siddhakali Health Post was the only health facility closest to her house. But, unfortunately, there was no vehicle available to transport her.

Her family, mostly female relatives, found a makeshift stretcher as their only means of transport. They had to walk for over an hour to reach the health facility. Each minute seemed like a lifetime for Ramuna as her labor pain increased.

"I thought I would not survive this. It was the worst day of my life," says Ramuna. After finally reaching the health facility, nurses took her to the newly renovated center, built with the support of One Heart Worldwide in partnership with Chainpur Municipality.

Nurses, Siddhakali health staff, and members of the HFOMC waited impatiently. They feared that Ramuna was facing a life-threatening risk after the family informed them about her severe labor pain.

As soon as Ramuna arrived, the nurses took every step to save her. She had a breech case, in which the baby was positioned bottom-down with his feet in the uterus. Luckily, they had experience in dealing with such complications. The skills and knowledge the nurses learned from a clinical training series, along with mentorship from OHW's clinical team, provided the needed expertise to save Ramuna.

"Today, when I think of that day, I realize how lucky we all are, and it makes me proud that we have such a high-quality birthing center - it feels like being in a city hospital," says Ramuna.

IN SANKHUWASABHA DISTRICT, OHW HELPED TO PROVIDE ONSITE COACHING AND MENTORING TO 82 NURSES AND PROVIDED GOVERNMENT-CERTIFIED SBA TRAINING FOR 27 NURSES.



#### LEAVING BEHIND THE FOOTPRINTS FOR A SUSTAINABLE HEALTH SYSTEM

After nearly five years, OHW exited from Sankhuwasabha in 2022. OHW programs have helped strengthen the MNH system in all ten municipalities. In the final stage of the OHW program, the exit process involves a two-year transition phase when the OHW team maintains regular contact with the District Health Office, municipalities, and health facilities. This exit strategy allows for a proper handover of all activities to the local municipalities and communities.

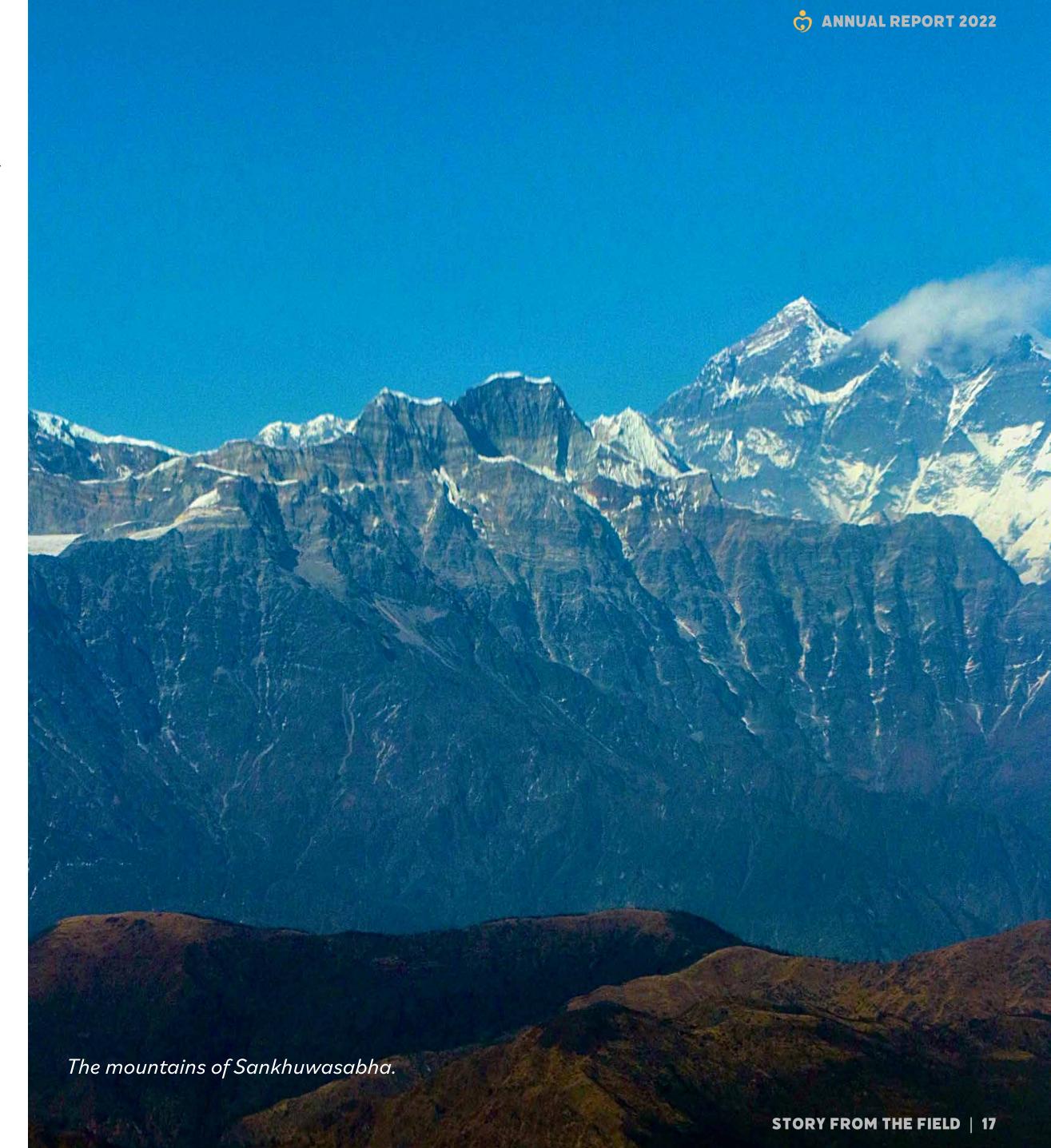
"OHW will be missed in our district, but its contribution has left a footprint that will help us to move forward. OHW arrived at a very critical time in 2017 when many representatives had been newly elected, and the federalism process was being implemented," says Suman Shakya, Chief of Sankhuwasabha District Coordination Committee (DCC).

