

Nepalese Youth Opportunity Foundation

1) How has the current economy affected the need of services that you give to the community?

The Nepalese Youth Opportunity Foundation (NYOF) transforms the lives of impoverished children in Nepal. NYOF uses a wide range of programs to empower youth to uplift themselves. In the long term, we are improving the livelihoods of the entire population of Nepal.

Nepal has been deeply affected by the global economic crisis. Unemployment hovers around 50%, and even highly educated people have difficulty obtaining employment. There is a tremendous need for services that assist the destitute.

One of NYOF's programs provides a variety of vocational training opportunities to children who prefer this option to higher education or have consistently struggled in school. This program can provide many children with better prospects of gainful employment in far less time than higher education can.

Another program rescues girls in rural Nepal whose parents, due to extreme poverty, have sold their daughters to be indentured servants. NYOF brings these girls back to their families and supports their education. We are in the process of eliminating the tradition of bonding girls from Nepal.

The Nepalese Youth Opportunity Foundation builds and manages Nutritional Rehabilitation Homes which restore severely malnourished children to health while educating their mothers in child care and nutrition, to ensure the problem does not recur. We operate two excellent children's homes for children who are orphans, abandoned, or disabled. We also provide scholarships to thousands of children throughout Nepal. These children attend rural village schools, medical school, and special schools for the disabled.

2) How has the current economy affected the donations of goods and services that your organization receives?

NYOF receives donations from people and foundations throughout the United States, and to a lesser extent, throughout the developed world. We receive many donations of relatively small amounts, rather than depending on a small number of major donors. We are fortunate that our donors are dedicated enough to supporting NYOF's work in Nepal that many have continued to give to NYOF, despite the current economic climate. However, the need for aid in Nepal is so severe that more funding will always enable us to rescue more children from malnutrition and slavery, and provide more youth with education and vocational training.

3) How have the services that your organization provides to the community affected our local economy?

The Nepalese Youth Opportunity Foundation's programs are all conducted in Nepal. We do not provide services locally. However, we do provide a number of ways for people to volunteer their time and effort. We also enable people to donate equipment such as computers and cameras, which are greatly needed in Nepal, in addition to making financial contributions.