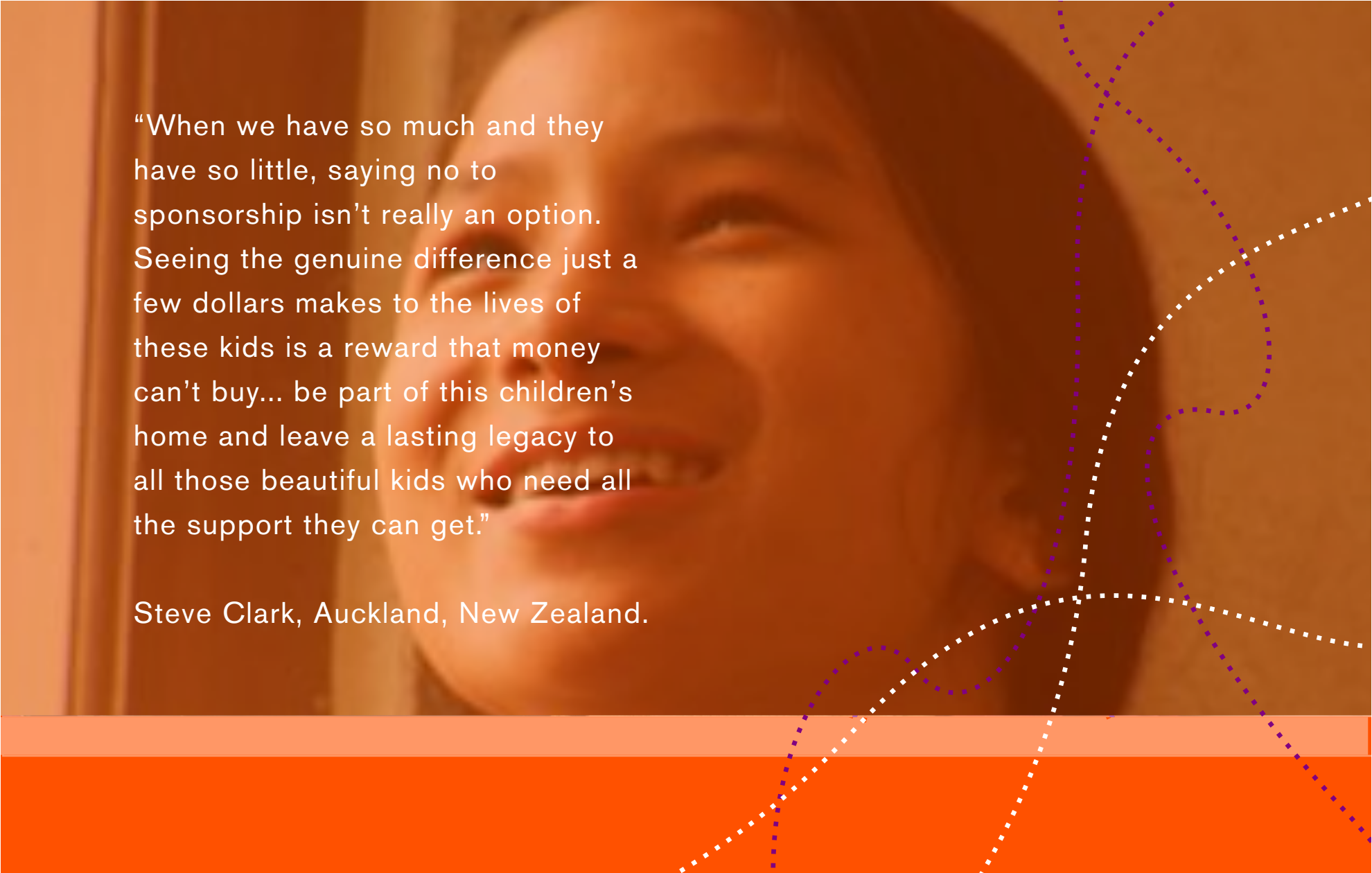




Shining Stars Children's Home

"helping others to help themselves"





“When we have so much and they have so little, saying no to sponsorship isn’t really an option. Seeing the genuine difference just a few dollars makes to the lives of these kids is a reward that money can’t buy... be part of this children’s home and leave a lasting legacy to all those beautiful kids who need all the support they can get.”

