

FRIENDS OF PATAN HOSPITAL

Update

Friends of Patan Hospital
1980 Dahlia Street
Denver, CO 80220

Check out our website!
www.foph.org

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 341,000 outpatients and 26,500 inpatients per year. This is accomplished with a balanced budget of \$5.7 million through efficient operations and the contributions of many individuals and church groups in the U.S., Europe and Australia.

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.

Plan Adopted to Improve the Supplying of Oxygen to Patients

The high cost of oxygen needed for patients has been an ongoing problem at Patan Hospital for many years. Oxygen is supplied by small providers in cylinders. Approximately 50 large cylinders are used each day. Dr. Jim Hecht, FOPH's Chairman Emeritus, has discussed this problem with the leaders of Patan Hospital for many years. Last October, Dr. Paras Acharya, Director of Patan Hospital, developed a plan to install a small oxygen plant in the rear of the hospital and to also install piping to the beds in the wards. This plan will meet the increasing needs of the hospital for many years.

After a thorough review of Dr. Acharya's proposal by Dr. Hecht, FOPH's Board of Directors has agreed to support this plan by giving \$130,000 of the approximately \$330,000 of the total cost of building of the plant and completion of installation of piping of oxygen to the beds in the wards. Jim and Marilyn Simons have agreed to provide \$200,000 to support this project. This project is only possible because of their generous support of Patan Hospital.

There will be substantial savings to the hospital by having their own oxygen plant, and the improved system for providing oxygen to the beds in the wards will help to eliminate past problems in the delivery of oxygen to patients. Since more than

1/2 of the investment is for the piping, the cost of the oxygen plant itself should be recovered in 2 to 4 years. There have been problems at the hospital because of the limitations of the current system for distributing oxygen to the beds. Sometimes the tanks run out of oxygen when the gauge on a tank gave an incorrect reading. The new system should eliminate these problems and should be much safer in its operation.



Oxygen ready for use at Patan Hospital

PAHS International Advisory Board (IAB) Meeting

Joe Feely, FOPH President, attended the Sixth Consultative Meeting of the International Advisory Board for PAHS (Patan Academy of Health Sciences) in October of 2010. Vice Chancellor of PAHS, Dr. Arjun Karki opened the meeting by describing the challenges that PAHS has overcome in its creation, and thanked the IAB members for their energizing and inspirational support of PAHS. Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal also met with members of the IAB and attended the PAHS inaugural ceremony. The government of Nepal has made a substantial commitment to PAHS through construction of new facilities at Patan Hospital and funding student scholarships. The PM of Nepal is also the ex-officio Chancellor of PAHS.

Dr. Karki thanked FOPH for the great job it is doing to upgrade the quality of clinical services at Patan Hospital. He urged IAB attendees to help mobilize support for continued fundraising for Patan Hospital. He also explained the need for Patan Hospital to expand specialty services in order to be accredited by the Nepal Medical Council. Dr. Karki added that continued support is also needed to pursue postgraduate educational programs at PAHS.

PAHS's innovative approach to improving health care in rural Nepal was showcased at the IAB meeting by reports given by first year students. The first class of 60 students completed two community field postings - one in a poor urban area of Kathmandu and the other in rural communities in Makwanpur District. The make-up of the student body is about 1/3 women, and



Left to right: Joe Feely, FOPH President; Madhav Kumar Nepal, then Prime Minister of Nepal; Dr. Arjun Karki, Vice Chancellor of PAHS in October 2010

is represented equally by the Hill, Terai, and Kathmandu Valley regions. After graduation, students are expected (and or in the case of students on scholarship, required) to return and serve in their home communities.

Finally, Dr. Karki highlighted the critical issue of fundraising. He said that there is an urgent need to build student hostels and provide scholarships to needy students. FOPH donors who wish to support PAHS can make gifts to PAHS by notifying FOPH of their preferences in this respect. FOPH has set up accounts for scholarship donations and for capital donations to PAHS.

PICU/NICU Follow Up Training by FOPH Volunteers

The Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Units at Patan hospital opened their doors to care for the sickest of children and babies in the Katmandu valley in July 2009. The local staff of physicians and nurses at that time underwent a 3-month training which covered the basics of intensive care management. This curriculum was followed up by 2 weeks of educational sessions in the Fall of 2010 to build upon the fundamentals taught in the prior year. The volunteer team was led by Dr. Saraswati Kache, FOPH board member and Clinical Associate Professor at Stanford University School of Medicine, and other members included Dr. Ritu Chakara, Michelle Bunt, RN, Titia Boers, RN, Beth Case, RT, and Gina Prnjak, RN.

The local team was very gracious in the gratitude and presents they shared with the volunteers during their time at Patan. They also held a lovely ceremony in the hospital to celebrate the life and contributions of Michele Avila.

Future plans consist of having an annual 2-week educational period for the local team to build-on and update the knowledge base which they have already acquired. The impact these ICUs have had can be seen in the number of patients they have seen from July 2009 to December 2010. The NICU has cared for 219 patients and the PICU has cared for 268 patients. These numbers, along with the pride the local staff takes in having a highly functional NICU / PICU, are the result of the efforts by the volunteers and FOPH.



