

# PROMISE news

## BACK IN CHINA

*Global Health Promise partners with local organizations to assess trafficking in China.*



Katherine returned to China in January, 2009, and is now based in Shenyang, where she teaches pediatric medicine to doctors training in family medicine. In Shenyang, Katherine is also developing

Global Health Promise programs such as the Jericho Project. She has also been learning about the situation of trafficked and prostituted mothers in NE China.

Relationships, the foundation of working in China, are being sown and meetings with others who are interested in addressing the situation in Shenyang are happening through the Jericho Project. Members of the Jericho Project have met a few times already and have started to lay the groundwork for outreach and service. The situation of trafficking and prostitution looks quite a bit different here than in other places in Asia. The women are not seen in the open so much – they are mostly in hotels, karaoke bars, saunas/spas and other entertainment centers. It is reported that there are many Russian and N. Korean women trafficked in the sex trade to and through this region.

*There is so much to learn and understand here, and seemingly so little being done.*

Some women in China have children with special health needs. For example, one woman has a child with cerebral palsy. Because of a lack of subsidized healthcare, she has found no other option but to prostitute herself in order to pay for her child's medical care.

As part of her pediatric training program, Katherine continues to work in orphanages. She has learned that, although many times the orphanage workers do not know the reason why a particular child has been abandoned, often times, they are children born to unwed mothers. These mothers may have no or very limited options for raising their children, as it is illegal to have a child out of wedlock in China.

Although there are an estimated 6 million prostituted women in China, it is unknown how many have children. However, Brian and Katherine have met prostituted women with children and know they have great needs. Global Health Promise is looking forward to working with partners in China to conduct research on this situation and developing programs and services to help.



*Katherine training a physician*

## BREAKING NEW GROUND IN NEPAL

*Work continues to open drop-in centers and conduct ground breaking research on the health needs of trafficked mothers and their children.*



We continue to make progress on our project in Kathmandu, Nepal. We are working with Caritas Nepal, Family Health International (FHI), and Dr. Pushpa Bhatta who operates a clinic for prostituted women, to open three drop

in centers for children of trafficked and prostituted mothers in the city and to provide medical examinations for 100 mothers and 200 of their children.

FHI conducted an informal survey of prostituted mothers in their projects and found they had 4,300 children less than six years old. The mothers do not have a safe place for these children, many of whom die while others become ill or injured. There are currently no drop-in centers for these children in Kathmandu. Global Health Promise will coordinate the medical examinations and care of the mothers and children.

In addition to providing much needed health services, the team will also collect information from the exams to learn about the needs of other mothers and their children and will produce a report. This will be the first such report on trafficked and prostituted mothers and their children in Nepal and will serve to raise awareness about their situation and advocate for better services for them.

## WE ARE ON FACEBOOK

Find the Global Health Promise cause on Facebook <http://apps.facebook.com/causes/172650> and join the 1500+ people advancing the cause through awareness, advocacy and giving. Help us reach our goal of 2,000 members by September 1.

A screenshot of the Facebook page for 'Global Health Promise: protecting mothers and their children from sex trafficking'. The page features a header with the organization's name and a description: 'Dedicated to protecting mothers and their children from the impact of trafficking, prostitution, and sexual exploitation.' Below this is a 'Welcome to the cause!' section with a 'close' button and two options: 'Feature this cause on your profile' and 'Invite your friends to join the cause'. The 'Donations Go To:' section lists 'The Task Force for Global Health, Inc. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit' with its logo. The 'Positions:' section contains four numbered points: 1. No mother should be trafficked or sexually exploited. 2. No mother should need to resort to prostitution to feed or care for her children. 3. All children should grow up in homes where they and their mothers are free, healthy, and safe from exploitation, discrimination, and stigma. 4. We promise to help trafficked and exploited mothers and their children. At the bottom, there are statistics: '1,720 MEMBERS' with an 'Invite' button and '\$847 DONATED' with a 'Donate' button. On the right side, there is a photo of a group of people, a 'Share' button, and a 'How You Are Helping' section showing '0 members recruited', '\$0 donated', and '\$0 raised'. There is also a 'Go to Your Action Center' button and a 'Your Fundraising Pledge' section with the text 'You do not have a personal fundraising pledge. Pledge to Raise'.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

While our drop-in center project in Nepal is just beginning, we are excited by the level of impact we will be able to make with a relatively small financial investment. A dollar here goes a long way, providing assistance to mothers and children in Nepal for less than would be required in the US. For example, just \$75 provides medical treatment and care for a mother or child. Your contributions for this exciting and ground breaking project are greatly appreciated. Contact Katherine or Brian for more information.

## FUNDRAISING

Global Health Promise's work is supported entirely by individual donations. We recognize, and are feeling the effects of the current global economic recession and are currently conducting much of our work without funding. Many thanks for the contributions from our supporters. Know that your donations go a long way towards helping to stop trafficking of mothers around the globe.

*Thank you to everyone who has donated. We could not do this work without your support.*

One of our greatest expenses is travel to our project sites. To initiate the project in Kathmandu we need to meet with our partners to conduct focus groups with the mothers, identify the locations of the drop in centers, and finalize the logistics for the medical examinations. The cost of this trip is \$10,700. We can greatly reduce this expense if people can donate free tickets through their frequent flyer programs.

In an effort to find more consistent funding for our work, we are applying for grants from various foundations. But just as all of us are feeling the impact of the global financial situation, so too are foundations. Not only do they have less funding to distribute, but there is a tremendous increase in request for funding.

We have received several in-kind donations. For example, Chris Anderson of Portland, Oregon, has donated a digital camera and a digital camcorder that we can use to document our work. Thank you also to Andrew Harrison who maintains our website and Caitlin Loos, our graphic designer.

We held our 2nd annual benefit concert at St. Mary's Cathedral in Portland, on May 17th. There was beautiful and inspiring music thanks to Rick Modlin, Elizabeth Nielsen-Sheller, Jenny Pixler, and the members of Stoneface Honey, Angie Kopshy, Erin Hade and Joel Olsen.

If you would like to support our work, you can make a tax deductible donation on our website at [www.globalhealthpromise.org](http://www.globalhealthpromise.org). Thank you!

## OUR SUPPORTERS

We greatly appreciate the support we have received from various businesses, including:

**SPEED CHASERS:** Tom Brewer, from Fort Wayne, IN, is an owner and engineer of a sprint race car company called Speed Chasers. He has added the GHP logo to his car and his trailer.  
<http://www.speedchasers.com>



**THE CIRCUIT BOULDERING GYM:** A big thank you to Portland's The Circuit Bouldering Gym for hosting a fund raiser for us.  
<http://www.thecircuitgym.com>

We received donations for our fund raiser from:

**NEXT ADVENTURE**  
<http://nextadventure.net>

**CLIMB MAX MOUNTAINEERING**  
<http://www.climbmaxmountaineering.com>

**ICEBREAKER**  
<http://www.icebreaker.com/site/index.html>

## COMING SOON!

We have received donations from Chris Anderson and Lis Saunders so we can make a short video about our work. The video is being made by Dan Hyatt of Red.E Media. Look for the video coming soon to our website!