



ODFL Project Details

Charambi Birthing Center

Bhojpur, Nepal



PROJECT NAME: Charambi Birthing Center

PROJECT SUMMARY: With ODFL’s help, One Heart Worldwide will upgrade the existing government health post at Charambi into a fully functioning certified birthing center (BC) where basic emergency obstetric care can be provided.

PROJECT PARTNERS:

- 1) One Dollar for Life (ODFL)
 - 2) One Heart Worldwide (OHW)
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- 1) One Dollar For Life (ODFL) helps American investors build small-scale infrastructure projects in the developing world from donations as small as one dollar (hence its name).

Since its founding in 2007, ODFL has completed 121 such projects in 15 countries in Asia, Central America, and Africa. ODFL is an IRS registered 501c3 nonprofit.

- 2) One Heart Worldwide (OHW) is a 501c3 nonprofit which aims to end preventable maternal and newborn deaths in the most remote parts of the world by improving access to quality healthcare. Since its work in Nepal began in 2010, OHW has impacted nearly 200,000 pregnancies across 18 districts of rural Nepal by strengthening existing infrastructure, including the renovation of 345 health facilities enabling them to become certified birthing centers.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT (for all listed above):

One Dollar For Life

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PROJECT DATES:

Project will commence once the MOU is signed, currently scheduled for September 2019. The upgrade process typically requires 3-6 months for completion.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY AND PROJECT:

Located in the eastern mountains of Bhojpur district, Charambi is the largest and most remote ward within the Arun rural municipality. There is very little access to transportation. The nearest hospital for any kind of emergency referral is in Dharan, a 6 hour drive *when* a vehicle is available. Most of the people living in Charambi are subsistence farmers. Despite being heavily impacted by the 2015 earthquakes, this

small community has not received much support as other more easily accessible and heavily populated areas were prioritized during government rebuilding efforts.

Charambi itself represents a population of 2,441 but extends services to nearby communities for a total catchment of 7,567 people. Of the 64 annual pregnancies, 54 typically result in live births. While only 18 mothers delivered at the health post last year, this number has been on the rise for the past 3 years, and the health staff has been working hard to improve the facility's capacity.

The health facility consists of 4 rooms. Space is cramped and both labor, delivery, and recovery must share the same room. Additionally, the health facility lacks essential medical equipment and supplies for safe delivery. The single skilled birthing attendant (SBA) on staff does her best to provide 24 hour maternal neonatal health care with the support of 3 other non-SBA staff. The local Health Facility Operation and Management Committee (HFOMC) is as supportive as they can be and have advocated with the municipality to allocate additional resources to improve the facility's healthcare delivery services, including electricity and regular running water.

The municipality recently allocated a small plot of land to provide space for the construction of a needed placenta pit and even small living quarters for the health staff. Additionally, thanks to encouragement from the HFOMC, the community itself, and evidence from OHW's other projects, **the municipality has agreed to a 35% contribution towards the total estimated cost for renovation.**

ANTICIPATED BENEFITS:

The Project will upgrade Charambi Health Facility into a fully-functioning birthing center. Following completion of the project this upgraded BC will be able to offer:

- Appropriate prenatal care and safe motherhood education to expectant mothers
- 2 skilled birth attendants per facility to be able to deal with basic obstetric/neonatal complications for each delivery on call 24/7
- A clean, well-equipped and private birthing environment
- Appropriate postnatal care in a clean and respectful environment

PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES:

The primary beneficiaries for this program are the 64 women expected to become pregnant each year. 54 mothers and their expected newborns will benefit from the

specialized pregnancy, childbirth, and newborn care at the birthing center, as well as sadly, the 10 mothers expected to experience the loss of their pregnancy. The indirect beneficiaries include the families.

IMPACT METRICS (BOTH LONG AND SHORT TERM):

Short Term Impact Metrics (within 3 years)

- 20% increase in appropriate antenatal care attendance
- 30% increase in deliveries with skilled birth attendant
- 30% increase in institutional deliveries

Long Term Impact Metrics

- 50% decrease in maternal mortality
- 50% decrease in newborn mortality

BUDGET SUMMARY:

Materials	\$ 3,750
Labor	\$ 1,600
Transportation	\$ 1,000
Other	<u>\$ 850</u>
Total	\$ 7,200

Costs will include rebuilding walls impacted by the earthquake; repainting the walls; replacing the roof, doors, and windows; new ceiling and floors; and creating designated space for both Labor & Delivery, as well as Recovery. Costs also include transportation of all materials and skilled labor not locally available.

PROPOSAL SUMMARY:

To increase access to quality maternal and newborn health services, One Heart Worldwide will upgrade the existing government health post at Charambi into a fully functioning, certified birthing center (BC) where basic emergency obstetric care can be provided. We will provide structural renovations to increase the physical capacity of the facility, and provide standard medical equipment and supplies to improve the service capacity of the health staff. As part of the staffing upgrade, OHW will train an additional nurse to become a certified Skilled Birth Attendant.