Steve Clark, Auckland, New Zealand.

In December 2004 Volunteer Service in Nepal began assisting a poorly managed children's home just outside Kathmandu, with the aim of reversing years of poor practice and to help the home find a way out of its current situation. Alas, VSN's efforts were in vain. The home was in such disarray that in September 2006 the Child Welfare Board of Kathmandu (CWB) decided to rescue the children and re-home them. A month later VSN was approached by the CWB and asked to take guardianship of the children. In December 2006, VSN transferred 28 raggedy children to a newly rented home in Budhanilkantha, north of Kathmandu and thus VSN's Shining Stars Children's Home (SSCH) officially opened its doors.

With the children growing fast thanks to a healthy diet, good living conditions and a whole lot of love, VSN announced its 'Dreaming of New Home' campaign to raise enough funds to purchase land and build a second home, a facility to provide a permanent, safe loving home for 30 children.

On July 1st 2007 VSN purchased a 2,100Sqm plot of land in Badikhel SE of Kathmandu and only a 40 minute walk from its first home, Brighter Future Children's Home (BFCH) . In March 2008, SSCH was transferred to another rented home in Taukhel, in order to place the children into the same school as their BFCH brothers and sisters, the same one they would continue to attend upon completion of their new home. On the 25th August 2010, after almost four years of planning and fundraising VSN finally moved the Shining Stars children into their own, purpose built home, thus providing them with a home where they can take refuge from the world, feel safe, feel loved, be happy and grow healthily.

At SSCH, VSN provides stable, reliable and loving care for up to 30 children, offering a family atmosphere that encourages positive growth and development with the view to the children becoming successful, compassionate adults, who will be able to contribute positively to their community and country.

Welcome to VSN's Shining Stars Family
Thank you for choosing to become a
sponsor.


Your money will help VSN make a huge difference to the orphaned, destitute and displaced children that make up VSN's Shining Stars. By becoming a sponsor, you join the VSN Shining Stars family and give not only money, but love, support and a sense of security to the children.

Getting the most from your sponsorship.

This leaflet is designed to help you get the most from your sponsorship and to answer any questions you may have. However, if there's anything else you'd like to know, please don't hesitate to contact us at:

Volunteer Service in Nepal (VSN), PO Box 15142,
KPC 901, Thamel, Kathmandu, Nepal.
T: +(977) 1 4700149 E: vsnpjrojects.vsn@gmail.com
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your sponsorship



By sponsoring VSN's Shining Stars Children's Home (SSCH) you'll be helping provide shelter, nutritious food, clean water, health care, a quality education, loving support staff, clothing and much more, allowing the children to grow at their own pace into responsible adults without losing their childhood. The annual running costs for the home are in the region of US \$40,000.00 and any contribution to help us meet this will be hugely appreciated.

As a SSCH sponsor you'll receive an annual report on the home and its children, outlining the year's events, the children's progress, photos, pictures, letters and a whole lot more. You will also receive a copy of our quarterly newsletter, keeping you up to date on all VSN's projects and activities. In order to reduce costs, all correspondence will be via email.

why & what to expect

92% of your donation goes directly to supporting the children, while the other 8% helps towards covering VSN's administration costs. Your sponsorship money is used to support the monthly running costs of the home, covering everything from home staff salaries, education fees, food, utility bills, clothes, healthcare, activities for the children and much more.



how is my money spent?




"The SSCH kids have been entirely transformed by VSN and gifts from sponsors like you. They were quiet, shy, malnourished and many were sick. They had no real education and no chance of getting any. Now they are bright, excited and full of life, healthy and well educated....and no longer shy (!). The difference that has been made over the past 5 years in these kids lives has been truly remarkable! A little goes a long way in Nepal....healthy food, safe accommodation and private education are cheap by western standards, so your small amount of money means you see a massive difference. If you met them even for a day, you would go away changed. They give you far more back than you can ever give them".

Natasha Robinson & Buzz Bartholomew,
Aberdeenshire, UK

The decision to become a sponsor is an entirely personal one. Should you choose to help our Shining Stars, all we ask is that you make your monthly minimum contribution for as long as you are able. If for any reason you should decide to discontinue your sponsorship, we just ask that you email and let us know in advance of your withdrawal from the programme. We also accept one-off donations towards the costs of the home.

