





A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

Thank you for helping make 2014 a year of tremendous growth and impact for READ Global.

Last year, READ Global experienced unprecedented growth, increasing from 69 to 79 Centers and expanding our reach by nearly 250,000 people living in rural South Asia. During that same period, we brought free public internet access to more than half a million people, opening up a whole world of information and opportunities.

While we experienced an exciting period of scaling our model, our teams stayed focused on creating a deep and lasting impact in our existing communities. READ country teams offered more services than ever, reaching tens of thousands of rural villagers with trainings that immediately made lives better, whether through literacy, women's empowerment or health education. We doubled the number of people participating in economic empowerment programs, including agricultural and livelihood skills trainings, so villagers could earn more income to meet the basic needs of their families – education, food, shelter, and healthcare.

As we increased our footprint in South Asia, we continued to invest in the skills of our local teams to ensure long-term sustainability and success of our centers and programs, with a focus on librarian and technology training so that READ Centers can better meet the needs of those living in our communities.

Finally, we achieved an important milestone. We celebrated the opening of the first READ Center in Nepal constructed only using funds raised from Nepali, rather than foreign, donors. This two-year fundraising campaign attracted hundreds of donors from around Nepal to help launch a READ Center in the village of Panauti – a testament to the belief in the power of the READ model to transform communities.

The growth and impact we experienced in 2014 was made possible because of the many donors who invested in our work and the program partners who believe in our model. Thank you.

But with all that READ has achieved to date, we still have a lot of work on our horizon. After the earthquakes in Nepal wreaked havoc in many of our communities, READ Centers became hubs for immediate disaster relief and are now focused on long-term rebuilding of villages and livelihoods. READ is in this for the long haul, but we cannot do it alone.

We hope you will continue to stand with READ as we work to unleash hope and prosperity across rural South Asia.

