Kanti Children’s Hospital, Nepal

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Background: Nepali Organizations Supporting Children’s Health

Kanti Children’s Hospital is the only government referral level children’s hospital in Nepal providing medical care to children up to age 14. The hospital treats children from all over the country, with a total target population of about 14 million children. The hospital’s administration is overseen by Kanti Children’s Hospital Development Board, which is an autonomous body under Nepal’s Ministry of Health. Kanti Children’s Hospital depends heavily on the government for financial support and human resources. Thus, although the hospital provides free health services to underprivileged patients, there are always constraints with regard to the availability of funds, which makes it challenging to provide medical support to every child that is referred to the hospital.

Social Action Volunteers (SAV) is a local NGO that was established in 1988 to address gaps and serve the neediest patients of Kanti Children’s Hospital and their families. A majority of the patients at Kanti Children’s Hospital are referred from the poorest and most remote areas of Nepal. SAV provides various support programs to long-term care (two weeks or longer) patients and their caregivers in the non-paying ward of Kanti Children’s Hospital. Services and supplies provided by SAV include medicines, a blood bank, lab services, transportation, food supplements for patients and their caregivers, shelter for family members, cooking facilities for families, or complete coverage and care for both the patient and family members.

RMF’s Presence

Shortly after the April 2015 earthquake, which killed and injured thousands throughout Nepal and damaged parts of Kanti Children’s Hospital (the only government referral level children’s hospital in Nepal), RMF determined to help address the hospital’s need for equipment, medical supplies, and capacity building to improve health service delivery. RMF began by forming a partnership with Social Action Volunteers (SAV) and donating a 40-foot container of medicines and medical supplies to Kanti Children’s Hospital. The RMF consignment of medicines and medical supplies, made possible by several generous supporters, including Convoy of Hope, LDS Charities, International Relief and Development, and Help International Hong Kong Limited, was received with great joy at Kanti Children’s Hospital in January 2016. The consignment is shown below:
Doctors and administrators unpack and examine the medicines and medical supplies
RMF-donated medicines and medical supplies

Donors included a small card

RMF-donated medicines and medical supplies being sorted
Prenatal vitamins to support the health of mother and child

Cefaclor to treat bacterial infections

RMF-donated medicines and medical supplies to support patients at Kanti Children’s Hospital