

FRIENDS OF PATAN HOSPITAL



Update

Friends of Patan Hospital
1980 Dahlia Street
Denver, CO 80220

Founded in 1982 as a Christian mission hospital in Kathmandu, Nepal, Patan has evolved into an independent secular hospital with its own Board of Directors. It maintains the values of its founders, providing quality compassionate care to all who come, regardless of religious affiliation or ability to pay. The hospital treats almost 320,000 outpatients and 20,000 inpatients per year. This is accomplished with a balanced budget of \$3.4 million through efficient operations and the contributions of many individuals and church groups in the U.S., Europe and Australia.

Check out our website!
www.foph.com

This update is published to keep you informed of current events at and affecting the hospital. Friends of Patan Hospital is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

New Maternity Wing to be Dedicated on August 16



Construction of the new Maternity Wing is almost complete and the hospital is preparing to place the new facility in operation. A dedication ceremony will be held at Patan Hospital on August 16. The name of the new wing will be "Nick Simons Block (Mother and Child Service Center)" and will appear in both English and Nepali. The new wing increases the number of beds at Patan hospital from 310 to about 450.

The Nick Simons Block was designed to be physically the best hospital facility in Nepal, which is a very poor country. For example, with the exception of the new wing, Patan Hospital has no heating system even though Kathmandu has cold winter nights. The new wing will have the "luxury" of a solar heating system and insulated glass windows. But to cut costs and operating expenses, parts of the new wing will not be heated.

The total cost of the facility will be about \$5 million for the addition of 141 beds. That comes to a little over \$35,000 per bed. Last August in Denver a new 270-bed children's hospital opened, at a cost of \$567 million, or \$2.1 million per bed. Thus the per-bed cost of the hospital in Denver serving needs which are similar to the new wing at Patan Hospital was 60 times greater.

Resources Now On Hand to Furnish and Equip New Wing

The major goal of FOPH during the past 18 months has been to supply the resources to allow the new wing to operate, since furnishing and equipping the maternity wing was not part of the original Simons grant. During this period many needed items have been secured through Project C.U.R.E. and Mission Relief Services. Both of these organizations receive donated equipment and send it in shipping containers to approved hospitals in developing countries--such as Patan Hospital--if the cost of transportation and expenses associated with

shipping is paid by an American sponsor. In the past 18 months three shipping containers containing almost \$1 million worth of equipment have been sent by FOPH at a cost of less than \$30,000. Another container is now in transit.

Unfortunately, a large hospital cannot be equipped and furnished only with donated items. Recently hospital staff compiled a list of what was still needed for the new wing. The cost was a little over \$938,500. FOPH had raised about \$100,000 over the previous 18 months for this purpose, with the expectation of raising an additional \$100,000 in 2008 for equipment, furniture, and many other needs. FOPH is delighted to report that Jim and Marilyn Simons have generously offered to donate \$838,500 for furnishing and equipping the new wing, provided FOPH gives the remaining \$100,000. The kindness and generosity of the Simons and many other donors will ensure that the new wing will be able to provide an unprecedented level of service to the people of Nepal.



Funds are now available to furnish the birthing center, which is nearly complete.

Patan Hospital Celebrates 25th Anniversary

On November 7, 2007, Patan Hospital had a celebration to mark the 25th Anniversary of its founding. Over 800 people, including the Prime Minister of Nepal, attended. The contribution of Friends of Patan Hospital was recognized when Dr. James Hecht, the Chairman of FOPH, was honored with a citation and bronze statuette presented by the Prime Minister. Jim views this honor as one shared by all those who have supported FOPH.



FOPH Chairman Jim Hecht receives a citation from Girija Prasad Koirala, Prime Minister of Nepal.

Dr. Rajesh Gongal Appointed Medical Director



Last May Rajesh Gongal, M.D. was selected to be the Medical Director at Patan Hospital, the first Nepali to hold this post on a permanent basis. A surgeon, Rajesh received his medical training at the Darbhanga Medical College in India. After several years of residency in Nepal and India, he spent four and a half years working and training in the United Kingdom. He has worked at Patan Hospital since 1998. Rajesh also is a Professor of Surgery at the National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS). In 2000 he was the founding Chairman of Hospice Nepal, the first hospice in the country. Under his leadership the hospice has been a great success, caring for terminally ill patients with compassion at no charge, and receiving sufficient donations to pay for the operation. Rajesh also has pioneered the teaching of palliative care to doctors and nurses throughout Nepal.

