

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Press Release**

## Annapurna trek to defeat leprosy

- Challenge to walk the Annapurna Trek in Nepal
- Event to help transform the lives of people affected by leprosy

Trek Annapurna and have a life-transforming experience for you and people affected by leprosy.

The Leprosy Mission Australia is challenging participants to trek the Annapurna trail in Nepal to "defeat leprosy" in November 2017. With stunning Himalayan views, high passes, traditional teahouses, tiny hamlets, prayer flags and hot springs, the Annapurna region is among the best trekking destinations in the world. Participants will spend six days trekking the Annapurna region by day, and spend their nights under the stars and in traditional tea lodges. Participants will also visit the Self Care Unit at Anandaban Leprosy Hospital and visit a Self Help Group for people affected by leprosy for a welcoming ceremony and a traditional meal.

Funds raised in this challenge will go towards The Leprosy Mission Australia's PACED CHAMP project. This project works in a participatory way to improve the social, material and health-related well-being of people affected by leprosy and disability, as well as other marginalised people, from selected communities in the Chitwan, Makwanpur and Parsa districts of Nepal.

Funds raised from the trek will provide health education, increase awareness about leprosy, microfinance small businesses, develop local communities, and help construct toilets and clean water facilities.

The Leprosy Mission is a leading international Christian organisation with over 130 years of experience. The Leprosy Mission is a worldwide partnership, active in over 50 countries, with a vision for a world without leprosy and a passion to eradicate the causes and consequences of leprosy. The Annapurna Trek to defeat leprosy is in partnership with Inspired Adventures.

"I felt in my heart that God has made us all equal but some people have a much harder journey. Just seeing the inequality of our world in terms of the difficulty that some people go through—yet they still have joy in their hearts."

—Chrisy Savvides, former adventurer with The Leprosy Mission Australia

For more information go to trek17.leprosymission.org.au