

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STAFF

Dr. Christine Schutz
Founder and Executive Director

Alexis Mead
Director of Development/Operations

Morgan LeBaige
Administrative Assistant

Connie Colvis
Database Manager

BOARD OFFICERS

Dr. Nancy Williger
President

Dr. Sandra Hoffmann
Vice President

Jim Craig
Secretary

Mike Reed
Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

Ambrose Bittner

Dr. Pam Caraffa

David Floeh

Rick Hendin

Pam Hughes

Len Kannapell

Tracy Laramie

Urmila Panthi

Matt Plank

Jennifer Rashet

Jacquelynn Richmond

Juliette Schmidt

Cindy Whitney

Dr. Daniel Williger

ADVISORY MEMBERS

Dr. Terra Barnes

Amy Benson

Beth Boyd

Jim Brasunas

Stephanie Recht

Toni Schmidt

Gil Williams

NON-BOARD
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cheryl Apperson

Don Apperson

Dr. Terra Barnes

Carolyn Crowe

Punum Gurung

Arlene Miller

Sandeep Nema

Angela Schutz

Pam Zell

WELCOME, NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Jennifer Rashet joined Mitrata as a new child sponsor and board member. She has 18 years of experience with Bayer Crop Science and is currently Head of Parent Seed Production for their North America operations. Jennifer and her daughter Hannah (a recent University of Dayton graduate) live in University City, Missouri with their cat, Liza. Jennifer serves as Chair of the Fundraising Committee.



Dr. Danny Williger is a Licensed Psychologist in private practice and spent much of his career as a direct service provider at a not-for-profit agency. He and his long-time partner Janet became child sponsors through Mitrata several years ago, and he traveled with Mitrata to Nepal in 2018. He serves on the Fundraising and Sponsorship Committees.

GOALS MET IN 2019

- Hired after-school program teacher
- Hired part-time administrative assistant
- Secured two additional classrooms for Contact Center
- Raised matching funds for Contact Center Expansion
- Launched after-school program in Contact Center
- Established board advisory committee
- Launched Planned Giving
- Welcomed new board members with expertise in managment and clinical psychology
- Welcomed 11 new sponsors for Contact Center graduates
- Created videos to explain sponsorship process, sponsorship program, and our need for future sustainability to new sponsors
- Introduced child sponsors and donors to Nepal twice

GOALS FOR 2020

- Develop our advisory board
- Develop a Young Professionals Board
- Welcome new child sponsors and establish a greater presence in helping new sponsors understand sponsorship
- Film several “sponsor story” videos of sponsors and their children talking candidly about their experiences with the program
- Expand the ways that people can give to Mitrata and get involved
- Implement a new database to help automate important administrative tasks
- Assist BSF in implementing emergency procedures and re-enrollment plans for our children
- Increase fundraising opportunities in the Seattle area

MITRATA-NEPAL FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN

7253 Watson Rd, #127, St. Louis, MO 63119

www.mitrata.org | info@mitrata.org



MITRATA-NEPAL
FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN



Dear Sponsors and Donors,

Thanks to all of you for a very successful year of fundraising to support our mission in Nepal. A main focus was to begin our 5-year campaign to relocate and expand our Contact Center, and you again came through for us with generous donations totaling \$41,141. Our Trivia Night in April and our 2-day Holiday Bazaar in December were our most successful to date. Our Climb for Himalaya Children continued to raise money for us, in spite of the changes made due to new National Park Service restrictions, and our investments remained strong this year.

Our two trips to Nepal were well-attended. On the first, in April, Board member Rick Hendin and supporter Isaac Schmitt, a university student in visual communications, joined me on a working trip. Then, in November, our trip was attended by 7 sponsors who enjoyed wonderful weather on a short trek in the Himalayas, many emotional meetings with sponsored children and learned about Nepali culture through trips to the city and countryside.

