

# GNE: Improving Health through Nutrition ... with your help!

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### New projects in:

Oregon  
Guatemala  
Indonesia

## 2016 in Review

2016 was full of changes in both Nepal and in GNE that present challenges and opportunities. Nepal is still recovering from the devastating effects of the April 2015 earthquake. GNE has focused all its efforts on earthquake relief for the past 18 months (see below) and is now ready to move on. The Nepali government has clamped down on the importation of vitamins and has effectively stopped GNE's supplementation programs that had reached 200,000 women.

GNE remains committed to preventing birth defects and improving health thru micronutrients in vulnerable populations of young women and children. Using the lessons learned in Nepal and the education materials we have developed, the GNE board has chosen to explore new locations. Our core mission remains to educate local communities at risk for under-nutrition and advocate for micronutrient supplementation programs for women of child-bearing potential. Proposals worth pursuing now have us headed to Oregon, Guatemala and Indonesia (see below). We are excited by these new opportunities and need your support.

On a personal level, congratulations to our friends in Nepal, Shiva and Ambika Bhandari on their new baby and to Deepa Woli who got married. Good luck to Dr. Sunita Timilsina in her pursuit of a medical residency in the US. And as always a big thanks to Narayan Bhandari.



Thadikhani village school under construction

## Earthquake Relief

The April 25, 2015 earthquake and aftershocks in Nepal killed over 9,000 people, flattened

villages and made thousands of people homeless. GNE through its contacts in the area was able to use your generous support to fund immediate food and shelter aid to the hardest hit regions. Subsequent efforts were directed by Narayan Bhandari at erecting temporary schools in 22 villages.

GNE made a follow-up visit in the spring of 2016 and selected 2 projects to fund: building a permanent school in the village of Thadikhani and a community development center (CDC) in the village of Bhotsipa. Work on these 2 projects is nearing completion under the supervision of Narayan and Mr. Kumar Basnet. Marie Long will be returning to Nepal to view these sites and help the new CDC get up and running. GNE hopes to maintain its contacts and friendships in Nepal should the vitamin importation ban be resolved in the future.



Bhotsipa village CDC building under construction

Many thanks to the donors to the earthquake relief fund.

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