He added that the new governance system had a positive impact on strengthening local government leadership. "This was when the partnership with OHW turned out to be such a good opportunity with a vision to strengthen our health system."

The District Coordination Committee plays an integral role in coordinating between rural and urban municipalities and provincial governments and represents the federal government in coordinating development work carried out by both the government and non-government organizations at the District level.

"OHW has shown us the way, and now we have a clear roadmap to continue the process of progress," says Poshraj Shrestha, Public Health Officer of Madi Municipality. Even during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, institutional birth deliveries had increased in Madi, which had one of the highest infection rates (based on the population ratio).

"Although OHW left us, their team showed us the direction we should follow, how to make our health systems sustainable and more organized, and how to ensure ongoing efforts to make maternal and neonatal health safer continue to thrive," says Mr. Shrestha.





# SIMULATION-BASED MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Since 2020, OHW has been implementing an innovative Simulation-Based Mentorship Program (SBMP), a hands-on workstation-based coaching and mentoring program that provides low doses of regular demonstrations and drills through local/district mentors. In 2022, we continued the program in Udayapur and Dolakha, while expanding the program to Sarlahi and Myagdi. We are encouraged to see the positive response to this program from both service providers and our government partners, as it provides a path designed specifically to support health providers in both burnout and skills retention as they continue to be on the front lines of the pandemic and subsequent recovery. Furthermore, the results of the midline assessment of the program in Udayapur and Dolakha confirm the program's potential as a tool to increase skills retention and support among rural providers. The assessment revealed significant improvements in both skills and knowledge across all seven themes of the mentoring sessions when compared to baseline results.





# THE RURAL OBSTETRIC ULTRASOUND (ROUSG) TRAINING PROGRAM

To improve access to ultrasound scans in rural areas, OHW has been supporting the Government of Nepal efforts to expand rural obstetric ultrasound training for SBAs so they can properly manage and refer cases of obstetric complications, ultimately reducing newborn and maternal morbidity and mortality. This year, OHW and the National Health Training Center completed an updated learning resource package for SBAs enrolled in the three-week rural obstetric ultrasound training program that was formally approved by the Government of Nepal and incorporated into the ROUSG training program.

In order to meet the growing demand for ROUSG training for rural providers in Nepal, OHW also established an ROUSG training site in the Karnali Provincial Hospital, Surkhet in partnership with the National Health Training Center and Provincial Human Resource Development Center, Karnali. This is a very exciting development as this is the very first ROUSG training center in Karnali province, a very remote rural area where the need for ROUSGtrained SBAs is great.

# LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE HMIS 3.6.1 EHEALTH PILOT

After significant COVID-related delays, this year saw the conclusion of our WHO-funded eHealth pilot towards supporting the Government's shift from paper-based record keeping to electronic for patient and facility-level data. While the pilot's evaluation demonstrated strong evidence of the program's support by providers and benefit towards improving service utilization among pregnant women, it also provided insights on logistical factors such as internet reliability and software updates that will need to be addressed in order to scale more broadly. An impressive 120% increase was achieved in the proportion of pregnant women who were in compliance with the WHO-recommended timeline for antenatal, delivery, and post-natal visits, complemented by positive feedback from health providers on the user experience of the software, which improved their ability to record, utilize, and report information between health facilities.





