

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Does child sponsorship really help?

In Nepal, welfare services are scarce to nonexistent. The conditions for children are particularly harsh, and children make up half of the population. About 2/3 of your sponsorship money provides for school expenses, and about 1/3 provides medical and support services.

### How is a child chosen to receive help?

We have a wait list of children from our early childhood education day program called the Contact Center. A home study is completed by a social worker, legal documents are established with the child's guardian, and health and educational evaluations are performed. Every effort is made to work closely with the guardian to form a partnership for helping the child.

### Can we choose the child we support?

You can let us know of your preferences, such as level of sponsorship, age or gender, and we will let you know several children on our wait list who most closely match your request.

### How long will child sponsorship last?

Sponsors generally continue to support their child throughout the child's education, including university or trade school programs. Scholarship assistance for higher education is also available when needed through the Mitrata Scholarship Fund.

### What happens if I cannot continue as a sponsor?

We hope that you intend to develop a relationship with your sponsored child that will last and help them on their way to successful adulthood. If your personal circumstances change, we can make other arrangements for your child's support. We have assured the future of all the children and, in any interim period where a child does not have a sponsor, we provide from our general reserve fund until another sponsor is found.

### How can I communicate with my sponsored child?

We provide an opportunity for you to send and receive letters and photos twice per year. The power of the written word is of particular strength in the relationship that develops between child and sponsor. A letter with photos telling your child about family, pets, hobbies, favorite sports, work, our country and our culture is truly cherished. We suggest you also ask the child some questions, so you can learn about his/her family and culture. Letters have a lengthy journey to travel before they are read and then answered, so the exchange can take some time. We support the responsible use of social media to connect with children after tenth grade only. Many children do not have access to the Internet.

### How do sponsorship donations contribute to the overall organization financials?

We as an organization are committed to complete transparency. Our Annual Reports, Independent Financial Reports prepared by an independent CPA and our Form 990s are available for review at [www.mitrata.org/financials](http://www.mitrata.org/financials). 100% of sponsorship donations are used to benefit the child or children you support in Nepal.



Mitrata-Nepal  
Foundation for Children



# Child Sponsorship

## Making a Difference One Child at a Time

Mitrata-Nepal Foundation for Children (MNFC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in the United States that educates and empowers severely underprivileged children in Nepal. We strive to maximally impact the lives of these children, helping them to reach their full potential as citizens who in turn contribute to their communities.

MNFC provides housing if needed, healthcare, and education from elementary through university or trade school. We work with our partner non-governmental organization Bhuvaneshwori Satyal Foundation (BSF) to empower each child individually, in cooperation with their families or guardians, and with educational institutions. Each child matters to us, and we provide direct links from our sponsors to the children so there can be a personal connection halfway around the world.



## Sponsor Volunteer Opportunities

- Write cards of encouragement to unsponsored children
- Assist in organizing child and sponsor outgoing letter mailings
- Assist in planning fundraising and awareness events
- Assist in inventorying bazaar items for online and in-person sales
- Mentor new child sponsors

## Connect with Us

Join caring people like you in our social media communities and help spread the word.



@mitratanepal

[www.mitrata.org](http://www.mitrata.org) | [info@mitrata.org](mailto:info@mitrata.org)

314.325.2833

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

[www.mitrata.org](http://www.mitrata.org)



## Welcome to Child Sponsorship

Mitrata-Nepal Foundation for Children invites you to join in its mission to educate and empower underprivileged children in Nepal by becoming a child's sponsor. Child sponsorship unites children in desperate need with individual sponsors who wish to address the children's immediate and basic needs, and to give them the tools and opportunities necessary for success. Our child sponsors develop a strong, reciprocal relationship with their sponsored children half a world away.

**"Our intent thirteen years ago was to help a child in need. We hadn't anticipated the richness and joy our Nepali daughter brings to our entire family."**

**- Mike Reed and Connie McIntyre**

## What Does It Mean to be a Sponsor?

Sponsorship is a powerful way to help a needy child become healthy, well-educated, and empowered. As a sponsor, you make a permanent difference in the life of a child, and you can verify this difference as the child matures. Sponsoring personally connects you with a child who urgently needs your help, and lets you provide comprehensive support. This includes school tuition, medical care, books, uniforms, nutritious meals, a safe and supportive living arrangement, career and personal counseling, tutoring, internship programs, volunteer projects, sex and health education, and other self-empowerment training and extracurricular activities such as music, dance, karate, yoga, and sports.

You can choose to sponsor all of a child's needs or to provide some of their needs by sharing sponsorship of a child with another person. Some of our children have one sponsor, while others have up to four.

We are different from other organizations in that you will get to know your child. You can meet your child, correspond with your child, and help support their growth and development.

**"I never imagined how personally rewarding being a sponsor would be!!!"**

**- Rick Hendin**



## Our Children

We support children across different living arrangements and grade levels. You can choose your level of sponsorship donation (\$100 to \$300 per month) and can even combine your support with that of your friends or of co-sponsors we select."

### Contact Center, Early Childhood Development Program

A Contact Center child receives school readiness skills, early reading, writing and an introduction to English. They are also provided with hygiene education, healthcare and two high-quality protein-rich meals and one snack each day.

### Boarding schools, Grades 1–10

A boarding school child receives school tuition and supplies, food, clothing, housing, medical care and extracurricular activities. Children are placed in this program when their parents or guardians are unable to care for them.

### Elementary schools, Grades 1–10

An underprivileged child who lives with a parent or guardian receives school tuition, fees, books, uniforms, activities and medical care. The parent is often a single, divorced or abandoned woman with little education, who cannot get a job to adequately support her children.

### Grades 11-12

Our children in grades 11 and 12 may live in a boarding school or with a parent or guardian. After passing tenth grade and the national Secondary Education Exam (SEE), a child enters a specialized program that focuses on a desired area of study, such as business, science, agriculture, or tourism. This sponsorship also provides for medical care and support services.

### Universities or Trade Schools

Some university or trade school children live with family or guardians, and others live in dormitories or group home facilities. This sponsorship provides for tuition, school expenses, medical care, housing where needed and other support services.



## How Child Sponsorship Works



### 1. Consider Your Level of Support

Would you like to sponsor a child who lives and studies in a boarding school, or a child who lives at home and attends school? Would you like to fully sponsor a child, or share sponsorship with another caring co-sponsor?



### 2. Choose a Child

We will send you details on several children to consider. Select your child, and we will connect you through letters and updates. Learning that someone far away cares so much uplifts your child—and you will be bonded to an important new person.



### 3. Multiply Your Gift

Do you work for a company that matches employee charitable gifts? Are you interested in sponsoring as a group, family, or organization? We have welcomed extended families, scouting troops, school classrooms, and small businesses to share sponsorship.



### 4. Stay in Touch

You will receive notes of progress and letters from your child twice per year as we make regular trips to Nepal to ensure your child's welfare. You will receive invitations to periodic meetings to share experiences and learn about MNFC and your child.



### 5. Meet Your Child

You are welcome to travel with us to Nepal to meet your child and other children, and learn about our programs. We invite sponsors and friends to see firsthand the difference they have made in the lives of our children.