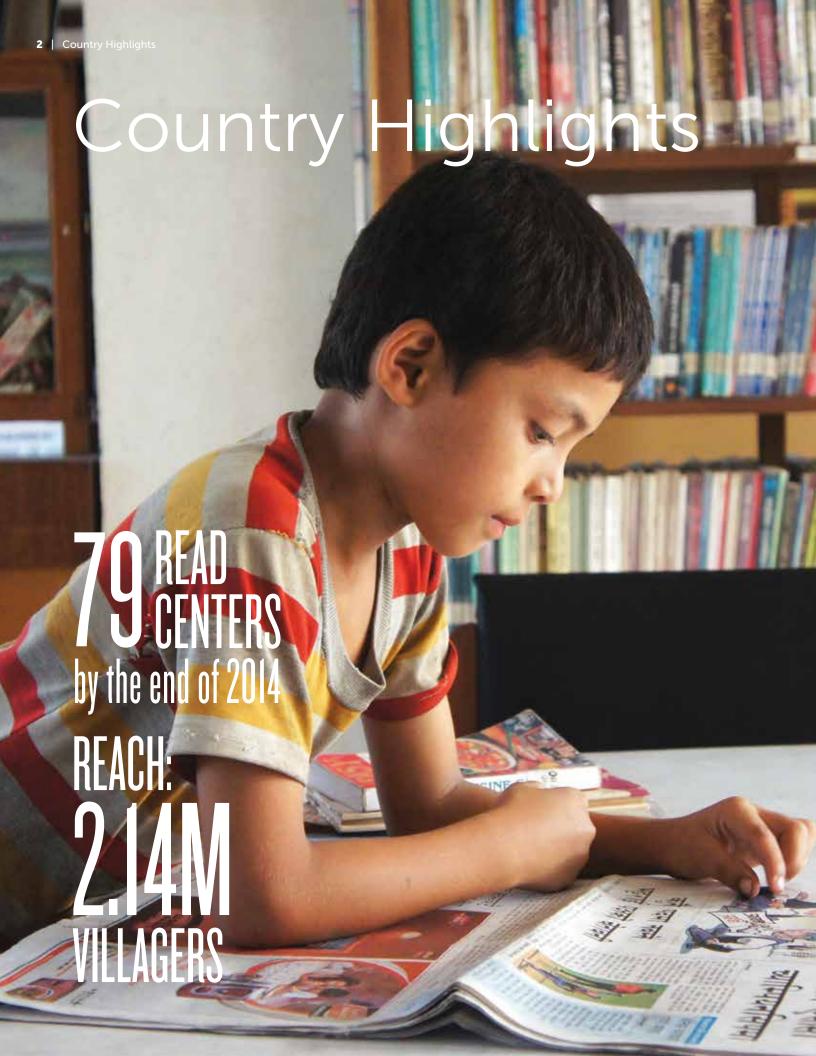
In service,



Tina Sciabica Executive Director



Deborah Jacobs







BHUTAN

In early 2014, READ Bhutan launched a new READ Center in the village of Khotakpa. Our team conducted innovative art trainings for youth to address social issues, and also launched new livelihood skills training programs for women. The Chuzagang READ Center began providing free internet services connecting the community to the web for the first time.



INDIA

READ India opened four new READ Centers expanding into the state of Maharashtra and increasing its overall reach by over 31,000 rural villagers. READ India installed solar panels in three centers to provide consistent electricity during power cuts, and also implemented a pilot project with the government of India to empower women in rural areas.



NEPAL

READ Nepal opened 6 new centers and expanded its technology, youth education and leadership programs. Over 40,000 villagers received trainings at READ Centers in Nepal, and nearly **64,000 questions** were answered via the Practical Answers Service on issues such as health, agriculture, and livelihoods.



READ Centers empower rural villagers by teaching them valuable skills to earn more income and support their families. Over 15,000 villagers participated in livelihood skills trainings, enabling them to increase their income through farming, animal husbandry, textiles, and more. Savings cooperatives mobilized thousands of dollars in loans to support rural villagers' small businesses.

2014 BY THE NUMBERS

6,199 8,054 people received education in animal husbandry (beekeeping, poultry farming, dairy farming, and more)

farmers were trained in agricultural production

new members of savings cooperatives in Nepal

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- READ partnered with **Practical Action** in response to rural farmers' demand to provide 16 trainings on agriculture and livestock production for farmers in rural Nepal, helping them farm more productively.
- READ India concluded a three-year partnership with Walmart in rural Rajasthan, empowering over 3,000 women through livelihood skills trainings such as sewing, bangle-making, and tourism.