## **PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:**

## MEDICAL AID FILMS

One Heart and MAF worked in partnership with the National Health Education, Information and Communication Center of the Government of Nepal to develop a series of short educational maternal and newborn health films specifically adapted to the socio-cultural and healthcare delivery context of rural Nepal. We subsequently conducted a study to assess whether viewing these films had a positive impact on the maternal and newborn health knowledge levels among pregnant women, and FCHVs in rural Nepal. Our results clearly demonstrated that using these culturallyadapted educational films was indeed an effective intervention to improve maternal and newborn health knowledge among these rural populations. We are excited to share that the results of our work were recently published in Women's Health Magazine.

## **MedicalAidFilms**

**CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL PUBLICATION** 



## **ACCESS TO CARE**

Improved access to care as evidenced by an observed increase in the number of births attended by a trained health care provider. Our current target is a 30% increase as compared to baseline. We have achieved this goal in all transition districts.

THE AVERAGE INCREASE IN TRANSITION **DISTRICTS IS 55%.** 

## **QUALITY OF CARE**

Improved quality of care as evidenced by an observed increase in the number of birthing centers scoring 75% or above on the Nepal Government Quality Improvement Program (QIP) tool. Our current target is a 30% increase as compared to baseline. We have achieved this goal in all our transition districts.

THE AVERAGE INCREASE IN TRANSITION **DISTRICTS IS 227%.** 



## **DEMONSTRATED GOVERNMENT BUY-IN**

The percent of OHW's Palika-level partners in each district prioritizing MNH by setting aside budgets explicitly earmarked for this purpose (above and beyond funds provided by the central government). Our current target is 80% or more post-program completion.

97% OF PALIKAS IN TRANSITION **DISTRICTS ARE PRIORITIZING MNH.** 

## **MATERNAL MORTALITY**

To assess the impact of our program on maternal deaths, our team calculates the number of maternal deaths in our program districts. Each death is validated with a verbal autopsy.

IN OUR TRANSITION DISTRICTS, MATERNAL MORTALITY WAS REDUCED BY AN AVERAGE OF 88% AS COMPARED TO BASELINE.

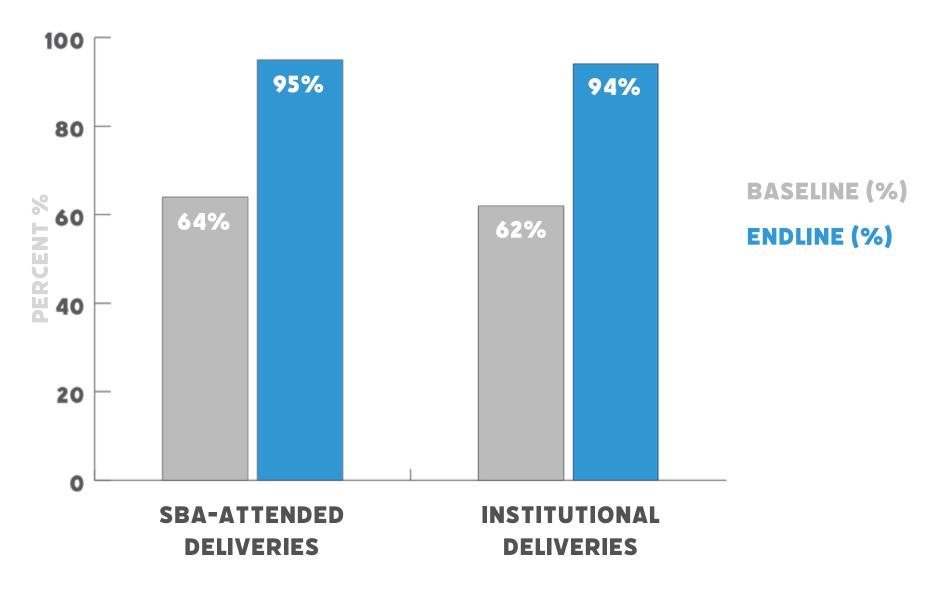
## PROGRAM IMPACT IN DHADING:

#### **EXTERNAL ENDLINE SURVEY RESULTS**

OHW contracted a third-party research agency in Nepal (MITRA SAMAJ) to conduct an endline survey in Dhading. This survey was conducted among women who gave birth within the last 12 months to assess the changes in our program indicators post-program completion. As part of the analysis, MITRA SAMAJ compared the endline results to the baseline data that they collected for OHW in 2014 before the start of our programs in Dhading.

