



Little Sisters Fund
Education for Empowerment

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

Letter from the Executive Directors

As we reflect on 2021, and indeed the full 23 years since LSF began, we are amazed by the progress the Little Sisters have made. In 2000, we had 35 girls in grades 4-8. Ten years ago, Little Sisters were beating the odds and graduating from high school but higher education was still a dream yet to be realized. Now, with the help of the Higher Education Opportunity Fund, merit-based scholarships and technical trade school, over 90% of Little Sisters are enrolling in higher education annually and breaking barriers in previously male-dominated fields such as medicine, dentistry and engineering. We are forever grateful to our sponsors and donors who have helped LSF give at-risk girls in Nepal the opportunity they need to change the trajectory of their lives.

“Girls don’t
need help. They
simply need
opportunity.”
-Trevor



**Usha Acharya
Trevor Patzer**
*Co-Founders and
Executive Directors
Little Sisters Fund (LSF)*

Opportunity to Grow

LSF has over 900 high school graduates who have enrolled in higher education at rates more than three times Nepal's national average. One reason this is possible is the Higher Education Opportunity Fund which provides financial assistance to Little Sisters who are pursuing tertiary degrees.

Since 2016, HEOF has helped **123** Little Sisters expand their educational opportunities and become empowered young women who have the leadership skills and educational resources they need to break the cycle of poverty and become changemakers for themselves, their families and their communities.

“I’m always thinking about Little Sisters Fund and how it has changed our lives, helped us grow and taught us to pursue our dreams and take charge of our futures. I am blessed to be a part of LSF.”

-Arpana Pandit, a 2008 LSF graduate, recently completed a Ph.D in Behavioral Science at Kochi University of Technology in Japan.



2021: The Year in Review

LSF's direct support changed the lives of **2,037** at-risk girls in Nepal.

187 Little Sisters graduated from high school. **95%** of these graduates enrolled in higher education.

Science Labs were installed in **4** partner schools.

LSF received financial support from **249** Individual Donors and **46** Foundations.

11 LSF grads are sponsoring the full education of current Little Sisters. Another **40** LSF alumni are partially supporting younger Little Sisters.



“LSF has helped me build my confidence. By earning a merit-based scholarship I proved to myself I could do something worthwhile. Now I know I can do more, I can become financially independent and one day I will be able to achieve my goals.”

*-Sarina, 2021 LSF Grad
Currently pursuing a Bachelor's of Engineering
in Electronic Communication and Information*

Technical Trade School

A Path to Independence



LSF's newest program helps Little Sisters pursue 3-year Technical Trade School degrees in areas such as information technology, pharmacy, lab technology, nursing, dental hygiene, radiology, engineering and more. Little Sisters who complete a technical degree are ready to enter the workforce immediately upon graduation, and can look forward to quality career opportunities with significantly more earning potential than they would achieve with only a high school diploma.

LSF currently has **63** Little Sisters pursuing technical degrees that will help them attain independence and financial stability.

"After completing my technical degree in Dental Science, I have a good salary and I was able to gain practical knowledge that will help me apply for a bachelor's degree in the same field in the future," said Sunisha, a 2020 LSF graduate.

Merit-based Scholarships Encourage Excellence

In 2021, LSF introduced a merit-based scholarship program for graduating Little Sisters who have maintained excellent academic standards throughout their high school educational careers. These scholarships are an essential component of assistance for Little Sisters wishing to pursue bachelor's degrees.

Pooja is currently in her first year of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery studies at B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences at Dharan in Sunsari district. "Since I was a little girl I have gotten so much support and care from LSF," said Pooja. "I'm so happy the many expenses and fees for my medical studies are now easily manageable with the help of LSF's generous contribution."



"I just love my Little Sister. She is the most positive, focused, happy young woman. She won the Top Academic Award of the Year. I could not be prouder of her."

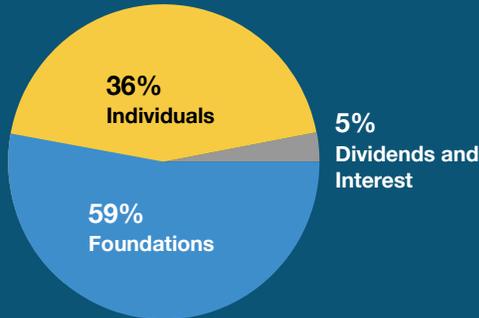
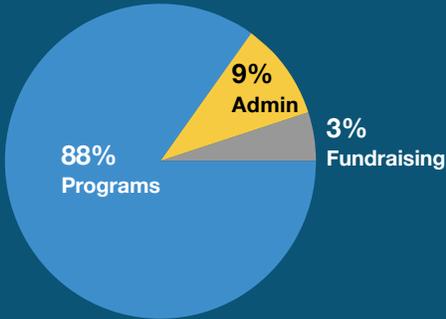
-Fifi, Sponsor since 2000

29

Little Sisters
received
merit-based
scholarships

- 11 Business & Management
- 6 Humanities & Social Sciences
- 5 Medicine & Health
- 3 Science & Technology
- 2 Engineering
- 1 Law
- 1 Education

Financial Stewardship



Expenses:

Programs:	\$ 681,344
Management & Administration:	\$ 69,682
Fundraising:	\$ 23,228
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Total:	\$ 774,254

Income:

Contributions from Individuals:	\$ 290,094
Contributions from Foundations:	\$ 474,983
Dividends and Interest:	\$ 40,563
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Total:	\$ 805,640

“We know that there is no tool for development more effective than the education of girls and the empowerment of women.” – Kofi Annan, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations

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Thank you to our sponsors,
donors and the hundreds
of volunteers who make our
mission possible!