ReSurge International reconstructed my body. I took my life back. CRIED MY MOTHER OVER MY SEVERELY BURNED

Aayush Deykota, 11 - Nepal, ReSurge Patient Working towards being the next Ronaldo **BODY AT 6 MONTHS OLD** 



ReSurge International

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## AAYUSH IS A CONFIDENT BOY WHO LOVES SOCCER AND DREAMS TO SEE HIS FAVORITE PLAYER RONALDO SCORE LIVE ONE DAY.

His mother, Sarita, is his strongest advocate. As an infant, Aayush suffered severe burns from an open-fire cooking accident, leaving him with extensive scarring that made it difficult for him to open his mouth to eat or use his hands for daily activities. Not too long after, Aayush's father left the family, leaving Sarita to fend for herself and their son.

Sarita feared that Aayush would never be able to dream big or have a bright future. Everyone around them lost hope, but something in Sarita told her to keep persevering and stay positive for her son. Sarita's hope was ignited

"You have to be positive and strong in this life. If we can do it, you can do it." —Sarita

when she met ReSurge coordinator Hemanta Joshi while selling vegetable soup at her market stall. Hemanta brought Aayush to ReSurge's nearby outreach clinic. There, Aayush's future was rebuilt with reconstructive surgeries that restored function in his lips and hands.

Today, Aayush is surrounded by neighborhood friends. Like many 11-year-olds, they love to play soccer and dream about the future.

Sarita taught Aayush to have confidence and hope—ReSurge reconstructed Aayush's body —and your donations make it possible.

Together we are restoring dreams and closing the gap to reconstructive surgery once and for all.







YOUR URGENT DONATION IS NEEDED NOW!



HELP RESURGE CLOSE THE GAP TO RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY ONCE AND FOR ALL FOR PATIENTS LIKE AAYUSH.

# You will be inamed. rever

SO MY TEENAGE ReSurge International ACID ATTACKER reconstructed my body.

THOUGHT I took my life back.

\_\_\_\_\_ Muskan Khatun, 20 - Nepal, ReSurge Patient International Women of Courage Award Recipient, Activist



ReSurge

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## MUSKAN IS A 2021 INTERNATIONAL WOMAN OF COURAGE AWARD WINNER, RESURGE PATIENT, AND ACID ATTACK SURVIVOR.

At the age of 15, Muskan Khatun was brutally attacked by a group of boys from her school who threw a jug of acid on her face, hands, and chest after she rejected a romantic proposition.

The ensuing years were filled with both pain and healing at Kirtipur Hospital under the care of local ReSurge surgeons. With the support of her doctors and family, Muskan decided that she would not be ashamed, she

would not let her attacker win, and she would not stand idle when such violence happened to others.

Muskan summoned the strength to advocate for stronger laws against acid attacks: she spoke before parliament, wrote to the Prime Minister, and eventu"From the hospital bed, I raised my voice, so that others won't have to go through the same."

—Muskan

ally met with him in person. Within a year of her attack, there was a new ordinance with harsher penalties for acid attacks and regulations on the sale of acids.

In 2021, this resilient ReSurge patient was awarded the International Woman of Courage Award and is currently applying to colleges to pursue her dreams of becoming a human rights lawyer.

ReSurge reconstructed Muskan's body – Muskan took back her life – and your donations make it possible.

Together we are restoring gender equity and closing the gap to reconstructive surgery once and for all.









HELP RESURGE CLOSE THE GAP TO RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY ONCE AND FOR ALL FOR PATIENTS LIKE MUSKAN.

WHAT MY MOTHER WAS TOLD WHEN I WAS BORN WITH A CLEFT LIP

ReSurge International reconstructed my body. I took my life back.

Dilasha Hamal, 8 - Nepal, ReSurge Patient With smiles as bright as her future







## DILASHA IS PASSIONATE ABOUT DRAWING, SINGING, AND PLAYING WITH THE KITTENS ON HER FAMILY'S MOUNTAIN FARM.

Eight-year-old Dilasha lives in the remote mountains of Nepal. Her family farms rice, corn and ghords and her mother, Lalita, teaches in a small four-room school. Their community is only accessible by foot or by 4x4 vehicle, requiring a journey across mountainous terrain and eleven river-stream crossings to reach the main road.

Dilasha was born with a cleft lip, a revelation that initially brought her mother to tears. "When I found out, I cried very much because it would affect her speech, nutrition, and prospects for the future. On top of it all, I thought I would never see my daughter smile," Lalita shared.