#### **SERVICE UTILIZATION (EXTERNAL DATA):**

The results of our endline survey in Dhading show tremendous improvement in service utilization particularly when considering the impact of the 2015 earthquake, which functionally destroyed the healthcare infrastructure in the district. A tremendous amount of external support from relief agencies, including One Heart Worldwide, supported the reconstruction of the healthcare system and are a strong endorsement of the resilience of the healthcare system in this area.



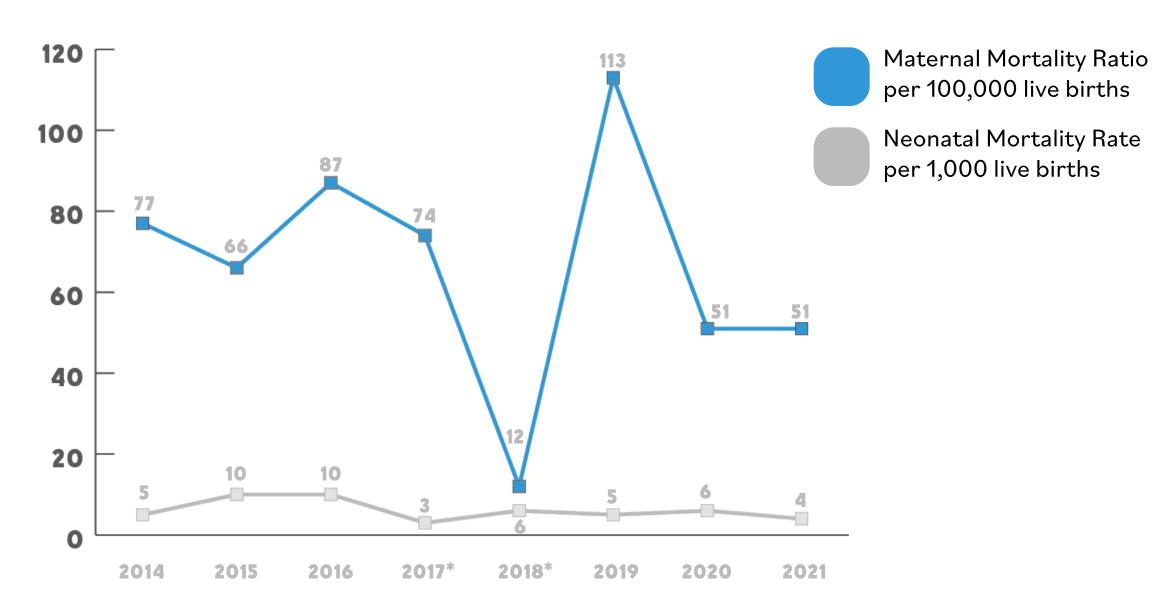


## PROGRAM IMPACT IN DHADING:

#### **EXTERNAL ENDLINE SURVEY RESULTS**

# MATERNAL AND NEWBORN MORTALITY IN DHADING (INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL DATA):

Our original program goal was a 50% decrease in both maternal and newborn deaths as compared to baseline in all our completed districts (10+ years post-program inception) as assessed by an external agency.



\*2017 and 2018 data collected by OHW team, all other years collected by external assessment team

While we have not yet reached a 50% decrease in maternal or neonatal mortality, we are seeing a decreasing trend in both indicators, which is impressive considering the impact of the 2015 earthquake and the COVID pandemic on the maternal and newborn health system in Dhading. We expect that the reductions will continue over the coming few years as the system was reconstructed and both access and quality of care have significantly increased.





