

# 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 about \$3.8 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](http://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 Mostly in Operation

### PICU & NICU Unit Start-Ups Scheduled for June

Most of the new maternity wing is now in operation. Thanks to the gift of \$838,500 from Jim and Marilyn Simons, to which was added \$100,000 from contributions by other FOPH supporters, sufficient money is available to equip the 140-bed facility far better than the old hospital or any other hospital in Nepal. Not all furnishings and equipment had to be purchased. Some very good donations of used equipment were received and sent to Nepal through our partnership with Project C.U.R.E.



The new maternity wing includes space for a 6-bed Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) and a 6-bed Neonatal ICU (NICU). Equipment for these facilities is being provided by the Nick Simons Foundation, which has budgeted \$300,000 for this gift. However, these units require much more than specialized equipment; they also must be staffed by doctors and nurses with special training. To meet this need, a team of 15 volunteers has been assembled to provide training in the weeks following startup in the second half of

June. The team is led by Michele Avila-Emerson, a critical-care nurse at Stanford who is Vice-President of FOPH, and Dr. Sanjita Basnet, a Nepali pediatrician who works in Illinois. Among the team members is Dr. Theresa Grover, who is in charge of the 60-bed NICU unit at Children's Hospital in Denver. Most of the team members were able to attend a weekend meeting in California to plan the curriculum for the training.

These units will be the first of their type in Nepal.

## FOPH Donates Funds for New ICU and New Endoscopy Suite

A priority need at Patan for years has been for a new enlarged ICU to replace the outdated 5-bed unit. The plan was for an ICU with 10 beds (later reduced to 9 because of space limitations) that would be much better equipped than at present. The present ICU would then be converted to a High Dependency Unit (HDU). An HDU is needed since many sick patients after surgery now have to be transferred directly to the ward, increasing their risk of both morbidity and mortality. Such patients require close monitoring, but not intensive management, and keeping them in an ICU is a waste of strained resources.

The estimated cost for the new ICU was almost \$150,000. Because of the great need for this life-saving improvement, \$50,000 was raised in donations in Nepal. This was matched by an equal amount from Jim and

Marilyn Simons. The hospital then requested \$50,000 from FOPH so that it could proceed with this important improvement. The FOPH Board quickly approved this request and the new ICU will be available for use in several months.

Another pressing need at Patan was for a new video gastroscope, an important diagnostic tool. There was a used one at Patan which had been donated years ago. It was giving poor quality pictures and was not expected to be able to do even that in a short time. Also, all endoscopy was being done in the main operating room, which caused problems. These problems will be solved by FOPH's donation of a gastroscope to be placed in a new endoscopy suite at a cost of \$25,000. All of this amount was provided by FOPH supporters Dick and Edith Broschat as a gift in memory of their daughter.

## Celebrating Patan's Success



*Pictured here, from left to right, are Rajesh Gongal, Medical Director; Vanessa Mendoza-Dannell, an FOPH supporter and critical care nurse; Ram Prasad Prajapati, Patan Hospital CEO; Ram Shova Risal, Nursing Director; Kundu Yangzom, Head of OB-Gyn; Jim Hecht, FOPH Chair; Neelam Adhikari, Head of Pediatrics; Arjun Karki, Vice Chancellor of Patan Academy of Health Sciences; and Achyut Rajbhandari, Head of Orthopedics.*

## FOPH Helping Health Care in Rural Areas

FOPH is making a large difference in the care that can be given in Okhaldhunga Community Hospital, located in a very poor area in eastern Nepal. In the past year, on a trial basis, FOPH has included equipment and supplies for the Okhaldhunga Hospital in its Project C.U.R.E. shipments, using 15 to 20 percent of the shipping container. The material destined for Okhaldhunga is unloaded at Patan, temporarily stored, and then trucked to as close as the road comes from where it is carried to the hospital. This has worked satisfactorily for all parties involved. Okhaldhunga is a charity hospital much like Patan and has a strong relationship with Patan. All Patan resident physicians do a rotation at Okhaldhunga to acquaint them with medicine in the rural areas, and Okhaldhunga sends patients to Patan who cannot be treated at the rural hospital.

The support FOPH gives Patan Hospital helps in the rural areas in many other ways since Patan continues to increase its programs to train health care workers at a number of levels. Now there is a good chance that Patan may play a direct role by being central to a Nepali-government-funded telemedicine program to allow rural hospitals to communicate with specialists at Patan.