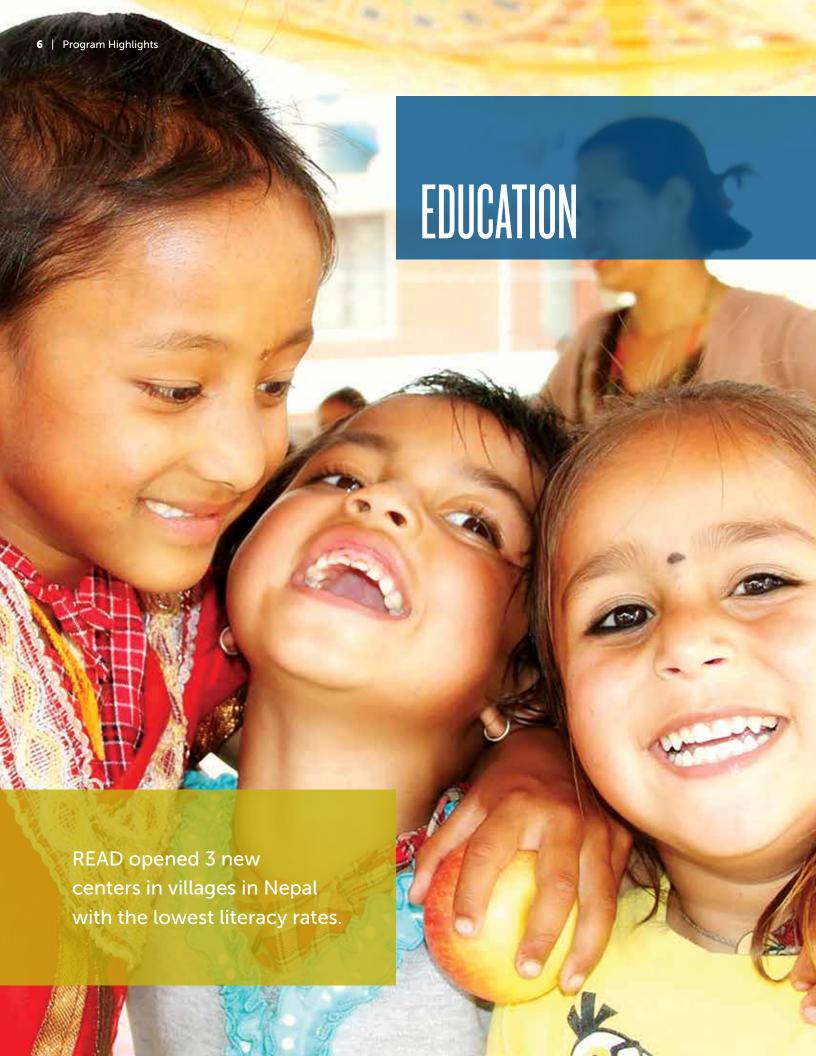
MEET SALIGRAM

Saligram had been a subsistence farmer his whole life, growing grains and vegetables in Nepal. But, pests and his sons had to leave Nepal to find work.

Then, READ opened a center in Saligram's village of Madi. At the center, READ hosted the Practical Answers program, learning to grow cauliflower, he began selling it to earn extra income.

He has been so successful that he received a small grant to buy seedlings to grow climber plants, like beans and gourds. He now plans to bring his two sons back home from abroad. Saligram told his two sons, "You don't need to go abroad to make money. If you work hard on your farm, you can grow gold."





READ Centers serve as a platform for education for ALL members of a community. Our centers meet the most pressing needs of rural areas, and may be the only place where villages have access to cutting-edge resources. In 2014, READ Centers provided over 10,000 villagers with basic educational training, including adult literacy classes, health clinics, and language skills.



REACH OUT TO ASIA FOUNDATION (ROTA) EXPANDS YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Launching a four-year partnership with ROTA, we opened three new READ Centers in southern Nepal last year. Strategically located in areas with the most need, two centers were opened in Nawalparasi – an impoverished region with low literacy rates, and the third center was opened in the nearby Pokhariya village – where more than half of the population is illiterate.

Since their opening, the three new centers have been accessed over 17,000 times, providing education and empowerment to ALL members of the communities. The centers have made a particular impact among the youth of central Nepal, giving thousands of students access to trainings and tutoring support. These students have reported back that they feel more confident, informed, and empowered to pursue their desired career paths.

2014 BY THE NUMBERS

38,/50

books checked out

4,815

adults trained in literacy skills

villagers received health services programs on sanitation and reproductive health

people participated in environmental trainings on tree planting and climate change

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- In partnership with Practical Action, READ Centers collected 63,896 questions from villagers in Nepal, and responded to over 98% of them, providing valuable solutions to challenges around livestock health, legal rights and agricultural needs.
- The Changjiji Center in Bhutan held story-writing workshops for middle and high school students to meaningfully engage them in developing a culture and habit of reading.
- We expanded the My Grandparents' Stories, My Pictures program to five centers in Nepal. Children and elders worked together to preserve local culture by sharing folk stories and creating engaging picture books that were published and distributed to other READ Centers.



READ Staff in Bhutan, India and Nepal developed confidence and increased their capacity to drive information and communications technology (ICT) related initiatives for centers. Two ICT pilots in each country experimented with innovative ICT and sustainable energy systems. User feedback from all 6 pilots shows that all participating centers learned many promising practices to share and scale across the region.

MEET MAHENDAR

Mahendar Kumar Saini, 19, of Geejgarh village in Rajasthan, his education beyond class 12. When Mahendar learned about computer courses offered at the Geejgarh Center, he enrolled volunteering to teach basic computer skills to the children at scholarship at the local university.