We reached a big milestone this year as Ishwori, Mitrata’s first child, graduated from her social work program. Ishwori was the homeless, orphaned girl I met in the mountains of Nepal in 2002 and brought to Kathmandu. We then created the children’s program that became Mitrata-Nepal Foundation for Children. It has been so gratifying to witness the evolution of this successful, educated, and beautiful young woman, and her graduation from our support was quite emotional and moving. Ishwori shared her story of the love and care she received from Mitrata and BSF in a graduation speech that brought us all to tears of joy. She has truly become a beacon of hope for all of us through her resilience, compassion, and inspiring words.



Now, as we publish this 2019 report during the global pandemic, we are aware of how much the world has changed in a few short months. Our great concern is for our Mitrata family both in the USA and in Nepal, recognizing that, as a fragile state, its capacity to cope with the pandemic is extremely poor. BSF and Mitrata are doing all we can to take care of the emergency needs of our children and staff as we plan for the children’s return to school and re-opening of the Contact Center when it is safe. The 2020 goals have been modified to prioritize these urgent issues. In the coming years, our Nepal programs are even more critical, as there will be severe economic stress with more children in need of our services. I am confident that we will continue our mission with the generous support of you, our sponsors and donors, and we will emerge even stronger. Please stay safe and healthy. I am grateful to all of you for your dedication to our mission to save our beautiful children in Nepal.

Warmly,

Dr. Christine Schutz

Dr. Christine Schutz
Executive Director and Founder

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



@MITRATANEPAL
WWW.MITRATA.ORG

IN 2019

- 9 Kids Graduated
- 5 Interned with Karma Thalo in Lisankhu
- 6 Kids Added
- 7 Exited Due to Family Financial Improvement

SPONSORSHIP

46% Undersponsored by > \$200
54% Fully Sponsored
0% Without any Sponsor



OUR UNIVERSITY KIDS STUDIED

- 5 Travel & Tourism
 - 4 Social Work
 - 4 Business
 - 2 Medical Doctor
 - 2 Computer Science
 - 2 Nursing
 - 1 Accountancy
- 31 Contact Center
 - 22 After School Program
 - 27 Living at Home (Grade 10 and below)
 - 24 Boarding School (Grade 10 and below)
 - 16 11th & 12th Grades
 - 0 Vocational Programs
 - 20 University
 - 118 Total Children



CHALLENGES IN 2019

- Need for two additional classrooms to maintain current enrollment in Contact Center
- Vacancy/Opening for chair of board fundraising committee
- Need for outcome data for the Contact Center program
- Insufficient sponsors for our children
- Need for enhanced database in US
- Need for apartment and increased services for older children as they launch
- Annual evaluation by Social Welfare Council increasing costs and taking BSF staff time
- Changes in requirements of National Park Service lowering income from Climb for Himalaya Children



CONTACT CENTER EXPANSION PLAN

Mitrata’s commitment to develop the communities where we work and empower our children and their families in a thoughtful, holistic way, begins with expanding our Contact Center program. We completed our first phase this year by adding two additional rooms to our currently overcrowded Contact Center in an adjacent building. However, in 2021, we will need to secure a larger, permanent space, which we anticipate costing at least \$36,000. Thanks to a few Mitrata friends, we raised the funds necessary for these temporary classrooms and the funds to relocate our current Contact Center to a new space with three large classrooms; two multi-purpose rooms for our before- and after-school programs, a playroom, and a dining room; one room for an office, break room, or counseling area; a kitchen; and one full bathroom. Our long-term vision and mission is for all children in Nepal, regardless of socio-economic status, to have access to education and the opportunity to reach their full potential. To this end, phase three of our expansion plan is to open a second Contact Center that will allow us to serve more children in another overcrowded, underprivileged area of the Kathmandu Valley. We will need to raise \$125,000 by 2024 to accomplish our mission.

INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS IN NEPAL



Laura Richardson from England volunteered for three weeks at the Contact Center in February 2019. She taught math, English and other courses to our children. The Contact Center staff, Laura, and the children would often play games and enjoy outdoor fun activities.



Lauren Kubik and Taylor Massey from Seattle spent 9 weeks volunteering at the Contact Center from April to June of 2019. Lauren and Taylor created a year-long syllabus based on the books that the students use in class. These subjects cover math, science, English, social studies, drawing, general knowledge, and Nepali. They created comprehensive exams, answer sheets, and notes for the teachers to use as a reference. They also created a robust spreadsheet to track the students’ test scores for the next 20 years. This spreadsheet will also give Mitrata the data we need to show the unique success of our programs and identify any areas for improvement.



Issac Schmitt, Christine’s cousin, joined Christine and Rick on their spring working trip to Nepal. Isaac is in his second year of college majoring in visual communications. He was integral to getting wonderful, updated photos of our sponsored children, BSF staff, and of the country of Nepal.

BOARD PRESIDENT, NANCY WILLIGER, RETIRES

In a very emotional meeting in December, Nancy Williger, former Board President, Mitrata’s first child sponsor, and Christine’s dear friend of many years, stepped down from her executive position. Nancy remains on the Board. She has been succeeded by Jim Craig who has served on the Executive Committee as Secretary for 8 years. Changes to leadership always bring a mixture of excitement and anticipation for the future and a deep sense of gratitude and appreciation for the past. Here are some excerpts from Christine’s tribute to Nancy at the board meeting.

“As you retire from the Presidency of Mitrata, I want you to know that Mitrata would not be as successful and wonderful an organization without your guidance and loving support. I don’t think I could have taken that first step bringing little, sick Ishwori down the mountain, getting her treatment for pneumonia, and opening the children’s home, if I did not know that you were beside me on this path. Your unwavering trust in me and Mitrata’s vision is truly amazing and the greatest gift in my life. I remember when I called you about trying to enroll Sudan in medical school when Mitrata had no money. You were just so clear that we could get the money and send him even if we had to come up with the money ourselves! [...] I cherish the many happy memories we share through the years working with Mitrata... You were always steadfast and good about calming me and everyone, looking at issues and problem-solving, and persevering in the face of obstacles.”



PLANNED GIVING

In the past year, Mitrata Board members have been instrumental in starting our Planned Giving Program which is available to all donors and sponsors of Mitrata. We have a long-term commitment to improving the lives of children in Nepal bringing them out of a cycle of poverty through education and support services. In order to succeed and continue to help more children, legacy gifts from wills, trusts and endowments will make this possible in the future. We invite you to contact us if you are interested in becoming a legacy donor, and we greatly appreciate those who have already made this commitment.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

In 2019, our income moderately exceeded our projections thanks to great support at our events. Our expenses for the year were slightly lower than projected. Our investment accounts increased, including our endowment investment account, which made a profit for 2019. In 2020, we anticipate our expenses to increase due to our database system migration, an important investment in our infrastructure, and projected lower income from loss of fundraising event income due to our response to COVID-19 pandemic. In Nepal, there will be added expenses, too, due to emergency kits and supplies, healthcare expenses, and children added to the program.

Independent Accountant’s Compilation Report STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019	
SUPPORT AND REVENUE	TOTALS
Child sponsorships & general contributions	258,394
Sponsor/volunteer trip revenue	18,318
Special events	83,034
Less: Costs of direct benefits to donors	(19,423)
Gain on sales of investments	54,035
Investment revenue	14,695
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	409, 053
EXPENSES AND LOSSES	
Program	249,103
Management & General	8,475
Fundraising	31,334
TOTAL EXPENSES	288,912
Unrealized losses on investments	35, 877
TOTAL EXPENSES AND LOSSES	253, 035
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$156,018
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	\$559,099
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$715,117
PREPARED BY CINDY FULTON, CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT	