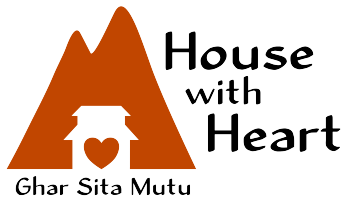


# Newsletter

DECEMBER 2014



Dear friends,

This has been a busy and eventful year – and one of many changes. I am pleased to announce that we are officially changing our name to **House with Heart** (HwH), which is the English translation of Ghar Sita Mutu (and much easier to remember). We also have a new logo – finally! It is based on a design that Krishna, one of our older boys, drew for us. Check out our new website at [www.housewithheart.org](http://www.housewithheart.org). We have changed our mission statement (see below) to reflect our emphasis on education, and if that's not enough, I also have a new title!

I have said it many times before but must say it again – a **huge thank** you to all of you for your belief in me and for your invaluable support over the years. I could never have done what I do on my own, and I am truly grateful that you have made it possible.

With best wishes,  
*Beverly Bronson, CEO & President*

## *Moving Forward*

Work behind the scenes is making House with Heart a stronger organization. We are in the middle of the arduous process of applying for our own 501(c)(3) status, and are grateful to attorney **Jane Halperin** for her work and guidance. We are now officially incorporated in the state of New York with a board of directors installed. Thank you to **Colleen Boland**, **Lisa Hartmann**, and **Fred Ripley** for agreeing to serve.

We are also registering in the UK as a charity because of our many supporters there. I am grateful to trustees **Georgina Palmer**, **Aarti Shah**, and **Sachin Vekaria**.



*The House with Heart family celebrating Dashain, October 2014.*

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### HOUSE WITH HEART MISSION STATEMENT

House with Heart is a home for abandoned children, an education center for impoverished women and children, and an outreach program for needy families in Kathmandu, Nepal.

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## Family News – The Year in Review

This year was busy at the house with younger children joining the family, and older ones making the transition to adulthood.

In April we rescued three children from a very bad situation in a remote area of Nepal. All three of them had been left to fend for themselves when their mother became mentally ill after her husband committed suicide.

Sujita, a severely malnourished and very scared two-year-old girl, came to live with us at the house, but because we are not able to take in boys long term due to government regulations, we found another children's home to take the baby boy Lhakpa. He had been left in a dark room by himself for most of his 9 months and weighed 4 kg (8.8 pounds). Four-



Brother and sister Dorje and Sujita.

year-old Dorje moved in with us temporarily before moving to the same home as Lhakpa. It was very hard to part with Dorje when the time came, but all the children have settled well into their new homes, and Sujita has become a much loved member of the House with Heart family.

**Binita**, our journalism student, who is in her third year of a bachelor's degree, recently moved into her own space in the same building as our Co-manager Hem and his family. They will keep an eye on her and be there for company as she makes this transition. It is hard to let the kids go but they have to become



Binita (right) with Bishnu.

independent sometime. Binita was a huge help with the younger children and a hard working student. She will be missed very much, but she knows she will always be a member of our family.

**Krishna**, our oldest boy, moved 100 km (60 miles) east to begin work in the restaurant business. He reports that things are going well with his new job.

## New Girls Program Funded by Don Splawn Foundation East

In November we started a new education program to empower girls that we are calling **Rise Above**. We are so grateful to **Jeff Gould** who pledged \$5,000 from the **Don Splawn Foundation East** to initiate the program. Rise Above is a holistic, multi-year program for girls and young women aged 11-25 providing education and a skills training program that leads to self-sufficiency and economic dependence.

The program targets impoverished girls who are at high risk of dropping out of school due to the increasing difficulty of exams in class 8 and 10 and the pressure many families put on their girls to leave school and go to work. We plan to expand the

program to include scholarships for college tuition. We will also teach the girls crafts skills so that they have multiple means of earning a living.



Some of the participants in the Rise Above program.

## Recent Visitors to House with Heart

### *Volunteers bring medical expertise and supplies*

Longtime HwH supporters **Dr. Kanani Titchen** and her husband **Lou Seitchik** visited in October, bringing with them many medical supplies to stock our small clinic. Kanani examined all of our children and some of the school boarders we support, as well as worked a morning shift at Nepal Medical College. She also set up electronic medical records for our children and some of the families we work with, and she compiled extensive medical histories for Abhaya and Laxmi Magar – a big task and really useful as we have seen so many different doctors at different hospitals.



*Dr. Kanani Titchen (in scrubs) and Lou Seitchik (to her right) meet the family they have sponsored for many years.*

### *Speech therapist for Laxmi*

**Helene Maguin**, a volunteer speech therapist from France is working with Laxmi Magar, the developmentally disabled neighborhood child who comes to our house for daily therapy and stimulation. We are hopeful that Laxmi will begin speaking during the next five months Helene will be working with her. Thank you, Helene!

### *Visitors see the facility*

Thank you to **Jeff Gould** who brought several people to tour our facility and meet the children. The visitors brought many items we can use, including some lovely handmade headbands. The kids spent a delightful afternoon with them.



*The gift of the backpacks were much appreciated!*

## **Walk for Nepal Raises Funds Again This Year**

Many thanks to **Walk for Nepal, Dallas** participants who raised \$2,300 for House with Heart. We are grateful to **Indra Gurung** who, for several years, has coordinated the walkers who sponsor us. This year's proceeds will go towards the care of developmentally disabled Laxmi Magar.

### **School Renovations**

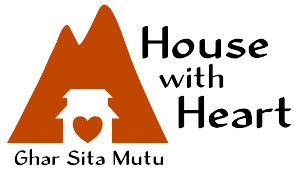
Thanks to the generosity of donors, we continue to help the Shangri-La School that our children and 900 others attend. A new toilet block was built for the girls this past spring giving them greater privacy and a cleaner environment. The kindergarten rooms were also recently renovated. Work included fixing leaks, painting and plastering, installing electricity and fans, and hanging bulletin boards. We also bought toys for them.



*One of the newly renovated rooms.*

It is a big improvement, but the teachers and administrators still need help. **We would love to connect them with educators to improve teaching methods and curriculum. Any introductions would be much appreciated.**

House with Heart  
Ghar Sita Mutu  
151 First Ave, #74  
New York, NY 10003



Connect with us



Visit us online:  
[www.HousewithHeart.org](http://www.HousewithHeart.org)

### **How can you help?**

*House with Heart relies on the generosity of friends like you. All donations are **tax deductible** in the US and go directly toward running and expanding our programs.*

*Please make all checks payable to our fiscal sponsor:*

**The Candy Jernigan Foundation for the Arts**  
*and note "House with Heart/Ghar Sita Mutu" on your check.*

*Mail checks to:*  
House with Heart/Ghar Sita Mutu  
151 First Ave, #74  
New York, NY 10003

**You can also give online at**  
[www.HousewithHeart.org](http://www.HousewithHeart.org)

*Thank you!*

For more information,  
call Beverly at 212-529-0832.

### A LITTLE BACKGROUND



*Babu & Krishna, ages 2 & 5*

My name is Beverly Bronson. I own a small antique shop called A Repeat Performance in New York City. In 1999 while working as a volunteer in Nepal, I found two abandoned children named Babu and Krishna, ages two and five. After searching for a loving home for them I had no choice but to put them in boarding

school. Safe but bleak. The school appointed me as guardian and I went back to New York with plans to raise money to establish a centre to house abandoned children and help destitute women.

I returned to Nepal later that year with enough funds to rent a house. We opened Ghar Sita Mutu - House with Heart in 2001 and have been expanding our outreach to the community every year. We moved into our own home in 2004. I split my time between New York and Nepal.