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## **Our Vision and Mission**

Vision: Women and girls leading alongside men.

Mission: To provide young women in Nepal with the skills, support & opportunities to become leaders and change-makers in their schools, communities & nation.



## The founders' story

- "An idea born in a dorm room": Two young Georgetown grads, Claire Naylor grew up in Nepal witnessing the discrimination against women, Claire Charamnac grew up in Singapore.
- They met at Georgetown and started Women LEAD as a two week program with 28 girls in 2010, winning a small grant from Ashoka Youth Venture
- After graduation, officially launched the organization and have worked as co-Executive Directors, Claire N in Nepal and Claire C in the US



# Why Women LEAD?

Young women represent a strong force for change: 30% of Nepal's population are women under the age of 24\* but...

- Their voices are not being heard: their opinions are rarely valued in Nepali society. Women hold fewer than 20% of national decision-making positions globally, and only 10% in Nepal.
- They rarely have power over their own lives: they don't feel like they can make decisions in their lives.
- They don't have access to resources & opportunities: they do not receive the same educational and professional opportunities as men do. Less than 2 cents of every development dollar goes to girls and 9 of 10 youth programs are aimed at boys.

<sup>\* 7,336,363 (27.7%</sup> of the total population) according to Nepal's 2011 National Population and Housing Census



### **Our Solution**

We are the first and only leadership development organization for female high school students in Kathmandu, Nepal.

We identify & invest in a small group of diverse young women (16-18 years) and youth (14-15 years) who have the potential to become the next generation of leaders in Nepal.

Our programs provide young women with intensive yearlong leadership training, skills building, mentoring, and a peer-support network.



## A LEADer's year-long journey



WLEAD selects an intelligent and passionate high school senior with leadership potential through a competitive application process. She attends a two-week Leadership Institute where she connects with like-minded peers, builds her leadership and professional skills through workshops and field trips, and learns about current issues in Nepal by engaging with female guest-speakers.

The LEADer is then paired with a female professional in Kathmandu who mentors her over the course of the year as she participates in one of two activism tracks (5 hours/ week for 9 months).

#### **LEADERSHIP**

She is trained to co-lead weekly leadership workshops for 25 students aged 14-15 in her school. She runs 15 two-hour sessions and helps the participants launch an activism campaign after the workshops.

#### **DEVELOPMENT**

She interns at a Nepali NGO to build her professional skills and gain experience in a field of her choice.



## Our LEADers...

- Gain confidence in their abilities and skills
- Self-identify as leaders
- Raise their voices to advocate for change
- Form and articulate their career goals
- Become more politically aware and active



### Results

- 400 leaders have graduated from our organization.
- 87% of our 2010 graduates are attending university, studying subjects such as dental surgery, biotechnology, business, physiotherapy, architecture, civil engineering and accounting.



## Help us by...

- 1. Sponsoring a Young Leader's year-long scholarship (\$40/month)- All donations will be generously matched by Georgetown University, which means your donation will have double its impact!
- 2. Donating laptops and cameras for our office in Nepal.
- 3. Volunteer to start a team here in Singapore
- 4. Connect with us:

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