A big “thank you” to all of VIN’s sponsors and volunteers! Because of you, year 2012 is off to a great start! With your help, we were able to achieve the following in the first quarter of 2012:

- Developed detailed project framework, plans and budgets for year 2012.
- Provided training on life skills for women group members.
- Conducted children’s camp at two schools in Jitpur community.
- Conducted health camps at Dadagaun and Jitpur schools, and the Mahayana monastery.
- Completed the construction of ten toilets in the Chogaun community.
- Conducted in-house staff development training and strategic planning workshops.
- Participated in the warehouse Cultural international work camp in Hong Kong.

VIN continues to conduct life skills training to provide women with the ability to effectively manage the demands and challenges of everyday life. The trainings addressed topics such as stress management, communication, time management, decision making, domestic violence, child abuse, and emotions. The trainings were provided to different women groups in communities such as Phedi, Khadawalkot, Panchmane, and Chogaun. VIN plans to continue these training sessions due to the positive feedback from the participants and is very thankful for the help from all local and international volunteers who have contributed their time and resources to improve the quality of these women’s lives.
2. Sewing/Cutting Training: Gyani is starting her own business after months of training!

In order to provide women of Jitpurphedi with all year round income sources, VIN is currently supporting a sewing/cutting program in Dadagaun and Tinpiple for 16 women. Upon completion of the first phase of this program, Gyani has started her own sewing/cutting business and two others are also planning to do so. There are 13 women participating in the second phase of this program held by VIN and Small and Cottage Industry Development National Committee Kathmandu Nepal. VIN will continue to run this program for at least another two months based on the strong interest expressed by the participants.

3. Micro-Enterprise Creation Training

VIN held a 5-day micro enterprise creation training for members of the women groups in February with the help from the industrial entrepreneurship development office. This training provides the necessary concept, framework, and tools for women to combine knowledge from the general life skills trainings and the specific skills training (i.e. sewing/cutting) and turn it into an income generating reality. There were 34 participants in this program. The training program addressed topics such as characteristics of successful entrepreneur, business plan preparation, market and production plan, expense plan, and selection of business.

4. Micro-credit cooperative status update

VIN has continued to support the Micro-credit cooperative since it inception in 2010. The second general assembly was held in January. The total number of share members continues to increase. As of March 2012, the total number of share members is 266 with additional women groups formed in Kisandol, Khadawalkot, Lamichhanegaun, and Panchmane.
Children’s Development program:

1. Sponsor Child Profile Update

VIN continues to provide support to the children of marginalized community in Jitpur and the orphans of three orphanage homes. VIN would like to express its deepest gratitude towards all external sponsors whose contribution, regardless of amount, has greatly improved the quality of these children’s lives. The profile of these children is updated every year. For the latest profile, please go our website www.volunteeringnepal.org. If you or someone you know would like to share your love with these children in need, please contact VIN or check VIN’s website for details on how you can help.

2. Children’s camp

In January, VIN conducted two winter camps in two schools in Jitpur for children aged 8-12 years old. The camp provides an opportunity for children to develop creativity and innate talents or just to enjoy a fun time. Around 150 children participated in the camps. Our deepest gratitude goes to all the volunteers that made these camps possible and fun! Volunteers always bring a new and fresh perspective to the programs. Both VIN staff and program participants benefit tremendously from the engagement of volunteers. VIN welcomes you in joining us to improve the quality of the children’s lives and share your unique talents!

3. Children’s Rights training

VIN conducted regular trainings on Children’s Rights for parents of community children in March. Through these trainings, the parents learn about the history of children’s rights, the concept of child’s rights, and the parents’ responsibilities. Program participants have shown a strong interest in understanding and appreciating children’s rights and have participated actively in the discussions.

4. English Language class at the Chogaun Youth club

In addition to various children’s development programs, VIN is also providing support on the English classes for members of the Chogaun youth club in the community with the objective of improving English language of community youths. English classes were conducted from December, 2011 to February, 2012 and from March 18, 2012 to April 2, 2012. The Chogaun youth club currently has 17 members and has managed various social activities relating to youth development in the Chogaun community.
1. Health camps

VIN continues in its endeavor to educate the communities at large on the importance of health, hygiene and sanitation by conducting health camps. Health camps were conducted at one of the winter camps and also at Dadagaun and Jitpur schools, and the Mahayana monastery. During these health camps, children and monks learn about appropriate hand washing and teeth brushing techniques, general hygiene, and sanitation. VIN’s doctor and international health volunteers also checked the general health of a total of around 180 children and monks during these camps. Many were found to suffer from respiratory and abdominal problems while the biggest health issue among the monks is scalp infection. VIN volunteers assisted with dispensing medication and dressing wounds. Again, a big “thank you” to the volunteers and sponsors who have made this possible!

2. Patients check-up at the health post

VIN’s medical team continues to provide medical services to the Jitpur community. In the first quarter of 2012, VIN’s medical team worked 31 days at the health post, and examined and treated 684 patients. VIN’s medical team has also extended its medical services to the Jitpur community to three days a week in order to improve the quality of health services provided from the existing health post. International volunteers, Jennifer and John, have also conducted health talks on mental health with children from two schools (Nagarjun and Jitpur higher secondary schools), assisted in health clinics and camps, and worked on a research proposal relating to hypertension, diabetes, and COPD among women in Jitpur.

Toilet Construction Update

VIN continued its support on the construction of toilets in the Chogaun community. In February, five toilets were completed in Chogaun. Additionally, VIN initiated the construction of an additional six toilets in Chogaun in March, five of which were completed by the end of March. VIN has also conducted a social mapping of Kalikasaran school communities of Jitpurphedi VDC for the new toilet construction project.
Few photos from January-March 2012

- Women of Jitpurphedi
- Fun with friends
- Posing for a photo
- Annual co-operative meeting
- Reducing stress with exercise
- Social mapping for new toilet construction
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Lets communicate now!!! Communication training at khadawokot

Trainings are always fun!!!

Stress management training