Project C.U.R.E. Shipment Sent to Nepal

Once again, our colleagues at Project C.U.R.E. have teamed up with FOPH donors and volunteers to send a shipping container full of donated medical supplies to Patan Hospital. Project C.U.R.E. receives donated equipment and sends it to approved hospitals in developing countries with the help of a sponsor to pay transportation and shipping expenses. The May 2011 shipment of supplies for Patan Hospital is worth about \$400,000. The transportation cost of \$19,000 is paid by FOPH.

In the past, Project C.U.R.E. has provided Patan Hospital with big durable assets that took up a lot of room in the containers. In this shipment, the supply boxes fit neatly into the container, thus increasing the quantity and value of supplies. Project C.U.R.E.'s goal is that budgeted money earmarked for these consumable supplies at Patan Hospital may be used in other areas, such as for staffing or new equipment. This shipment, which also contains big ticket items such as scopes and surgical drills, is expected to arrive in July 2011.

Honor Roll of U. S. Donors

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

Major Benefactors (\$40,000+)

Edith & Dick Broschat, in memory of Edie
Lila & John Foster
Amy & Jim Hecht
Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church
Peg & Bob Shields

Benefactors (\$10,000+)

Marian & Russell Bernd
Covenant United Methodist Church
Joe Feely
Marcellus United Methodist Church
Catherine & Jon-Adam Michael
Jay Packer

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

Children's Hospital
General Electric Company ITX Corporation
Mark E. Haynes, Esq.
McClain Finlon Advertising
OZ Architecture
Project C.U.R.E.
Waterloo Healthcare

Patrons (\$2,000+)

Alger First United Church
June Ast
Chris & Wes Bacon
Stephanie & Ed Benton
Steven Bingle
Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church
Terry & Doug Coon
Nancy L. Dock & Donald C. Blair
Lindy Doty & Joe Nystrom
Sharon Ann & Robert Gsellman
Carol & Fred Grover, Sr.
Charlie Hecht
Sharon Thorson Herzog
Adeline Ignarski
Jordan United Methodist Church
Myrie & Bob Linnell
Evelyn & Glenn Maddy
Marcellus United Methodist Church
Rebecca & Jay Mashburn
Alice & Dennis McCary
Lillian & George Millman
Ann & Jack Mitchell
Joyce & James Packer
Pat & Bruce Paton
Thomas G. Roberts
Midge & Peter Roosevelt
Ann J. Schaff
Katy & John Shaw
Alice Sherman
Jim Staats
State Street United Methodist Church
Betty & Jim Stricker
Janet & David Takach
Mark Vantrease
Watertown Asbury United Methodist Church
Wait Williams
Katherine Witherington



CT Scanner Installation

Patan Hospital's Radiology & Imaging Department installed a new CT scanner on March 24th, 2011. The CT scanner was given to Patan Hospital by the Nepali government. One of the existing x-ray rooms was renovated in order to make a separate area for the CT scanner, a console room, and a reception area. Three radiographers with BSc degrees have been on duty since April 14th, and two radiologists have been recruited and enrolled as faculty - an Associate Professor and a Lecturer. They joined Patan Hospital on May 15th. With the addition of the new faculty members, it is hoped to start interventional radiology services.

Sustainable ICU Educational Program

Rhonda Martin, a critical care nurse at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, has organized another training trip to Patan Hospital's ICU unit for October of 2011. The team of six nurses from Brigham and Women's specializes in cardiology and surgical nursing, ICU and critical care, and Quality Improvement and Clinical Practice. The team's goal is to develop a sustainable ICU educational program for Patan Hospital's ICU nurses. The program has two components. First, nursing modules will be set up on ICU computers with internet access. Second, several Patan ICU nurses will be identified to mentor and educate ICU nurses on an ongoing basis.

Health Sciences On-Line (HSO) is working with Rhonda Martin's team to develop ICU nursing modules that could be easily accessed from the HSO website and downloaded to local PC's. Each

module would have a list of competencies, a pre and post test, and a PowerPoint or video presentation of the educational content. Martin's team will introduce modules on cardiac nursing, surgical nursing, wound care, pulmonary and thoracic nursing, and geriatrics. They will teach the ICU nurses how to work through the modules. After the training, Patan Hospital nurses will be able to study modules on their own time, and ultimately get credentialed in ICU Nursing through HSO.

Book to be Published About Patan Hospital

Erlend Berge, photojournalist and author of the documentary books "Moments from Nepal" and "Life - in Okhaldhunga Community Hospital" has completed work on his new project - "Living Kathmandu - The View from Patan Hospital." The vibrant pictures and heartfelt stories of Berge's new book follow patients through their treatments at Patan Hospital and their journeys home. A day in the life of Patan Hospital is revealed through pictures of newborns, patients, concerned family members, and staff.

On Mr. Berge's website, www.erlendberge.no, Patan Hospital comes to life through his lens. Cyber visitors are treated to posts and stories from Patan Hospital. In the words of Erlend Berge: "Urban youngsters and rural farmers. Former monks and craftsmen. From all ethnic groups and religions. The patients who have shared their lives in this book are diverse. Together they are making up the impressive huge number of people being treated at Patan Hospital every year."



Living
Kathmandu
The view from Patan Hospital