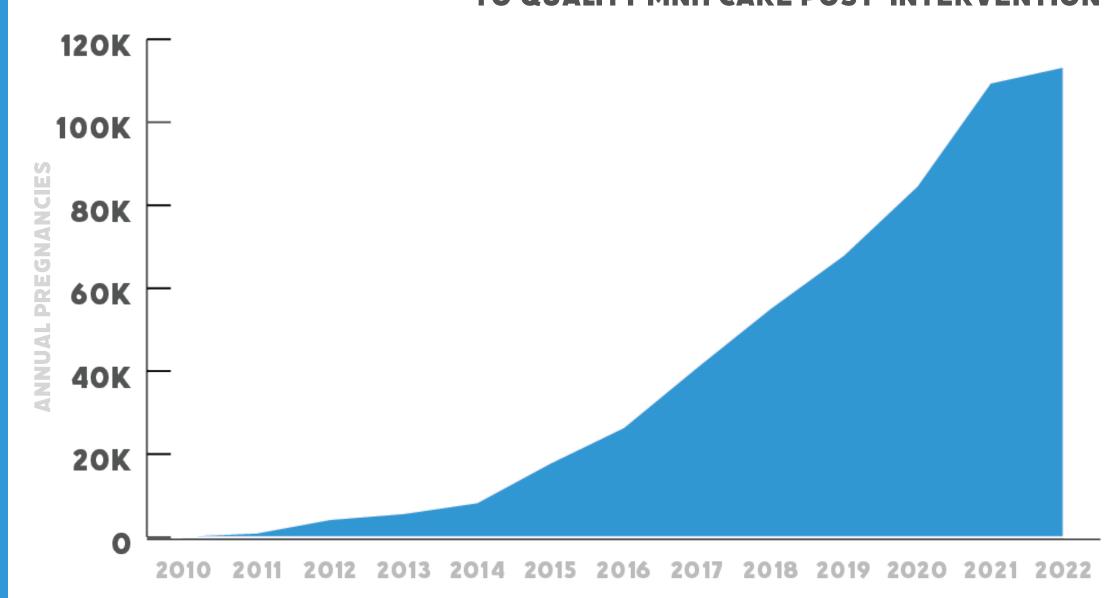
## **LONG-TERM PROGRAM IMPACT**

With more completed districts, One Heart is looking to integrate more measures of long-term program sustainability assessment in our M&E plan. In 2022, the team started by assessing whether our progress was maintained in terms of access to care. This was measured with the percent of births attended by a trained maternal and newborn health provider (HMIS data) as compared to baseline. Our sustainability target for these districts was to maintain the 30% increase in SBA-attended deliveries previously achieved in all of our completed districts. We are pleased to report that our completed program districts have maintained their increases in access to care. In 2022, in our completed districts, the average increase in the number of SBA-attended deliveries as compared to baseline was 69%.

## **EXTERNAL PROGRAM EVALUATION**

Dartmouth College in the United States and Social Sciences Baha in Nepal have completed the second phase of data collection and are in the process of completing the data analysis process and report write-up. Unlike the first phase of data collection, which was performed remotely via telephone due to COVID, data was collected in person during this phase. The two-person research teams traveled to the four districts of Sankhuwasabha, Dhading, Baglung, and Pyuthan (the selected study areas) and interviewed mothers, stakeholders, and health workers. The teams also performed a readiness assessment of the health facilities within these study areas. The data analysis is currently being finalized and we expect a final report early next year.

# NUMBER OF PREGNANCIES WITH IMPROVED ACCESS TO QUALITY MNH CARE POST-INTERVENTION



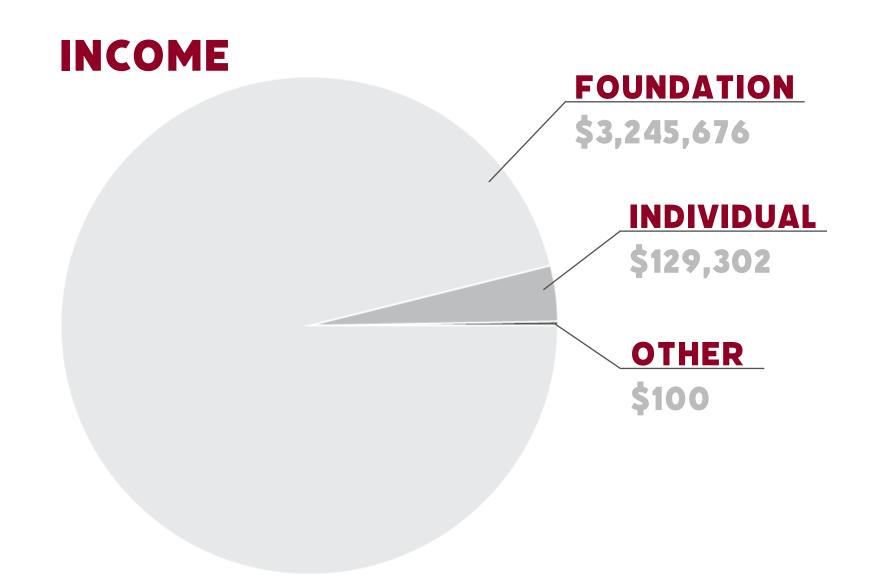
BY 2030, WE WILL IMPACT ONE THIRD (250,000) OF NEPAL'S PREGNANCIES ANNUALLY.