## Endowment Fund Update

The current recession has resulted in a decrease in the value of the FOPH Endowment Fund, but not as great a loss as most funds have suffered. The endowment, which was created in October, 2007 with a gift of \$500,000 from Jim and Marilyn Simons, still had a value of \$422,400 on May 18 despite having given FOPH \$20,000 for 2009 expenditures.

The Endowment Fund creates an opportunity for Patan Hospital supporters to include the hospital in their estate plans. Patan Hospital, in keeping with Nepali tradition, shows its appreciation for such support by suitable memorial acknowledgements.

## Mayo Clinic Resident Does Rotation at Patan



Dr. Aaron Mansfield (pictured at right above), a 4th year resident in internal medicine at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, spent 4 weeks in March working as a resident at Patan Hospital. Thanks to the efforts of FOPH Board member Dr. Cathy Michael, Patan Hospital is a potential site for Mayo residents who participate in Mayo's international medicine program. Dr. Michael spent three months at Patan Hospital while in medical school and after her training. Last year she worked with Mayo staff to create the information that is made available to Mayo residents about an international rotation opportunity.

Dr. Mansfield was very pleased with his rotation and believes that--in addition to the help he gave at the hospital and the goodwill he created for the United States by being there--the experience will make him a better doctor in the United States. He saw diseases that are not common in the U.S., but with increased travel are occurring in our country. Also, seeing common diseases that had not been treated gave him a greater appreciation of severe pathology. He wrote that, because Patan patients who are not in charity care pay for their tests, he was more careful about the tests he ordered.

## Celebrating Patan's Growth



Jim and Marilyn Simons attended the opening of the new maternity wing on August 17, 2008. On Jim's right is Prachandra, Nepal's Prime Minister. On Marilyn's left is Chandeswor Shrestha, Chair of Patan Hospital's Board.

## 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+)

Edith & Dick Broschat, in memory of Edie (ND)  
Lila & John Foster (MA)  
Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church (CO)  
Peg & Bob Shields (NY)

### Benefactors (\$10,000+)

Covenant United Methodist Church (PA)  
Joe Feely (DC)  
Amy & Jim Hecht (CO)  
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Jay Packer (CA)

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

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RWAY Communications, a LogicalSolutions.net company (NY)  
Waterloo Healthcare (AZ)

### Patrons (\$2,000+)

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Mark Vantrease (NJ)  
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Katherine Witherington (KY)

## Change in FOPH Leadership

Joe Feely early this year became the President of FOPH, replacing Jim Hecht, who had been President since the organization came into existence in 2002. Jim remains Chairman of the Board of Directors. This is the first step in a planned succession program, begun when Jim was 80 two years ago. Joe, a retired attorney who lives in Washington, DC, had been one of FOPH's two vice-presidents and, among other duties, chairs the Endowment Committee.



*FOPH President Joe Feely was among four American FOPH Board members who attended the dedication of the new maternity wing. Pictured at a dinner for FOPH Board and senior staff are, from left to right, Ram Shova Risal, Director of Nursing; Habel Khawas, assistant to the Medical Director; Michele Avila-Emerson, FOPH Vice President; Rajesh Gongal, Medical Director; Joe Feely; and Kundu Yangzom, Head of OB-Gyn.*

## Patan Hospital to Have Dialysis Unit

The German Nepal Help Association has pledged to donate 5 new hemodialysis machines and a reverse osmosis machine. This will help Patan set up a dialysis unit which should be operational before the end of the year.

## Priority Needs

Patan Hospital is far better equipped than it was five years ago, but there still are many important needs for equipment. For example, funding for the new endoscopy suite includes a video gastroscope and a side viewing duodenoscope, but also should have a colonoscope and a bronchoscope. The cost of these additions will be about \$25,000.

There are many urgent maintenance needs in the old building. Several have been met during the past few months. One of the two semi-functioning elevators has been replaced, thanks to a special gift by the Simons. Also, the rusted galvanized piping on one floor has been replaced by plastic piping donated by a Nepali manufacturer of this piping and this has led to a matching gift which will take care of another floor. Still to be financed are replacement piping for the third floor and the pediatric wing. The costs here will be about \$15,000, critically needed since leaking pipes cause all sorts of problems.

A new priority is to establish an electronic medical records system. The present system of record keeping allows retrieval and is unique in Nepal, but it requires a lot of manpower and is not as useful for patient care as an electronic system. A Korean aid agency has agreed to donate \$17,000 towards this goal, but \$50,000 more is required.



*These computer terminals in the new library allow hospital staff to access medical literature. Many Patan doctors do not have their own computers. Terminals such as these will help establish an electronic medical records system.*

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