2014 BY THE NUMBERS

villagers had access to consistent and reliable internet opening a world of opportunities for advancement

2,246

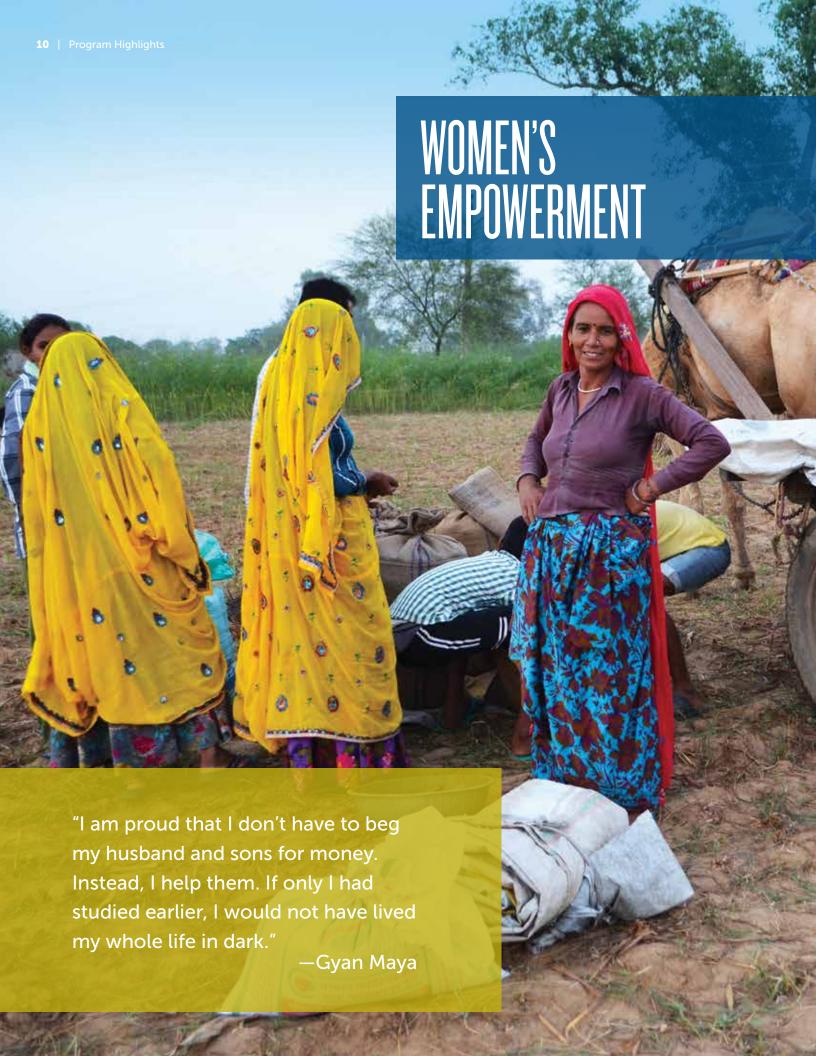
lives were enhanced by participation in high-quality ICT trainings including leveraging social media, graphic design and collaboration tools, and media literacy concepts

villagers learned basic or advanced computer skills vital to 21st century employment

villagers learned how to design and launch community radio programs

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2014, our team in Bhutan brought internet to the village of Chuzagang for the first time. The community of over 4,000 villagers is typically cut off from nearby towns during monsoon season, so the internet helps keep them connected.
- · READ Centers in India and Nepal installed solar panels to provide a source of clean and reliable energy for communities during regular and lengthy power cuts.
- To improve maternal health, we piloted Amakomaya a mobile phone application - that connects pregnant women with local health workers and delivers health information based on their stage of pregnancy.



READ Centers serve more than one million women and girls by providing them with access to safe spaces to gather, learn, and advocate. Over **38,000 women** participated in trainings at READ Centers—learning to read, discussing women's health issues, and acting as leaders. Hundreds of young girls participated in READ's sports programs, building confidence and reporting that they could now envision careers as athletes.

2014 BY THE NUMBERS

total women members of savings cooperatives and self help groups

1,958

villagers trained on women's leadership, civic participation, and confidence building

4,319

women empowered with literacy

1,658

women educated about their legal rights

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Our team in Bhutan published a reproductive and menstrual health manual—the first of its kind in Bhutan—in partnership with HomeNet South Asia.
- We partnered with the Government of India's National Mission for Empowerment of Women to train 470 women on livelihood skills such as sewing and teaching so that they can earn an income.
- · To raise awareness of violence against women and children, we expanded a community theatre program to four Centers in Nepal.
- To improve economic opportunities for women, all six Centers in Bhutan conducted capacity building trainings on skills such as weaving and dyeing.

