

## *Friends of Mitrata-Nepal Foundation.*



Some of our children learning meditation with Nanda.

## *Spring 2004 Newsletter*

### ***We Have Grown Again!!***

We now have 24 children in our home in Kathmandu and 13 children we sponsor for school. Eight more children are on a waiting list, 3 to live in our home and 5 for school sponsorships. This makes a total of 45 children we will be caring for in 2004! We have been able to grow because our house has been expanded and it is very difficult to turn away needy children. ***SO WE ARE SEEKING MORE SPONSORS.*** If you know anyone who is interested, please pass on the enclosed brochure. Word of mouth from friend to friend has been the way we have come this far with our sponsorship program.

### ***Fund-raising Team Meeting***

I am organizing a fund-raising team to meet once a month, to work on raising more money for the Foundation. By pulling together the resources and contacts of our sponsors and donors, I feel strongly that we can increase our funds to better provide for our children's future. I know everyone's time is valuable, so we will try to use it wisely. The first meeting will be on Friday night June 25th 7pm at my home. Please call me at (314) 762-9412 if you would like to attend or have questions.

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### **Grant Proposal for OUEST for the Mitrata-Nepal Foundation**

Hazel Tamano, M.A. Development Consultant who specializes in grant writing and foundation fund-raising, has agreed to write a grant and get it to key organizations who have available funds for children's international nonprofit organizations. Hazel has much experience, having worked at the United Nations and at the Metropolitan Association for Philanthropy. Hazel, Leah Schulte of OUEST and I will be working over the next 2 months on this project, while we also redo the website. This is a tremendous task and I am most grateful to Hazel for her time, talent and willingness to work hard for us. ***We need about \$500 to get started on this project.*** I cannot tell you how important it is for us to obtain funding through other sources, such as foundations and personal endowments. This money is needed to allow us to buy land and a house, to set up a sustainability project for the Mitrata-Nepal Foundation and to educate our children past high school level. This \$500 of seed money will help us to provide a more secure future for our children. If you have any contacts, suggestions or ideas that may assist us in this endeavor, please let me know.

### **2005 Group Trip To Nepal**

We are planning our next group trip to Nepal for March 12th-27th 2005. The trip will cost approximately \$2500. Staying in moderately priced accommodations, we will be well cared for by our travel service, but experience the true culture of Nepal with our friends of the Mitrata-Nepal home. This is a unique opportunity to spend time with the children, enjoy art and architecture in the beautiful Kathmandu Valley, have a spiritual pilgrimage to Hindu and Buddhist holy places, and hike in the Himalayas. Guaranteed to be the most unique and wonderful travel of a lifetime! (I'm slightly biased of course.) Please let me know if you are interested in going by September 2004. I will tailor our itinerary to the needs of the group.

### **Nanda Returning to Kathmandu**

Nanda will be returning to Nepal on June 8th. If you have **any small items** you wish to send, such as letters, pictures etc. for your sponsored child, you can send them to her address in New York and she will pack it with her. Please keep in mind no large gifts as Nanda is of small stature! The address for Nanda is: Nanda Kulu, C/O Aroj Kunal, 78-02 46<sup>th</sup> Ave., Apt # 2A, Elmhurst, Queens, NY 11373.

### **Thank you for your compassion and generosity.**

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*Christine Schutz, USA Program Director*

*Make checks payable to OUEST/ Mitrata-Nepal and send them to:*

*Mitrata-Nepal Foundation*

*C/O Christine Schutz*

*3934 Arsenal Street*

*St. Louis, Mo. 63116*

