

Project Description

GISELE BOLTON

PROJECT TITLE: CHILD LABOR RESCUE AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The Advocacy Project (AP), a 501 (c)(3) organization, is dedicated to helping marginalized communities by forming partnerships with community advocates and recruiting Peace Fellows to help organizations tell their story.

CONCERN-Nepal has been working for the interests of children's rights in Nepal since 1993 with the objective of advocating children's rights and improving the social and natural environment of Nepalese children. CONCERN-Nepal has been conducting research to uncover and expose the hidden conditions of child labor in Nepal. Along with extensive research they provide various child protection services and educational programs on child rights. They actively assist in education opportunities for children by providing financial assistance to families allowing children to attend school instead of work. They also intervene with employers illegally hiring children. CONCERN-Nepal believes children can be freed from exploitation through advocacy, social support, and educational support services. Through these services and through specialized child development activities, children can grow to become self-reliant adults.

CONCERN-Nepal would like to focus on a rescue and rehabilitation program for children who work in brick kilns. Due to the dangerous, grave conditions of the work children suffer immensely both physically and emotionally. Children forced to work in these conditions work strenuous, manual labor 12-16 hours a day, leaving them unable to attend school. This rescue and rehabilitation program would provide children access to education opportunities, activities and services. The activities will ensure the protection of these children, give them a safe place to live and provide them with improved access to education, health and sanitation services.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PURPOSE AND BENEFITS

The main objective of my fellowship is to support CONCERN-Nepal in reaching their aspirations by assisting in the creation of a strong, viable program that AP can support from Washington D.C.

My key involvement will be assisting our partner in reaching the following goals:

1. Work closely with the executive director and program manager to put together a focused project to support 12 rescued children from working in brick kilns. This program would provide 12 children a safe place to live, education opportunities and access to health care.
2. Create content for CONCERN-Nepal partner pages on The Advocacy Project website and update the CONCERN-Nepal website, generating online awareness and donations. This will include traveling to different sites where children work, creating an in-depth analysis of the problem, conducting interviews, and taking

photos, and videos. Also, I will assist in training staff to actively engage in social media sites such as Facebook and twitter to communicate their stories, lengthening their reach to the global community on the work they do towards the eradication of child labor.

3. Continue to strengthen the organization by building the capacity to manage expanded programming. The duties I will perform to reach this goal will include identifying potential donors and assist in creating a long-term program plan that can be used for proposals.