MEET PHIRLI

Married at age 15 and illiterate, Phirli and her husband once struggled to provide for their three children and had no savings. Phirli sought refuge in her READ Center, where she joined a savings cooperative and took out a loan to buy four piglets. She raised the piglets to be healthy, sold them at a profit, paid back her loan, and then purchased two cows to sell milk for a more stable income. To expand her business even more, she took trainings in mushroom farming, and then took classes on numeracy, which helped her manage her new income.

Today, Phirli is a changed woman. She can read and write, and earns enough to send her daughters to college. Phirli's husband also respects her now. She hopes to expand her milk business and finish building her new home. "I learned that if you have desire and passion to learn new things, you can do anything," says Phirli.



Institutional Partners

READ would like to thank all of our institutional partners for joining us in inspiring rural prosperity. Leading corporations, foundations, international NGOs, and government funders have partnered with us to further our mission through monetary contributions, program partnerships, in-kind support, and employee engagement.

These partnerships have enabled us to provide more than 2 million people with access to vital resources and life changing programs across South Asia.















Reach out to Asia (ROTA) / Qatar Foundation

Reach Out to Asia (Member of the Qatar Foundation), in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, is partnering with READ in Nepal on a four-year, \$2 million grant that is allowing us to significantly increase the number of READ Centers, develop new youth programs, and strengthen our information and communications technology (ICT) resources and programs-benefiting approximately 100,000 people.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation continues to be an integral partner for READ, providing capacity-building funding to help strengthen our program design, ICT offerings, monitoring and evaluation processes, and fundraising capacity.

Caterpillar

Caterpillar Foundation has partnered with READ to continue our expansion in India to the states of Karnataka and Maharashtra. Through this four-year, \$500,000 partnership which began in 2012, we will establish five to six READ Centers and provide communities with educational programs that will benefit an estimated 25,000 people.

Walmart India

Walmart India completed a three-year partnership with READ in 2014. This women's empowerment initiative in rural Rajasthan, India provided education, leadership development, and livelihood training to more than 2,500 women in the underprivileged community of Geejgarh, enabling them to read and write, take the lead in various village forums, and increase their livelihoods by stitching dresses and cloth shopping bags.

Norwegian Amateur Theatre Association and Kayli Trust

The Norwegian Amateur Theatre Association and Kavli Trust are partnering with READ in Nepal to expand an educational theatre program to three rural communities. The two-year grant will provide activities and trainings on women's rights, health, domestic violence, and leadership for 6,000 girls and women.

BeautifulStore

The BeautifulStore Foundation is partnering with READ on a three-year grant to establish a READ Center in Nepal and provide trainings in information and communications technology, literacy, and women's empowerment.













Swades Foundation and READ are working together to expand our work into rural Maharashtra, India, through the establishment of new centers to provide an array of trainings that will empower thousands of rural villagers.

READ launched information and communications technology pilots in 2014 in partnership with the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), to upgrade READ Center computer sections by installing new hardware and alternative energy sources.

Practical Action and READ are together implementing the Practical Answers program to solicit and respond to thousands of questions from rural villagers on livelihoods, health, and other concerns. Practical Action provides both program and financial support to the program.

FEATURED IN-KIND PARTNERS

READ collaborated with the Stanford Graduate School of Business to bring four pro bono Global Management Immersion Experience (GMIX) Student Advisors to Bhutan and Nepal to conduct feasibility studies and create business plans for new sustaining enterprises.

Bryan Cave serves as a pro bono counsel to READ Global in supporting the legal needs of the organization.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Students at the Singapore American School launched a student-run Service Club to support READ's work. In 2014, they raised over \$50,000 to support the establishment of the Yangthang READ Center in Bhutan.

READ Global was founded by Myths and Mountains President Dr. Antonia Neubauer in 1991, and operated as the nonprofit arm of the company for many years. Since that time, both Myths and Mountains and its clients have provided valuable support of READ's work.