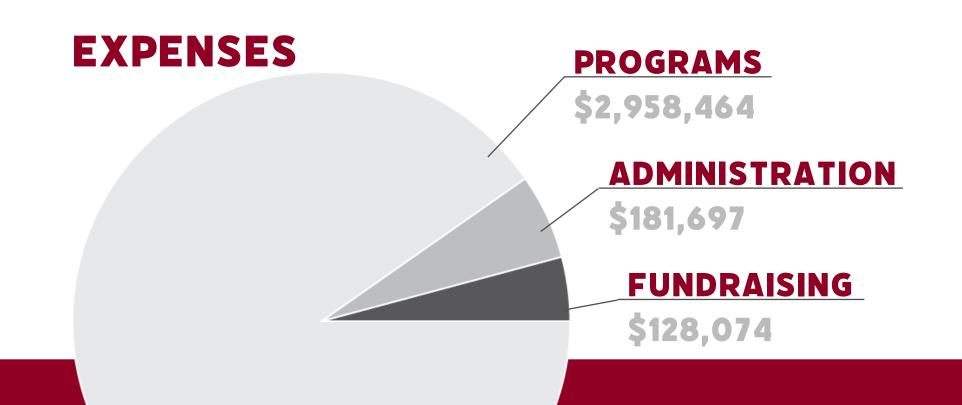
IN 2022, WE HAVE ACHIEVED 40% OF OUR 2030 GOAL, REACHING 113,404 PREGNANCIES WITH IMPROVED ACCESS TO SAFE MNH CARE.





## FINANCIALS



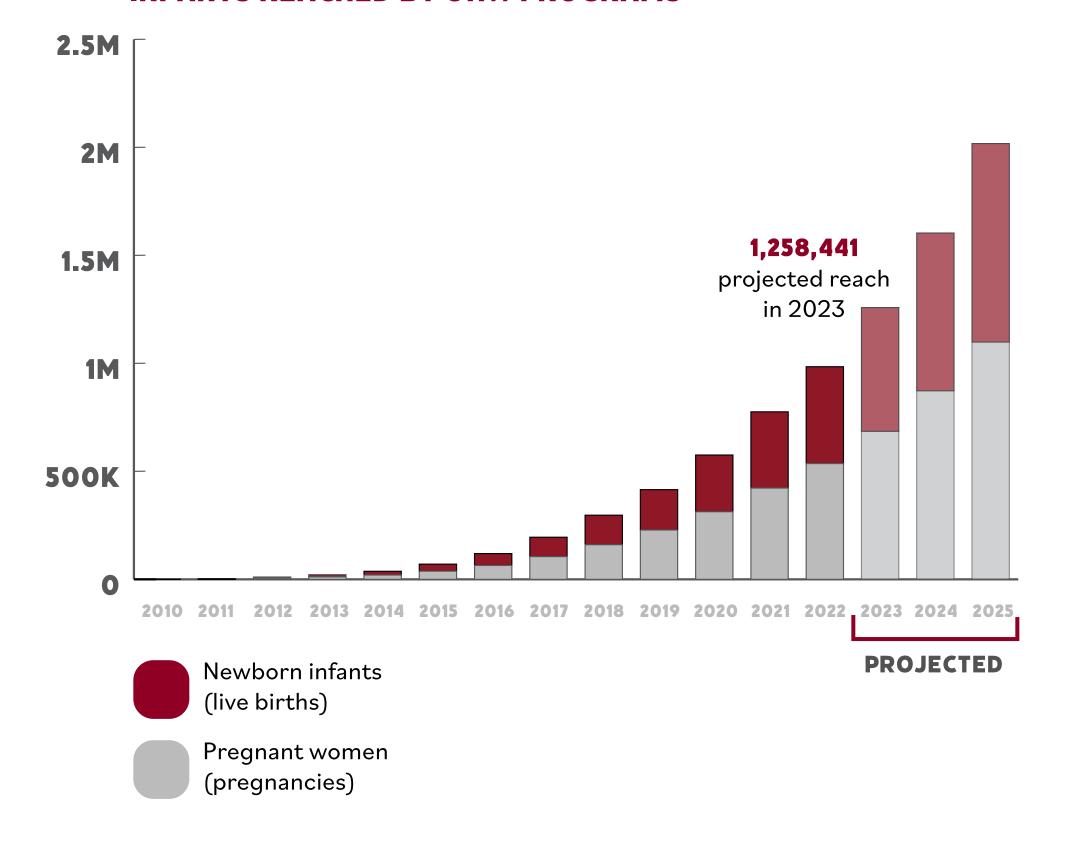




#### LOOKING AHEAD

Since 2010, OHW programs have improved access to quality MNH services for 984,533 pregnant women and newborn infants in support of Nepal's national plan to provide quality MNH care to all rural pregnant women and their newborn infants. Over the next three years, we expect to double our impact.

