Summer Spotlight: Marla in Nepal

Marla Borkson, one of the EFTI board members, has spent the past two months with America Nepal Medical Foundation [ANMF], a U.S. based nonprofit organization with branches in both America and Nepal, supporting the Nepali people’s ongoing efforts to enhance their health status. ANMF focuses on improving the quality of medical care, medical education and medical research in Nepal.

Marla lived in Nepal for five months working with IN-GOs in 2014. In the aftermath of the April 25th earthquake, Marla decided to return to Nepal to aid with the relief efforts in Kathmandu and the other 13 affected districts. With teams of doctors, nurses, volunteers, and partner organizations, ANMF has traveled to over 60 remote villages and small towns in the mountains close to the earthquake epicenters.

While there, ANMF provided mobile health camps/pharmacies, acutely treated victims, stocked local health posts with necessary medicine/supplies, and distributed basic commodities such as rice, lentils, blankets, and tents.
Now that the acute relief is coming to an end, ANMF is focusing on more long term initiatives. These include psychological support/mental health, public health outreach, physical rehabilitation, and more. Marla is currently working on a number of projects with ANMF as well as supporting all office and administrative functions. With the government, ANMF has submitted a proposal to rebuild destroyed health post in the Sindhupalchowk, a badly damaged region, so people in remote areas can have access to health care. Marla traveled to several affected regions, assessing what the situation is and assisting with health camps. Additionally, she has written several proposals relating to mental health and rebuilding schools.

Marla is enjoying Nepal and will be back in August to return to law school. She encourages anyone with questions about Nepal to reach out to her. Her organization can be found at: http://americanepalmedicalfoundation.com/