



DISASTER
RELIEF

MARCH 2010

ONE VOICE



Photograph by Thomas Lay

SHELTERBOX WORK CONTINUES AROUND THE WORLD

ShelterBox responds to any disaster, not just the ones that hit the headlines. While the massive aid delivery to Haiti continues, ShelterBox is carrying on with its vital work responding to disasters around the world.

ShelterBox Head of Operations John Leach said: 'If there's a disaster and people have lost their homes through no fault of their own, we'll respond as quickly as we can with emergency shelter and life-saving supplies.'

SRT members Adrian Sumner (UK) and Lizzie Treglown (UK) are delivering 224 boxes of aid to Egypt after flash floods destroyed hundreds of homes.

In Peru, an SRT made up of Jodie Hurt (UK), Gary Boe (US) and Denise Ho (US) are distributing aid for up to 2,000 people after the region of Cuzco experienced its worst

rain in decades. The team have been working with the Peruvian Red Cross, Rotarians and the National Civil Defence Institute.

ShelterBoxes have also been distributed in Kenya where two ShelterBox Response Teams worked with the Kenyan Red Cross to deliver 224 boxes of aid to the flood-hit region of Turkana. Jess Stanton (UK) and David Webber (UK) were the first team to be deployed followed by Graham Henderson (UK) and Ed Owen (UK).

One tent recipient, Awoi Lomungur, aged 80, from Juluk in Turkana, said: 'It's good that someone has heard of my need and saved me from the rain, wind, heat and mosquitoes. My family can now live independently without having to rely on others.'

NEWS FLASH

At the time of going to print news reached ShelterBox of a massive earthquake in southern Chile. A ShelterBox Response Team was immediately mobilised and an initial consignment of 448 ShelterBoxes were committed to the country.

WHO WE ARE

ShelterBox is an international disaster relief charity, specialising in emergency shelter provision. Humanitarian aid is delivered in iconic green ShelterBoxes. Each one contains a disaster relief tent for up to ten people, water purification equipment, a stove, blankets and other items essential for survival. ShelterBox responds to disaster as quickly as possible with the aim of helping the people who are in most need.

If you've got news you want to share, please contact us.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

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DEAR FRIENDS

ShelterBox is about giving people the hope to survive that comes with having somewhere to call home. The word home means different things to different people but in Haiti there are now nearly 10,000 ShelterBox tents being called home. In the coming weeks and months there'll be thousands more. This is down to you, our supporters. Without you, none of this is possible. Each and every one of you are ShelterBox and you are making the difference, not just in Haiti, but around the world.

Delivering emergency humanitarian aid is about keeping it simple and doing it now. People need our tents and we'll make sure they get them. As well as Haiti, we have ShelterBox Response Teams in Peru and Egypt responding to severe flooding. This

is what we do. It's our mission to provide emergency shelter and life saving supplies after disasters wherever and whenever they strike. Your support is crucial to this mission and in ensuring we maintain our capacity to respond instantly to the next disaster. ShelterBox is about giving back; giving people shelter and warmth, comfort and dignity.

For all the efforts you have gone to so far and the efforts I know you'll continue to go to, we thank you.

Very best wishes,

Rotarian, Tom Henderson OBE
Founder & CEO



ShelterBox tents in Port au Prince, Feb 2010. Photographer Thomas Lay



A man carries on with life. Feb 2010. Photographer Thomas Lay

COUNTRIES AND BOXES 2010

Month	Region	Country	Boxes Sent	Disaster
February	Africa	Egypt	224	Floods
February	South America	Peru	200	Floods
January	Caribbean	Haiti	9,621 to date	Earthquake
January	Africa	Kenya	224	Floods
December	Africa	Malawi	200	Earthquake

Box Total 10,469

REFLECTIONS FROM HAITI



Port au Prince, Haiti, February 2010. Photographer Thomas Lay

ShelterBox Response Team (SRT) member Jane Nash (UK) has just returned from delivering emergency shelter to survivors of the Haiti earthquake. Here the 36-year-old doctor reflects on her work helping those affected by one of the worst disasters the world has ever seen:

'In Port au Prince we were distributing boxes by proactively looking for areas of need and responding to the different organisations who approached us for help. We worked with orphanages, schools and hospitals. We did a lot of work through hospitals by giving

cooking using the pots and pans from the box. The most harrowing thing to see was people packed in tight in makeshift structures made of sheets, sticks and blankets, and even more disturbing seeing those with wounds, in the heat, with flies on them. As we were driving around we saw families living on central reservations with children breathing in traffic fumes. It was just a completely unsatisfactory environment. 'Sometimes you think about the huge number of people who have been made homeless but if you keep dwelling on that you would not be able to go out and help. What you need to



ShelterBoxes being distributed. Feb 2010. Photographer Thomas Lay



A mother and child in Port au Prince. Feb 2010. Photographer Thomas Lay

them tents for high priority patients such as those recovering from amputations and mothers with newborn babies. We really had to keep driving to get things done and all the time we were assessing changing dynamics particularly the security situation. During my time there, shelter became the highest priority especially with the rainy season approaching.