#### **CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF PREGNANT WOMEN AND NEWBORN INFANTS REACHED BY OHW PROGRAMS**





In 2023, we will continue to expand the integration of local NGO partnerships into the implementation plan of our new program districts. To this effect, we will onboard four new local NGO partners for our four new districts of Siraha, Dhanusha, Humla and Jarjarkot.





#### U.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## YPAB HIGHLIGHT OJASBI BHATTARAI, CO-CHAIR



Interning at OHW, no doubt, was a head start to my professional career. While still a student, getting to see and experience how interventions in the field of maternal and neonatal health are done was both intriguing and fruitful, which is all thanks to OHW. Furthermore, meeting and interacting with pregnant women and recently delivered women residing in hard-to-reach areas built

a sense of responsibility within me as a future public health professional to continue my endeavors in this particular domain of public health.

My internship also became a medium for me to know and apply for the Young Professional Advisory Board of OHW. With an objective to provide learning-based opportunities to young people regardless of their economic status, being selected as a part of YPAB has created a constructive space for me to enhance my networking and speaking skills with a truly global group of young people.

In general, my favorite part about being a member of the board is experiencing the international unity to meet the objectives of the board. YPAB entails members from various

countries who come together, despite time-zone constraints, to discuss ways to get more young people involved with OHW and maternal health.

#### **NEPAL TEAM**

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LILADHAR DHAKAL, Director of Monitoring, Evaluation,
Research & Learning
POONAM SHAKYA, Administration & Finance Director

BABITA BINDU, Program Manager
BELI BALAMI, Sr. Finance & Grants Officer
BHAGAWATI SHRESTHA, Training Manager
DHANA NARAYAN SHRESTHA, MERL Officer
DIPENDRA JUNG THAPA, Admin & Training Officer

JAYESH SHRESTHA, e-Health Specialist

KRISHNA SAPKOTA, Logistics & Procurement Officer KUSUM WAGLE, Sr. Research & Learning Officer

MALATI SHRESTHA, Program Officer

MAYA NEPAL, Office Assistant

NAWARAJ CHAULAGAIN, HR and Admin Manager

PRATIKSHA RAI, Training Officer

PREM SINGH KAMI, Finance Officer

SAJANA MAHARJAN, Sr. MEL Officer

SHREEJANA SUNUWAR, Sr. Admin & HR Officer

SUCHITRA SAPKOTA, Admin & HR Associate

SUMIT LAUDARI, Construction Field Engineer

YUBARAJ KARKI, Finance Manager

MAHENDRA KUMAR CHAUDHARY, Admin Assistant
NILESH KUMAR PRAVANA, Sr. Program Coordinator
NITYANAND THAKUR, Construction Field Engineer

RABINDRA KUMAR DANUWAR, Cluster Admin/Finance Officer

RAM KUMAR SAH, Sr. MEL Officer

SANDEEPA LAMA, Program Officer

KRISHNA SHARMA, Training/Field Supervisor

PRABHA GAUTAM, District Coordinator

REBECCA SHRESTHA, Training/Field Supervisor

RICHA NEUPANE, Training/Field Supervisor

SAPHAL TAMANG GOLE, Admin Finance Officer

REENA KHULAL, District Coordinator

NAGENDRA JUNG SHAHI, Field Officer **DEEKSHA SHRESTHA**, Field Officer BHUBAN RAI, Admin Finance Officer **BHUPENDRA SONI**, Field Officer SHRIJANA GAUTAM, Training/Field Supervisor **UPENDRA CHAND**, District Coordinator SAMJHANA PANDIT, Admin Finance Officer SANDIP SILWAL, Field Officer SAJANA PANDIT, Field Officer GANESH KUMAR KARN, Construction Field Engineer KABINDRA REGMI, District Coordinator MANOJ KUMAR CHAUDHARY, Admin Finance Officer SANDHYA BASNET, Training/Field Supervisor RAJESH KUMAR LOHANI, Field Officer RANJANA GUPTA, Training/Field Supervisor MOHAMMAD ASLAM SHAIEKH, District Coordinator LOKMANI GIRI, District Coordinator KOSHRAJ BHATTA, District Coordinator AMRENDRA RAY, District Coordinator JUNIKA SHAH, Training/Field Supervisor KHEM NATH DAHAL, Admin Finance Officer NIKITA CHAUDHARY, Training/Field Supervisor RAJKISHOR PRASHAD CHAUDHARY, Field Officer **USHA KUMARI**, Community Mobilizer **USHA KUMARI SAH**, Community Mobilizer OM PRAKASH POUDEL, Sr. MEL Officer PABITRA KC, Program Officer RABIN JOSHI, Sr. Program Coordinator SUJAN KUMAR KHATRI, Finance & Grants Officer **ASMITA HAMAL**, Field Officer KALPANA SHRESTHA, Sr. District Coordinator RANJIT KUMAR CHAUDHARY, Admin Finance Officer

