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## A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Dear Supporter.

Our DFN team have certainly hit 2023 running, and you will see that we have been working extremely hard on a number of exciting new projects which we can now reveal.

### **Dame Joanna Lumley!**

I am absolutely delighted to announce that Dame Joanna Lumley came on board as the "voice" of our new DFN advert which may be viewed below. We hope that you will enjoy the short film as much as we did making it. Please do share it widely to entice further support for our work.

### **Collaboration:**

We have recently collaborated with the <u>Oda Foundation</u> in Kalikot district, who are employing two of our DFN scholarship nurses in one of the most remote outreaches of Nepal. This is the beginning of a long-term relationship, as we are in the early stages of choosing two further

that our nursing scholars are able to find appropriate employment in the most deprived districts

### **Postgraduate scholarships:**

A number of DFN doctors are ready to apply for postgraduate training in Nepal this year, and we have decided to potentially fund them through their postgraduate education - which will ensure they are trained to the highest level, plus they will be bonded in remote areas for a further five years.

These are exciting times for the charity, but obviously none of this is possible without your ongoing support. Please do consider supporting us in any way you can, plus please encourage your friends and family to get involved in our work.

With very best wishes, Kate

#### JOANNA LUMLEY GETS INVOLVED WITH DFN

Legendary actress, presenter and humanitarian activist, Dame Joanna Lumley has shown her support for DFN by recording an amazing voiceover for the brand-new short film about our work.

We are thrilled to have Joanna on board for this project, given her deep connections with Nepal.

We are hugely grateful to Joanna for her endorsement, and to our wonderful filmmakers, Cesca Eaton and Gareth Taylor.



Please click below to view the film



### PREVENTABLE DEATHS

In every 100,000 live births in a recent report

# 151

women died in Nepal from maternityrelated complications 74%

of the women who died experienced delays in finding, reaching or receiving appropriate health facilities or healthcare

Postpartum Haemorrhage and

Pre-eclampsia

were the chief causes of these deaths

10%

of the women who died were just

15-19 years old

Source: National Statistics Office

### MATERNAL HEALTH: OUR IMPACT

In March 2023, between

# 90-100

patients visited
1 DFN doctor's rural maternity hospital

every day



In the last month alone, 1 DFN doctor assisted

45

births

Including:
32 spontaneous deliveries
2 twin deliveries

2 vacuum assisted deliveries2 breech vaginal deliveries5 caesarean sections

# DFN-FUNDED LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT HAS NOW ARRIVED IN NEPAL





Equipment purchased in our appeal has now reached its destinations, and we're pleased to report that it is being used to monitor pregnant women in labour, and diagnose patients with cardiac conditions. These machines will have a significant impact on improving the outcome of these patients in remote hospitals.

In rural Nepal, health camps are a lifeline for patients. They allow communities to benefit from screening, consultations, treatment and referrals that they would not otherwise access. Vitally, they increase the chance that patients will be seen early enough to improve their health outcomes.

DFN aims to take our involvement a step further, by conducting our own DFN health camps. During our most recent trip to Nepal, we shared ideas as a multidisciplinary team, developing the core concepts and design for this project, which we will be building on in the coming months. Watch this space!!



### COLLABORATION WITH ODA FOUNDATION

Due to government underfunding, it can be a challenge to find jobs for nurses in the remote areas, despite the desperate need for them. For this reason, DFN has partnered with the NGO, Oda Foundation (Kalikot District), to create new roles at their hospital and birthing centre.

Recent nursing graduate, Yuna, has just arrived at Oda, and is adapting to the challenges of living in this area for the first time, showing the flexibility and enthusiasm needed to work with patients in remote communities, with fewer resources than she was accustomed to while studying in Kathmandu.





Our five third-year nursing students at Karnali Academy of Health Sciences are all nearing the end of their studies, and we are supporting them in finding their first remote postings. DFN's first ever midwifery student, Parbati, is busy working her way through her third year at Karnali Academy. She reports having lots of hands-on experience this year, monitoring mothers and facilitating safe deliveries.



Qualified nurse Satya has this month finished a 9 month internship with PHASE Nepal, located in Bajura. She has certainly put her education to practical use in her first job, which has involved teaching children and adults, and clinical and outreach work. She will hopefully be joining the Oda Foundation shortly.





We will be significantly expanding the number of nursing and midwifery scholarships we offer in 2023, and will need all the support you can give to ensure their education and employment is secured.



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