Accessing medical care in remote areas is a challenge for rural communities. ReSurge's outreach programs are closing this access gap to ensure patients like Dilasha get the care they deserve. Lalita and Dilasha journeyed for days to a ReSurge center, where they received life-changing reconstructive surgery at no cost to their family. Post-operation, Lalita expressed profound relief: "After the surgery, I heard her voice more clearly; and we are so happy. Now my favorite thing is to make her laugh and smile."

Dilasha now looks forward to a future of possibilities. For now, she loves singing, games of chess with her mother, and playing with the animals on the farm.

ReSurge reconstructed Dilasha's cleft – Lalita loves to make her daughter smile – and your donations make it possible.

Together we are building access and closing the gap to reconstructive surgery once and for all.





YOUR URGENT DONATION IS NEEDED NOW!



HELP RESURGE CLOSE THE GAP TO RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY ONCE AND FOR ALL FOR PATIENTS LIKE DILASHA.



ReSurge International reconstructed my body. I took my life back. SAID MY HUSBAND WHO THREW ACID ON ME

— Jenny Khadka, 25 - Nepal, ReSurge Patient Miss Nepal, 2023 Winner Beauty with Compassion









## "YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE PRETTY." THOSE CRUEL WORDS MARKED A TURNING POINT FOR JENNY KHATUN, TRANSFORMING HER ORDEAL INTO A JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE AND EMPOWERMENT.

Now 25, Jenny is an acid attack survivor and a burn patient counselor at ReSurge International's hospital in Kathmandu. Born into a family that longed for sons, Jenny's early life was overshadowed by societal biases. She was forced into a child marriage at 14, and motherhood by 16, to a husband who was a cruel alcoholic

Enduring years of abuse, Jenny eventually fled to Kathmandu seeking peace. However, her past caught up with her when her husband found her and attacked her with acid during an argument. Treated at Kirtipur Hospital, Jenny met another survivor whose optimism inspired her own healing journey. After recovering, Jenny dedicated herself to supporting others at the very hospital where she herself was treated, transitioning from patient to counselor.

Today, Jenny is not just a counselor; she's a symbol of hope for other ReSurge patients. Winning the title of "Beauty with Compassion" at Miss Nepal 2023, she now advocates for other survivors of gender-based violence and burn injuries, aspiring to model and defy stigmas associated with scars. Through her work and public life, Jenny embodies the change she wishes to see, showing that true beauty and strength emerge not in spite of scars, but because of them.

ReSurge reconstructed Jenny's scars – Jenny celebrates the beauty in herself and others – and your donations make it possible.

Together we are restoring gender equity and closing the gap to reconstructive surgery once and for all.





YOUR URGENT DONATION IS NEEDED NOW!



HELP RESURGE CLOSE THE GAP TO RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY ONCE AND FOR ALL FOR PATIENTS LIKE JENNY.

# ou Will Never

ReSurge International reconstructed my body. I took my life back. SAID THE PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE MY CONDITION
IS A CURSE

Rajkumari, 18 - India, epilepsy warrior, burn survivor, ReSurge Patient Aspiring chef and animal rescue activist



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### "THEY THOUGHT I WOULDN'T RISE FROM THE ASHES. BUT THEN, I BECAME A QUEEN."

Rajkumari's story is not just one of survival, but of rising regally over adversity—true to her name, which means "princess" in Hindi. In her remote mountain village in Northern India, whispers of curses surrounded her untreated epilepsy, fueling the social stigma associated with this misunderstood neurological disorder. Forced to conceal her condition, she lived under constant threat, especially from the open flames used for cooking—known triggers for epileptic seizures. At 17, while making dinner one night, a seizure caused her to fall unconscious into the flames, resulting in catastrophic injuries. Survival seemed all but impossible.

Rushed to 'Helping Hands Hospital' over six hours away by her uncle, Rajkumari embarked on a grueling journey of physical and emotional healing under the care of Dr. Kush Aeron of ReSurge International. Rajkumari spent months at the hospital, undergoing multiple reconstructive surgeries. Throughout her recovery, Rajkumari gradually rediscovered her inner and outer strength, greatly supported not only by ReSurge surgeons and donors but also by the unwavering emotional support from her sister, Diksha, who stood by her every step of the way.

Today, Rajkumari lives with her extended family, including her sister and a beloved kitten named Whisky, who has brought joy throughout her recovery. While she still has quite a few surgeries to go, Rajkumari stands as a testament to what can be achieved with courage, support, and access to life-changing reconstructive care.

ReSurge reconstructed Rajkumari's scars — Rajkumari rose from the ashes — and your donations make it possible.

Together we are closing the gap to reconstructive surgery once and for all.







YOUR URGENT DONATION IS NEEDED NOW!



HELP RESURGE CLOSE THE GAP TO RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY ONCE AND FOR ALL FOR PATIENTS LIKE RAJKUMARI.