#### **USA TEAM**

**DAVID MURPHY**, Chief Executive Officer **ARLENE SAMEN**, Founder & Chief Visionary Officer **DR. SIBYLLE KRISTENSEN**, Chief Operations Officer **JAMES VANREUSEL**, Chief Financial Officer **DR. JULIE DARGIS**, Director of Development & Partnerships **HILLARY S. POLLARO** Grants Manager

HILLARY S. POLLARO, Grants Manager
KATIE DYAS, Communications Manager
LINDA GEORGE, Development Specialist
MICHAELA HAYES, Grants Specialist
PATTY DOUVILLE, Controller



#### STAFF HIGHLIGHT **NILESH KUMAR PRAVANA**



Nilesh Kumar Pravana has a wealth of knowledge and experience in public health. He joined One Heart Worldwide in 2017 as the District Coordinator of Panchthar District, a hill area in Koshi Province. He then moved on to the Dolakha District as its Coordinator in 2020. In 2021, he was promoted to Senior Program Coordinator of the Bardibas Cluster Office. He is the team leader supervising the work of District Coordinators and other staff from OHW

from several districts in the Madhesh and Koshi provinces. Nilesh has both a Master's Degree and Bachelor's Degree in Public Health. As one of our valued team members, Nilesh is making significant contributions to the vision of One Heart Worldwide.

#### **SERVING THE UNDERSERVED**

When I was working in the hill area, I was impressed with One Heart Worldwide's impactful work. I saw how our programs significantly supported the local government's efforts to strengthen the health system and enhance MNH care. So I always hoped that one day OHW would start a similar health program in Madhesh Province, where I am originally from.

In 2021, OHW started our new program in the Madhesh Province, where I am taking the lead as Senior Program Coordinator for the Bardibas Cluster. I am so proud of OHW's contributions toward creating a sustainable MNH care system in Madhesh.

The hilly areas of Nepal have very rough terrain, and most rural municipalities still need access to proper roads. In contrast, there are no geographical barriers within the Madhesh Province for people to travel. Instead, the critical challenges in the Province are the ages-old social norms, traditional practices, and culture that inhibit families from seeking maternal healthcare at a health facility.

We also know that a thorough understanding and respect for indigenous cultures and customs are vital in affecting behavioral change. OHW has ensured that our team on the ground is from the Madheshi community. Our Barbidas cluster team members include different Madheshi ethnicities fluent in the native Maithili, Bajika, and Bhojpuri languages. Since our team is from the communities we support, we are well-versed in the cultural context and traditions. This approach by OHW has made an enormous difference in coordinating and communicating with local stakeholders and families.

#### **KEEPING OUR VISION REAL**

The guiding principle of our mission is equity. At every level, we seek to ensure maternal and neonatal healthcare is accessible and dignified for each community we support, regardless of location or cultural practices. Such a full-scale and dedicated MNH program is new for the Madheshi community. We have already begun to see our work in Madhesh Province is making positive headway. Local leaders, governments, health workers, and communities in the Madhesh Province have welcomed OHW's determination to change MNH outcomes in their communities.

Just as I felt when working in the hills, I remain inspired by the work my team and colleagues are doing at OHW. Our partnerships with local stakeholders and communities in different areas of Nepal have already improved access to quality maternal and neonatal healthcare - and it will continue to leave a lasting impact long after we finish our mandate in Nepal.





## **DHANYABAD - THANK YOU**

As we come to the end of another successful year, we want to express our deep appreciation for your unwavering support. Because of you, One Heart Worldwide continues to make a meaningful impact in the lives of mothers and newborns in Nepal.

In 2023, we will hit a significant milestone: 1 million mothers and newborns reached through our programs. This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff, partners, and supporters, and we could not have done it without you.

We are also thrilled to welcome additional implementing Partner Organizations in new districts in 2023. Together, we can continue to make a positive difference in the lives of mothers and newborns, ensuring that every pregnancy and childbirth is safe and healthy.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our mission. We look forward to updating you on our progress in the coming year.

Dhanyabad, Babita Bindu, Program Manager

