

## **PANDEMIC FAMINE RELIEF**

Summer Newsletter 2021



Dear Friend,

The people of Nepal have endured much over recent years surviving a Maoist War, massive earthquakes, and devastating floods. But now the Covid-19 pandemic has created perhaps the most challenging, difficult, and dangerous time in their lives. The second wave of pandemic infection with the deadly variant from India has swept into Nepal causing a massive rise in infections reaching the most remote regions of the country. The local government is overwhelmed and unable to meet even the most basic needs with regard to food, medicines, and relief packages. The latest lockdowns, trying to slow the spread of disease, have forced the closure of almost all businesses including even grocery stores and ration shops. The circumstances for local villagers, especially the daily wage earners, are increasingly grim running out of food with no source of income to enable them to survive. Many have been forced to exist on meager roots and vegetables but with the Monsoon approaching the situation is becoming increasingly desperate.

Dooley InterMed is rising to the challenge to the extent we are able. We always try to focus our efforts in the areas where we have unique abilities, contacts, and partnerships so that we can generate the maximum benefit with minimum cost. Working hand-in-hand in cooperation with the remarkable monks at the Pema Ts'al Monastery in Pokhara we have initiated a Covid-19 famine relief program providing vital food supplies to refugee settlements, old age homes, and low-income communities. We are even reaching deep into the most remote communities such as villages in Upper Mustang on the Tibetan Plateau beyond the Himalayas.



The monks know these remote communities well and have unique access. And they always manage to obtain special deals on supplies. Dooley InterMed has partnered with them many times over the years to bring medical care and humanitarian aid to people in remote areas of great need.





Our planned next phase of relief will bring vital food supplies to 900 families in the poorest communities along the Seti Gandaki river, where laborers traditionally dig sand, stone, and gravel from the riverbed. The pandemic-related economic shutdown has brought devastation to these families who live in shacks along the river and have run out of money, food, and hope.

Closer to Kathmandu we have, so far, managed to keep all the children at our Eco-Home Orphanage safe and healthy with strictly enforced isolation and sanitation protocols. However, we are receiving multiple pleas for assistance from the surrounding communities, especially Panauti, where the Orphanage is located. These villagers need fundamental protective equipment to help prevent the spread of disease and basic medicines and food items so that their hungry children can have at least one simple meal a day.

**Please help us help them. The time is now, and the need is great.**

With Thanks,  
*Scott Hamilton*  
President

