

# HELP RURAL NEPAL

## Covid19 Update August 2021

Since our last update, the Covid19 situation in Nepal worsened. In 2020 the immediate problem was food shortages during the lockdowns and border closures. Working with our Nepali partner, Shital Dharel, we arranged delivery of food and other essential items to desperate families.

These contained about a month's supply of essentials for families such as rice, cooking oil, lentils, soap and masks.



We also helped local schools with new computers, masks and sanitisers.

Schools tried to re-open as soon as possible because there could be no home schooling. The children don't have access to internet, books or their own

computers.

Covid19 eventually spread to remote villages where there are few resources such as oxygen, PPE and beds to care for sick people.

Although India donated the first vaccines to the vulnerable and over 63 year olds in the villages very quickly, they have still not had a second vaccine. This was caused by India needing more for it's own population after a surge in cases.

At the beginning of July 2021 only 9% of the population of Nepal had received 1 dose and 3% had received a double dose.

Pressure is being put on the UK government to increase the supply of vaccines to help Nepal.

In the area where we work in Dhading, it was not possible to get oxygen cylinders and other necessary equipment and the people were desperate for help.



Help Rural Nepal was able to fund 3 oxygen concentrators, 1 for each of the 3 main villages where small treatment units have been set up. Sick people can at least be given a bed, oxygen and some basic care.

We have also provided many 1000's of masks, sanitiser, soap and PPE.



Once again, our partner Shital, from the NGO Pathe Nepal has sourced and arranged transport for these supplies to be delivered to these remote areas in spite of difficulty with travel restrictions.

With our funds depleting we are very reliant on our regular donations and we thank all our donors for continuing to support us.

We are hoping to hold a fundraising event in the autumn.

We want to assure you that we are doing all we can to help the communities we support in Nepal,

Best wishes from us all and thank you.

Pam, Felicity and Catherine