Over and above this, we ask that you email us a recent photo and a short paragraph about yourself, your family and your country, so the children can learn a little bit about the people helping to support them.

Am I under any obligation?

A photograph of children on a bus, overlaid with an orange color scheme. The image shows a young boy in the foreground looking slightly to the side, and another child smiling in the background. A person wearing glasses is visible on the right side of the bus. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent orange layer. Two decorative dotted lines, one white and one purple, curve across the bottom half of the image.

You can use one of two methods to get your sponsorship money to VSN. You can either use your local 'Friend of VSN' who will collect and forward your sponsorship on our behalf, or you can arrange a direct transfer to our INGO account here in Nepal. We currently have 'Friends of VSN', all of which are registered charities, in Australia, New Zealand, Ireland and the USA.

Please note, depending on the method of your sponsorship, charges may be incurred at the point of donation. We encourage our sponsors where possible, to set up a direct debit for their sponsorship, thus enabling us some level of income management. Please contact us for further details.

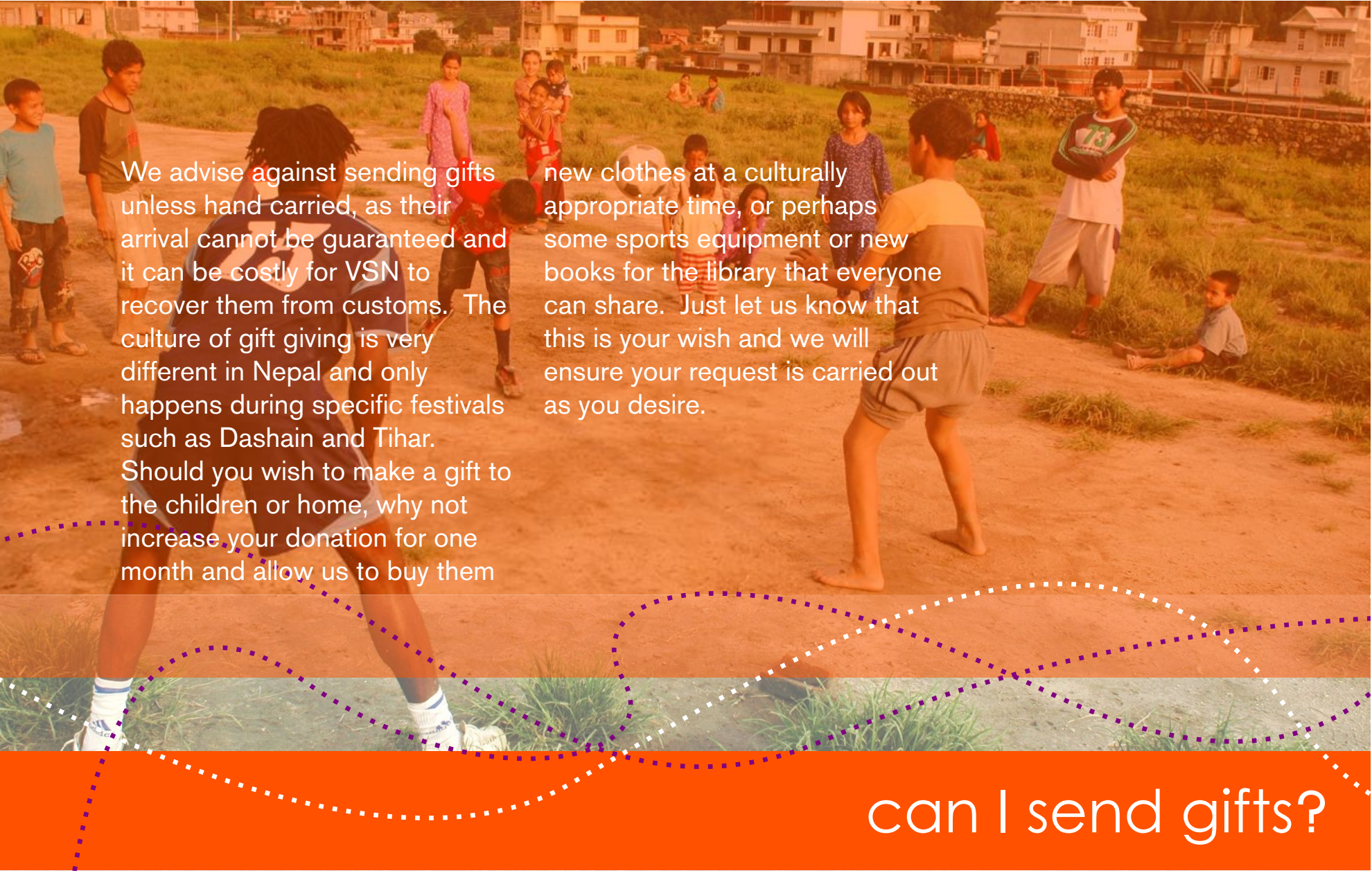
how do I get my money to VSN?