Other In-Kind Partners (\$1,000 and above)

TechSoup

Salesforce.com

Other Institutional Supporters (\$1,000 and above)

Dollar A Day

Enterprise Holdings Foundation

Gone Reading International LLC

HomeNet South Asia / SAARC Business Association of Home Based Workers

John Robert Gregg Fund/New York Community Trust

National Mission for Empowerment of Women, Ministry of Women and Child Development: Government of India The Red Sari

The Shelley and Donald Rubin Foundation

T&J Meyer Family Foundation

The West Foundation

Employee Matching Gift Programs (\$1,000 and above)

Agron, Inc

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Google

If you are interested in learning about how your company/organization can partner with READ Global, please contact us at partners@readglobal.org

Financial Summary

2014 was a year of increased capacity-building across the organization and expanding our programmatic impact.

In the third year of a 4-year capacity-building grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, READ spent grant funds to hire consultants who helped develop the capacity of our local teams to manage and sustain newly-upgraded ICT infrastructure across our three countries. We also invested in librarian training to ensure that READ Centers are equipped to meet the specific needs of their communities.

READ secured a major 4-year grant from the Reach Out to Asia Foundation and recognized the entire amount of that grant in 2014, per IRS regulations, although READ only received the first installment of the grant in 2014. Thus, our percentage of revenues from foundations is much higher than it has been in past years.

In addition, READ Global secured grants from major corporate funders in past years, including Caterpillar and Walmart India, and continued to conduct a number of programmatic activities in 2014 utilizing grant funds received and recognized as revenue in earlier years. Thus, revenue from these corporate donors is not reflected in our 2014 numbers.







EXPENSES BY FUNCTION

Programs 72% **Fundraising** 14% Administrative 14%

EXPENSES BY COUNTRY

56% Nepal 30% India **Bhutan** 14%

SOURCES OF REVENUE

Foundations 46% 42% Individuals Other 12%

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

(US Dollars)	2014	2013
TOTAL REVENUE	2,490,725	1,092,693
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Programs		
READ Center Construction,		
Setup, & Trainings	828,019	554,520
Personnel Expenses	543,616	456,814
Operating Expenses	142,040	146,467
Travel	83,568	125,907
Professional Services	107,418	98,776
Total Program Expenses	1,704,663	1,382,484
Administrative	341,987	245,284
Fundraising	328,323	419,876
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,374,973	2,047,644
Unrestricted Net Assets at the		
Beginning of the Year	(54,456)	329,901
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets		
at the Beginning of the Year	3,573,986	4,144,581
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets	423,983	(384,356)
Change in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	(308,231)	(570,595)
NET ASSETS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	3,635,282	3,519,531

Looking Ahead

We remain committed to empowering communities in rural South Asia in 2015 by establishing new READ Centers, offering high-quality programs, and providing access to cutting-edge resources and trainings on 21st century skills. In our earthquake rebuilding efforts in Nepal, we will work with our partners to help build resilient communities that will be equipped to manage future natural disasters while also meeting their day-to-day needs.

- We will establish or rebuild at least 10 centers, expanding to new villages across our three countries.
- We will diversify our funding base and leverage partnerships to work collaboratively toward our common vision of sustainable community change.
- · We will partner in a more meaningful way with corporations, utilizing both their financial resources and human capital to work together to meet our shared goals.
- We will support the post-2015 sustainable development goals and focus more resources on economic empowerment by developing livelihood skills, increasing financial literacy, and leveraging micro-finance and savings cooperatives.

- We will scale our successful ICT pilots across our network of READ Centers to connect more rural villagers with the internet and train them on the skills needed to participate in a more global and connected economy.
- We will continue to invest in our local teams and the community members who manage READ Centers, with a continued emphasis on empowering women leaders and youth to create change in their own communities.

We look forward to sharing updates with you in 2015 through our website, newsletter, and social media.





LEADERSHIP

U.S. MANAGEMENT TEAM

Tina Sciabica

Executive Director

Naita Saechao Chialvo

Deputy Director

ASIA MANAGEMENT TEAM

Karma Lhazom

Bhutan Country Director

Geeta Malhotra

India Country Director

Sanjana Shrestha

Nepal Country Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Strategy and Ops Manager, Effectiveness, Google

Brian Bannon

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Raphael Bemporad

Co-Founder and Chief Strategy Officer, BBMG

Janice Bertozzi

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Melissa Anderson

Child Psychologist

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Partner, New Harbor Capital LLC

Dr. Antonia Neubauer (Founder)

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Karen Sage

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Sean Wallace

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