'On the ground we were living in a ShelterBox tent, doing our laundry in a ShelterBox and

focus on are the people you are helping. For a significant number, you have given them something that improves their lives and gives them hope and a good step for the future. They have lost what little they had and their loved ones and family members. By giving them a really good quality tent it's as though we're showing them someone out there cares.'

HAITI EARTHQUAKE

DATE: 12.01.2010 - TIME: 21.53.10 GMT - MAGNITUDE 7.3 - DISPLACED: 1,000,000

STURDY SHELTER TOP PRIORITY IN HAITI

It is the start of March and seven weeks since Haiti was rocked by a catastrophic earthquake and there is still an urgent need for sturdy, secure shelter which can stand up to the Haitian climate, particularly the rainy season.

On her return to the UK, SRT member Jane Nash said the importance of getting people into ShelterBox tents cannot be underestimated.

'The rains are going to be really hard and it's going to take a long time to get transitional housing up and running. Our tents will withstand heavy rain. Would you want to be under a tarpaulin sheet in a torrential downpour when the ground will be soaked? The look on one woman's face when I gave her a tent was like it was the best thing she had ever had,' she said.

ShelterBox General Manager Lasse Petersen, who has also recently returned from Haiti, added: 'At present the vast majority of people left homeless have yet to receive even plastic sheeting. These families need emergency shelter and they need it now.'

'A tent, as we've already seen, can be a life saving difference to many of the most vulnerable during what is likely to become a very lengthy wait for anything more permanent. It's vital we continue our efforts in Haiti; tents are the number one priority.'

The bespoke disaster relief tents have been designed by ShelterBox and the tent manufacturer Vango. They are made to a high specification and undergo rigorous testing in extreme weather conditions. In Haiti, the tents will provide secure and safe shelter when the rainy season descends on the Caribbean.

ShelterBox has now committed enough aid for close to 100,000 Haitians with thousands more ShelterBoxes to be sent in the coming weeks and months.



A ShelterBox tent stands in the rubble. Feb 2010. Photographer Thomas Lay

SUPER SCOUTS HELP IN HAITI



Scouts work with the US military. Jan 2010. Photographer Mark Pearson



Haitian Scouts carrying a ShelterBox. Jan 2010. Photographer Mark Pearson

Since May 2009 ShelterBox has been partnered with the Scout Association in the UK. ShelterBox has a long history of working with Scouts who have helped deliver boxes in Kenya, Italy and after the Indian Ocean Tsunami. The Scouts have now gone above and beyond the call of duty in Haiti, continuing this rich history.

While he was in Haiti, SRT member Mark Pearson worked with Scouts in Port au Prince to set up 210 ShelterBox tents. Mark worked closely with Haitian Scout Leaders and Scouts of all ages were able to help set up emergency shelter for their fellow countrymen.

Mark said: 'I personally trained ten Scouts from Port au Prince at the 82nd Airborne HQ (US Military in Haiti). The Scouts, after I did a first demo, then set up a tent to perfection in ten minutes.'

On Friday, February 5, 50 Haitian scouts set up 70 ShelterBox tents in the central

Palace area where 3,000 people were homeless. They did it in less than four hours. The following day they set up a further 140 ShelterBox tents.

Mark added: 'The Train the Trainer sessions paid off and all the Haitian people were so happy, it was a great day for all involved. The fifty Scouts were all from the west Port au Prince area and all of them had been displaced from their homes. They were staying in makeshift camps with no real shelter.'

Alex George, President of West Department International Scouts d'Haiti, said: 'Our Scouts are themselves homeless but in the traditional Scout tradition we are happy to help our people and feel good doing so with ShelterBox and the US military. This is brilliant equipment and the tents are perfect for Haiti.'

The SRT operating in Haiti were also able to provide emergency shelter for up to 100 Scouts and their families.