



HER INTERNATIONAL

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ANNUAL  
REPORT

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2021 - 2022



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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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As the world slowly returns to what is now the new normal, Her International looks to bring back in-person events and fundraisers. It has been a challenging few years and we are ever grateful for your support during this unprecedented time.

This year Her International supported more than 120 students through grade school and university in Nepal as well as offered school supplies, tuition, school uniform, house dress, shoes and socks, school bags, school supplies and personal hygiene products.

We worked to collaborate following two years of instability brought on by COVID-19 and we did this by holding a strategic planning meeting. The board discussed future planning for the charity including, programs, scholarships and mother's groups. We were able to meet with our founder Michelle Bonneau for the first time in a while and she was able to share with us stories from her recent trip to Nepal.

This fall we will host a new event "Walk for Her", a fundraiser aimed at representing the two hours it takes for the women of Dang, Nepal to walk to collect firewood, a primary source for cooking. Supporters walked the Mission Greenway in Kelowna as a way to raise funds to help support the women and girls of Dang.





Our favourite “good times” event held in support of Her International, 9 Wine & Pie hosted by Kevin & Linda Edgecombe was once again a hit, with more money than ever before being donated.

The year didn't pass without change either, our executive director Katie Phelps made the tough decision to step down from the role and take on new endeavours, including consulting for Her International. Katie was the brainchild behind She Creates, a workshop and leadership course used in Nepal, which was brought to Canada for the first time for innovative and hands-on personal development for adolescent girls. We will miss Katie in her role as ED but wish her and her family the best of luck in the future.

Looking ahead, Her International will be bringing She Creates back into the spotlight in 2023 alongside former executive director Tamara McLellan leading the workshop. This program is possible with the financial support of Kelowna Women in Business.

This year wouldn't have come to fruition if it wasn't for our Operations Director, Karen Hughes, who keeps everything in working order from the financials, to the board to our relationship with our Nepalese partners Creating Possibilities.

To everyone who donated this year in person or online, thank you very much, you helped Her International provide educational opportunities for those that are marginalized as women or in the feminine expression.

Thank you to our new board, Kevin Edgecombe, Tracey Duquette, Brett Weninger, Gina Kotsch and Deana Hills who took on more than they ever dreamed of and made goals come together and the magic happen.

Best of luck to everyone in 2023.

Jen Zielinski,  
President, Her International



**our mission**  
**empower 'her'**  
**through**  
**education**

**our vision**  
**a world where**  
**everyone has**  
**the**  
**opportunity to**  
**learn and**  
**thrive**



# Her International [Programs: Nepal]

## SHE LEARNS

### Girls scholarships

Comprehensive scholarship for girls who would not otherwise get a chance to attend school receive all the support they need to succeed



## SHE CREATES

### Leadership & entrepreneurship

A 12-session course that teaches personal and community leadership through the hands-on experience of building a small business

## APPROACH: SUSTAINED PRESENCE FOR LASTING IMPACT

## SHE THRIVES

### Microfinance & life skills groups

Village-level women's groups that meet monthly to teach life skills and offer microcredit and microsavings program



## HER HEALTH

### Menstrual education & management

Provides community female health education and safe menstrual management opportunities

# She Creates

**Introducing**  
**SHE** creates **CANADA**

A unique, 12-session course that teaches personal and community leadership through the hands-on experience of building a small business

**LEADERSHIP**  
Become a leader in your own life and in your community by practicing communication, using your voice, and coaching others

**CONFIDENCE**  
Build confidence through the hands-on experiences that push you to step outside of your comfort zone, learn new skills, and reach for your goals

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP**  
Learn the fundamentals of entrepreneurship through building and testing out your own business plan

**MENTORSHIP**  
Be mentored by local business-owners and by peer alumni

**COMMUNITY**  
Connect with participants taking the course around the globe and form a long-lasting community of peer support

Her INTERNATIONAL

In 2021-2022, Her International delivered the She Creates course to 118 Indigenous girls in Canada and Nepal.

The She Creates course is a unique one that answers the needs of young women to foster both leadership skills while building a viable economic future for themselves.