Should you find yourself in Nepal, you are welcome to visit the home and children, all we ask is that you contact us in advance via the main office, so we can arrange a mutually convenient date and time. Please feel free to write to our children and home staff. Why not send them a festival appropriate card e.g. Dashain, Tihar or Nepali New Year? Don't worry about language problems, as all our children speak and read English, and if there are any difficulties, there's always a member of staff or VSN representative to translate. The children love to learn about different

people, places and customs, so why not include photos, post cards, stories, information about unique aspects of your country and culture. Please send your letters etc via the VSN office address.

Please bear in mind that we don't pressurise our children to write back to their sponsors, although some of the older children may wish to. All the children however, will be encouraged to contribute to the annual update.

can I write and visit the children?



We advise against sending gifts unless hand carried, as their arrival cannot be guaranteed and it can be costly for VSN to recover them from customs. The culture of gift giving is very different in Nepal and only happens during specific festivals such as Dashain and Tihar. Should you wish to make a gift to the children or home, why not increase your donation for one month and allow us to buy them

new clothes at a culturally appropriate time, or perhaps some sports equipment or new books for the library that everyone can share. Just let us know that this is your wish and we will ensure your request is carried out as you desire.

can I send gifts?

Why be a long term SSCH sponsor?

ONE: Because I can.

Years ago, I did a reality check with my personal budget. I found that I was spending frivolously on items that I really did not need. I swapped my daily bought coffee for a plunger and ground coffee. Hot water is free. You don't just get a buzz off the coffee either...now I often I think back to when I bought a \$3.50 coffee each day... and smile.

TWO: I know the children.

Many of you will have the pleasure of meeting the likes of Kheme or little Nara. When you get to know people, it is hard to forget them and become interested in their well-being; no matter who it is. It's

exciting and rewarding knowing that I have invested interest in their futures!

THREE: It's not about quantity.

..It's about consistency. Raising a one-off donation for charity is not necessarily the best thing to do. SSCH requires consistent funds to keep all of the kids happy and healthy. It doesn't need to be much, it just needs to be ongoing.

FOUR: I know what the money is spent on.

