

WAWCAS Newsletter, March 2024

Children's Day in September 2023



In the South Eastern low land of Nepal, we started up the WAWCAS Program in early 2022, but just recently initiated the first Child Groups in the area. In the fall of 2023, we had established three Child Groups with a total of 90 children all having their mother in the 16 months WAWCAS Training Program.

One of their first activities of the Child Groups was to put together a rally to celebrate the National Children's Day on September 15, 2023 (Bhadrah 29, 2080). They walked around their neighborhood with posters reading:

"Let's make Children's Day Successful"

"Today's Child is Tomorrow's Future"

"Marriage only after 20 Years"

"Eradicate the Exploitation of Child Labor"

"Child's Interest is the Need of Education"

"Son and Daughter are the Same, give Education to Both."

And they gave a speech to highlight the importance of education and requested support from their parents and community members.



The rally had the following objectives:

- To raise awareness about the rights of children among community members and families.
- To eliminate child violence and harassment.
- To motivate and encourage children to attend school regularly.
- To promote children's participation in extra-curricular activities.

The parents were amazed to hear the speeches made by the children, and they were eager to see more creative activities being conducted by the child groups. Also, the parents strongly recognized the importance of the child groups and the extra activities embedded in the programme. Finally, community members expressed their interest in children's rights and were eager to learn more.



Recent progress

- A door-to-door program was conducted by the child groups, and the aim was to enroll children in schools in the Rautahat district. As a result, 17 children were enrolled in schools.

Through Issue Based training (IBT) in the Child Groups many positive behaviors have been observed;

- All the children within the WAWCAS Child Groups are keeping good personal hygiene and environmental sanitation. The most important part is that they also informed such things to their parents as well to other children who did not participate in Child Groups.
- Now children are reluctant to buy cigarettes, tobacco, and alcohol when their parents ask them to do so, and they are also reminded not to intake such things.
- The children of the Child Groups usually help their parents with small household chores at home and take care of their small siblings.
- Children in the Child Groups have home-cooked food and they are trying their best to minimize fast food. And they share food with friends outside the Child Groups.
- Seeing changes in children's behavior, the parents do not discriminate among sons and daughters and their learning materials which still needs to make regular follow up.

More Stories from the WAWCAS Women and Their Children

Every month, three WAWCAS women add a new blog to their story on the website. And also one of our many Child Groups upload a monthly story. You can get insight into the daily struggles and happy moments in the lives of these women and children by clicking the link below.

[Meet the Women and Their Children • Wawcas International](#)