She Creates introduces personal growth opportunities through hands-on experience of practicing entrepreneurship. Through expert and peer support, the participants explore confidence-building activities that help them know that they can do hard things!

Our participants met with local business women who mentored them. The girls started their own small businesses - called "Innovation Projects" - and grew their projects from ideas to real products. Businesses included making jewelry, raising animals, selling vegetables, making and selling art, and so much more.

While the skills they cultivated in improved communication, goal setting, financial literacy, and mindfulness, just to name a few, were deeply impactful, the relationships and encouragement the participants formed with each other was what was treasured most of all.

Her International will be offering the She Creates course again in 2023 in partnership with Kelowna Women in Business. We are looking forward to the impact this and further offerings of the course will continue to make in our community!

# HerStory



Ramita Chaudhary is 22 and in her first year of University studying for a Bachelor of Arts. Ramita was previously in bonded labor and has faced many difficulties in her life. Her father struggled with addiction and didn't want Ramita to go to school. Only her mother worked, earning very little through labour work.

Ramita showed early that she was a hard worker and smart. Her International and Creating Possibilities have worked to support the family for the past 9 years.

Now the father is sober and works to support the family. Her mother was able to join a local mothers group. While in the group, her mother learned the value of saving. The family has now been able to buy a small piece of land where they rear ducks and a vegetable patch.

The family is now able to support Ramita's schooling themselves. Ramita spends the morning in college and helps her mother in the field in the afternoon. After she is done school, she would like to find a job. She does have a boyfriend, but is waiting at least two more years before marrying.

Ramita likes visiting new places and making new friends. Her family is happy and is grateful for the support that they have received.



Hello, I am Simrika and I am 26 years old and a member of Shirljansil Mothers Group. When I was 20 years old I was in Grade 12 and my parents arranged a marriage for me. After I married I left school and did labor work with my husband. We earned very little and could not save which led to many fights in our home.

On April 6th, 2015 my neighbour stopped by and said "Sister, let's go to a meeting, Creating Possibilities staff have come to our village to form a mothers group". When we arrived, there were already 50 women there. They explained the importance of mothers groups, monthly savings, loans and business. They also explained that they were able to provide skill development training. I felt that this was important for me, so I joined the group.

Through the group, I began to learn about saving, loans, business and so much more. I began saving each month. In 2016 I borrowed 30,000npr (\$375cdn) and started a small grocery store. The income from this helped to ease the household bills. I was able to payback the loan in a year.

In 2018 I borrowed 100,000npr (\$1,250cdn) for a pig farm. After one year, I was able to build a new home.

Now, my mother-in-law are busy with the pig farm and my husband and father-in-law help out when they are free. We are all very busy, but we are earning a good profit.

If there had been no mothers group I would still be a labourer. I have learnt many things to share with my family and to help run my house. I am very proud and have ambition to do more. I am very thankful for the support.





**Her International Foundation  
Statement of Financial Position  
March 31, 2022**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current		
Cash	149,087	155,278
Accounts receivable	3,145	-
Inventory	8,990	9,668
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	161,222	164,946
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current		
Accounts payable	6,682	8,970
<b>Fund Balances</b>		
Reserves	154,540	155,976
Unrestricted	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	161,222	164,946
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**Her International Foundation  
Statement of Reserves  
For the year ended March 31, 2022**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Grants reserve	36,803	28,132
Bikes reserve	4,458	6,393
General reserve	48,612	91,171
Medical Scholarship reserve	25,602	27,215
UBC sickle cell reserve	3,065	3,065
Building reserve	36,000	-
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	154,540	155,976
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**Her International Foundation**  
**Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**Year ended March 31, 2022**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Receipts		
Donations	99,090	140,469
Fundraising	36,010	2,300
Sale of goods	2,809	20,900
Other revenue	196	748
	<u>138,105</u>	<u>164,417</u>
Disbursements		
Charitable programs	108,402	54,042
Insurance	737	705
Interest and bank charges	2,157	3,100
Office	3,502	7,399
Professional fees	23,728	18,248
Purchase of goods for resale	1,015	10,036
	<u>139,541</u>	<u>93,530</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	- 1,436	70,887