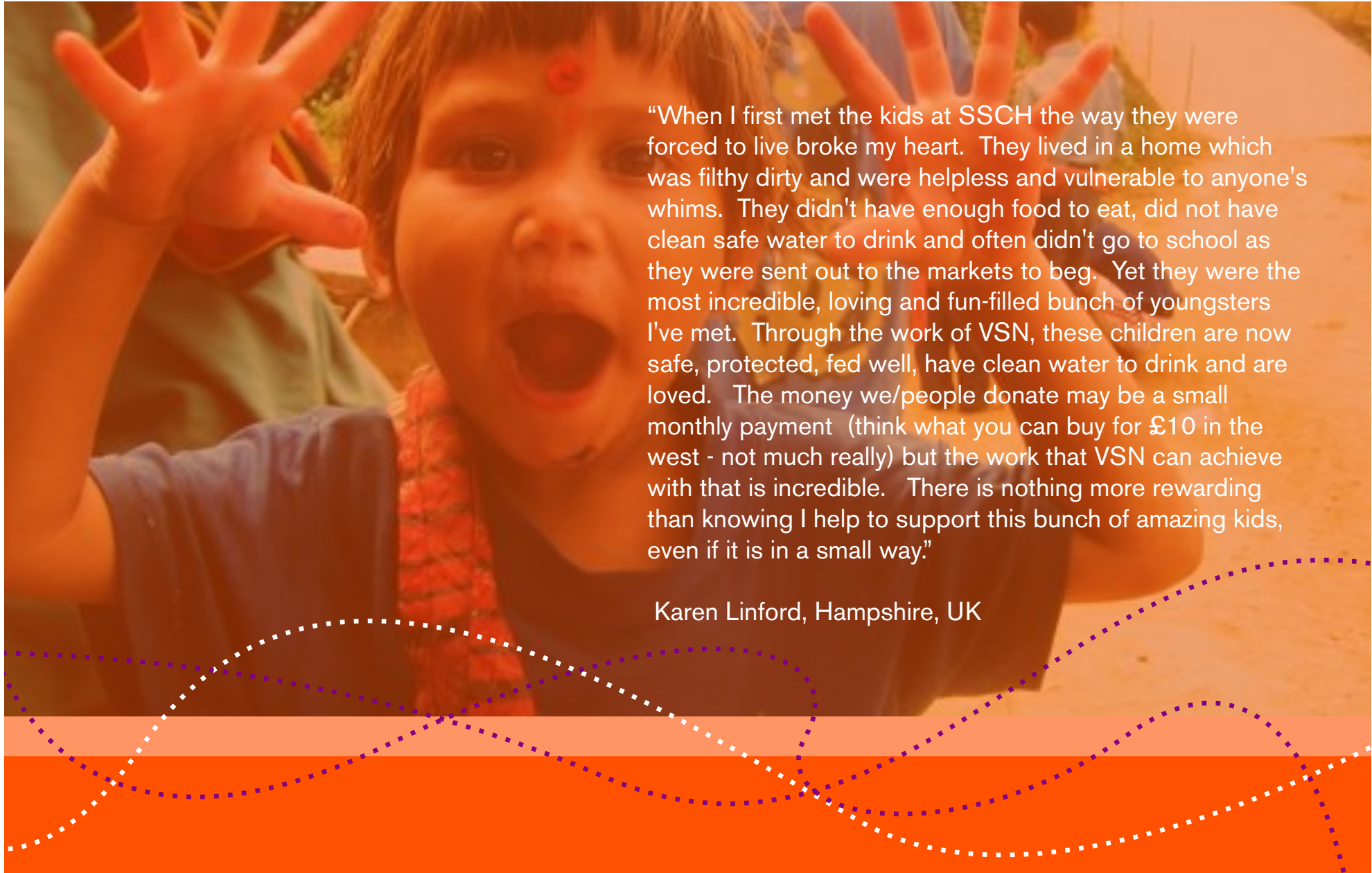
It is important to know where your donations are going with any charity in the world. With SSCH you can be sure that the money is going to

the right place. The children are always very grateful for the volunteers who come in and spend time with them - they are also grateful for financial help that many provide to keep them living in a happy, healthy and fun environment. At the end of the day, SSCH gives them pretty nice lives - what better cause than 27 kids in one house!

FIVE: It gives you another reason to go back there. Awesome.

Clare Healy, Auckland, New Zealand.

in your words



“When I first met the kids at SSCH the way they were forced to live broke my heart. They lived in a home which was filthy dirty and were helpless and vulnerable to anyone's whims. They didn't have enough food to eat, did not have clean safe water to drink and often didn't go to school as they were sent out to the markets to beg. Yet they were the most incredible, loving and fun-filled bunch of youngsters I've met. Through the work of VSN, these children are now safe, protected, fed well, have clean water to drink and are loved. The money we/people donate may be a small monthly payment (think what you can buy for £10 in the west - not much really) but the work that VSN can achieve with that is incredible. There is nothing more rewarding than knowing I help to support this bunch of amazing kids, even if it is in a small way.”

Karen Linford, Hampshire, UK



Volunteer Service in Nepal

“helping others to help themselves”

Volunteer Service in Nepal is a non-profit,
non-government organisation.

District Administration Office Reg No: 151.061.062

Social Welfare Council Affiliation No: 17478

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thank you