



Tender Hearts Foundation Leads Community Celebration of Nepalese Culture at 4th Annual Dashain Tihar Fest

October 10, 2025

ASHBURN, VA – This past weekend, PKP Tender Hearts Foundation (“Tender Hearts”) led its fourth annual Dashain Tihar – or DT Fest – event for the local community.

The event held at Loudon One, in Ashburn, VA, offered attendees dance and musical performances in traditional Nepalese outfits, locally-made Nepalese food and refreshments, and opportunities to learn and connect with Nepalese-Americans and culture in their own backyard.

Dashain and Tihar are the most significant Hindu festivals in Nepal, both celebrated every autumn. Dashain is a festival that symbolizes the victory of good over evil and is celebrated through family gatherings, blessings from elders, and the ritual of receiving tika and jamara. Tihar is a festival of lights that honors animals, deities, and sibling bonds through worship, lights, and music in close community.

Dashain lasts 15 days whereas Tihar lasts 5 days. Tender Hearts’ festival combined both celebrations into one big event welcome to all who were interested in participating in traditions celebrated across many local Nepalese-American households.

The event was attended by over 8,500 people from the surrounding D.C. metropolitan area, including local elected officials Suhas Subramanyam, U.S. Representative for Virginia's 10th Congressional District and Virginia Delegate Irene Shin. Subramanyam is of Indian-American heritage and has been a longtime supporter of the Nepali-American community.

After the event, Representative Subramanyam said “Virginia is home to a vibrant Nepalese community, and I was honored to join this year's Dishain Tihar Festival to celebrate the rich culture, thriving small businesses, art and music. Thank you to the PKP Tender Hearts Foundation and all the sponsors for bringing this event together”

Prabha Bhattarai Deuja, the founder and president of Tender Hearts, is proud to continue to partner with local organizations committed to supporting a celebration of culture and local heritage.

“Seeing our diaspora gathering, smiling, and enjoying together is a joy in itself and it inspire us to continue doing more for our community.”

This year, this event was organized in partnership with [3E Entertainment](#) & [oNest Real Estate](#).

With continued support, Tender Hearts will continue this tradition.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION:

PKP Tender Hearts Foundations ("Tender Hearts") is a grassroots not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing community advocacy, education and resource guidance, and one-to-one first response support services to individuals in need within the Nepalese-American community in the greater Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Through one-to-one guidance in seeking social services, counseling, healthcare services, legal support services, translation assistance, and more, Tender Hearts helps community members facing family crises, loss, and personal challenges. Tender Hearts recognizes the unique challenges faced by Nepalese-Americans in navigating various systems and accessing essential resources and remains committed to bridging these gaps to ensure their well-being and empowerment.