Charity Care at Patan Hospital

Patan Hospital continues to treat all who come, regardless of ability to pay. However, without FOPH, Patan could not continue to be a charity hospital. Although the cost of care at Patan Hospital is very low, many in Nepal cannot afford even the small amounts involved. Families often must make sacrifices to pay for care. Last year the hospital donated \$140,000 in charity care, of which \$2,500 was supplied by FOPH. The supplies that FOPH donates through Project C.U.R.E. greatly reduce operating expenses; also, FOPH's donations of equipment and funds reduce capital expenses and allow more expenditures for charity. Increasing the availability of charity funds is an important objective for the hospital, so this year FOPH has doubled its contribution to the charity fund and hopes to contribute more in the future. In addition, the improved facilities provided by the Nick Simons Block will increase the number of patients who can afford to pay for better accommodations, increasing the funds available for charity.



A private room in the Nick Simons Block will allow a level of comfort not previously available. Rooms like this will generate "profits" for charity care.

Honor Roll of U.S. Donors

Patan Hospital is particularly grateful for the support of these individuals and organizations across the United States.

Major benefactors (\$40,000+)

Lila & John Foster (MA)
 Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church (CO)
 Peg & Bob Shields (NY)

Benefactors (\$10,000+)

Edith & Dick Broschat, in memory of Edie (ND)
 Covenant United Methodist Church (PA)
 Joe Feely (DC)
 Amy & Jim Hecht (CO)
 Marcellus United Methodist Church (NY)
 Catherine & Jon-Adam Michael (IN)
 Jay Packer (CA)

In-Kind Benefactors (\$10,000+)

Children's Hospital (Boston, MA)
 General Electric Company
 Mark E. Haynes, Esq. (CO)
 McClain Finlon Advertising (CO)
 OZ Architecture (CO)
 Project C.U.R.E. (CO)
 RWAY Communications, a LogicalSolutions.net company (NY)

Patrons (\$2,000+)

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 June Ast (NY)
 Chris & Wes Bacon (NY)
 Stephanie & Ed Benton (CO)
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 Betty & Jim Stricker (ID)
 Janet & David Takach (NY)
 Mark Vantrease (NJ)
 Watertown Asbury United Methodist Church (NY)
 Walt Williams (VA)
 Katherine Witherington (KY)

Endowment Fund Created

In October, 2007, Jim and Marilyn Simons gave \$500,000 to FOPH to start an endowment fund. In addition to providing an income of at least \$20,000 a year, this wonderful gift creates the opportunity for others to give smaller amounts to a managed endowment. Two anonymous FOPH supporters will be including FOPH in their estate plans. To manage the endowment fund, FOPH's Board has appointed a committee which consists of Joe Feely, a retired lawyer, John Foster, a retired investment banker, Jim Hecht, a retired scientist-business executive and Bob Shields, a semi-retired business owner.

Needs for the Old Building

Hospital management is now studying which of the many needs in the old building should be given priority for FOPH funding later this year and in 2009. One pressing need is for a new and large Intensive Care Unit. We will keep you posted on our website.

Medical Equipment Donations Needed

FOPH supporters have been responsible for equipment donations that have been of great importance to Patan Hospital. Doctors are in an especially good position to secure equipment donations; if you know a doctor or a hospital administrator, or know someone who knows one, you can help. Potential donations should be brought to the attention of FOPH Board member Michele Avila-Emerson, a nurse practitioner, who can be reached by email at wertheemersons@yahoo.com or by telephone at 559-917-9268. Michele will determine if the donation can be used by the hospital and, if so, will arrange to have it shipped to Project C.U.R.E. for transportation to the hospital. Doctors or for-profit hospitals can benefit by a significant tax deduction for such a donation--as well as the knowledge that they are helping grateful people in Nepal.

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People Who Make Things Happen at Patan Hospital



Three years ago a building committee was formed to coordinate the design and construction of the new maternity wing with the needs of the hospital. The committee has held over 170 meetings. Pictured here at a recent meeting, second from the left, is Fred Langworthy, an American missionary engineer who, before going to Patan Hospital, had a construction business in upstate New York. Fred is in charge of coordinating design and construction and has been successful in improving the quality of the building.



Dr. Kundu Yangzom is head of OB/GYN at Patan Hospital and chair of the building committee. Other members of the committee include the head of pediatrics, Dr. Neelam Adhikari, and Sr. Ram Shova Risal, the director of nursing. Medical Director Dr. Rajesh Gongal sometimes attends the committee meetings, which have a typical attendance of 10 to 12 people. Meetings also include at least one representative of the Nepali architectural firm on the project, and representation from Patan Hospital's maintenance and administrative departments.



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