



DEAR ROTARIANS,

In 2019 Rotary support helped ShelterBox provide shelter and life-saving items to over 29,000 families* robbed of their homes by disaster and conflict.

Your help has reached across 9 countries, involving 11 different responses: 4 conflict and 7 natural disaster responses.

We can't claim responsibility for the recovery of communities - that credit can only be given to the people who work so hard to rebuild. But, with your support, ShelterBox plays a vital part in supporting communities on their first steps towards recovery - thank you.

Global challenges

2019 was a challenging year with the highest numbers of people displaced from their homes on record. 2020 has started with disasters striking across the globe and with projections of even higher numbers of people losing their homes. We will be working closely with Rotary International and other partners to better understand the challenges and to continue to reach communities that might otherwise be overlooked.

The year ahead

ShelterBox is delighted to once again be taking part in the RI International Assembly in San Diego this month. It is a great opportunity to share the impact of our partnership, as well as updates and news of the ShelterBox District Challenge.

We are also excited to be celebrating our 20th anniversary! ShelterBox is a remarkable Rotary People of Action story. We grew from Rotary origins and 20 years on our partnership grows from strength to strength. We would love you to celebrate with us and this newsletter shares how your club can bring the celebration to your community

*Numbers as of 12 Dec 2019 - based on completed responses and anticipated responses to 31 December 2019



PDG Mary Bradley whose district took on the ShelterBox District Challenge

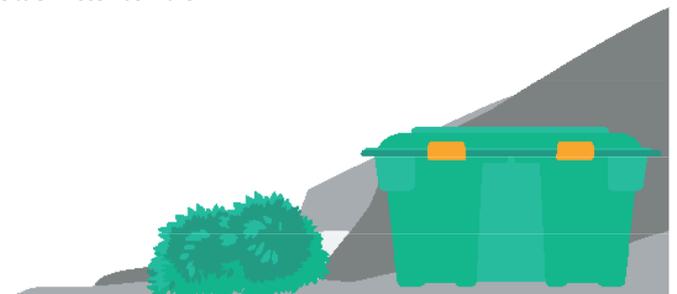
We have recently created a brand-new suite of resources for Rotary clubs to use to engage with schools and youth groups in your communities (for 5-15 years). There's a range of fun and interactive activities to inform young people about the disasters responded to by ShelterBox. Contact us at rotaryrequest@shelterbox.org to access the resources or find out more.

We hope you enjoy reading the stories in this newsletter and sharing the updates with your Rotary Club. We wish you and your Club a Happy New Year!

YOURS SINCERELY,

Alex Youlten
Rotary Partnership Manager

P.S. Don't forget you can get in touch any time by emailing us at rotaryrequest@shelterbox.org and you can keep up to date with our weekly Operations update on Facebook Live every Tuesday at 2.30pm (GMT time).



SHELTERBOX OPERATIONS PHILIPPINES



ON CHRISTMAS DAY **TYPHOON PHANFONE** HIT THE PHILIPPINES, LEAVING A TRAIL OF DEVASTATION THROUGH THE CENTRE OF THE COUNTRY. **GUSTS OF UP TO 118MPH STRUCK**, DESTROYING HOMES AND POWER LINES, AND CAUSING SEVERE FLOODING IN SOME PROVINCES.

The Philippines is no stranger to natural disasters. Typhoon Phanfone was the 21st cyclone to hit the country in 2019. Typhoon Phanfone came just weeks after Typhoon Kammuri had wreaked havoc in early December. A ShelterBox team were in country over Christmas when Typhoon Phanfone hit, supporting communities left homeless by the earlier typhoon.

In early December Typhoon Kammuri hit land four times in the Philippines. Communities across Northern Samar were severely affected. Devastation struck in the form of heavy rains, strong winds, and powerful storm surges.

The ShelterBox team worked with the local government to identify communities that were worst affected. They also worked closely with Rotary clubs in the country and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). As a result, 2,373 families were supported with shelter and selected household items.

The Philippines was also hit by a series of powerful earthquakes and aftershocks throughout October 2019 which devastated homes, buildings and infrastructure on the island of Mindanao. Thanks to ShelterBox Operations Philippines, we were able to respond

very quickly with an assessment team, who worked closely with the local Government and Rotary groups to identify three barangays (Filipino term for village or district) that were least likely to recover by themselves and who would most benefit from ShelterBox aid. We worked closely with the affected communities to create bespoke aid packages, tailored to the needs of each separate barangay.

Warm ocean waters, low-lying coasts, poverty and geography help explain why the Philippines is so prone to natural disasters. As a result, ShelterBox has responded in the Philippines more frequently than any other country - an average of nearly twice a year between 2004 and 2019. ShelterBox Operations Philippines was set-up in 2017 as an in-country organisation with aid stored locally so that we can respond more quickly, effectively and appropriately.

Moving forward ShelterBox Operations Philippines will be working to expand the office, develop in-country connections and improve operational preparedness. This ensures we're in the best position possible to reach Filipino families as quickly as possible in the aftermath of a disaster striking.



Jeany and family received ShelterBox aid and training following the earthquakes in October.

“
We feel safer from the rain and wind and are definitely more comfortable than we were in the evacuation centre. I feel safer as I know when we are in this new home nothing will fall on us if an earthquake hits us again.



Typhoon Kammuri that hit the Philippines in early December 2019

20 YEARS ON

20
YEARS

In 2000, the idea for ShelterBox was hit upon by the Rotary Club of Helston-Lizard in Cornwall, when Rotary encouraged members to come up with projects to mark the Millennium.

The initial hope of the club was to help 8 to 10 families a year, with each box containing a family sized tent, sleeping bags, water purifying tablets, trenching tool and pots and pans.

In the first year, this group of passionate Rotarians took the idea and developed it into something more. In the first year, Rotary Clubs alone donated £88,000. The faith shown by the Rotary community led to the first ever response supporting families affected by the 2001 earthquake in Gujarat, India.

"Fairly early on the club realised that this project was going somewhere and was quickly growing. Our motivation was always to provide emergency shelter and essential items to help people to preserve dignity after disaster. We were keen to learn and develop every time we helped people in a new disaster. We always wanted to try new suggestions. As a result, the kit and the way we worked changed over time."

James Kingston,

Past President of Helston Lizard Rotary Club

In 2012, with Rotary members around the world rallying behind a shared vision, the partnership between ShelterBox and Rotary was formally recognised when ShelterBox became Rotary's official project partner in disaster relief.

ShelterBox has grown to become a humanitarian organisation providing emergency shelter, essential items, training and support to over 1.5 million people. Rotary remains at the heart of ShelterBox; clubs and members around the world support by raising vital funds and awareness at home and local Rotary contacts also provide essential assistance in countries affected by disasters.

Today in 2020, the need for emergency shelter is more urgent than ever, with 88 million people living without shelter after disaster. We must do more. And thanks to the support of people like you, we are as determined as our founding Helston-Lizard Rotary members to do just that.



If your Rotary club would like to find out more or celebrate with us in our 20th anniversary year, visit our action toolkit for information, resources and event inspiration

www.shelterbox.org/rotary/action-toolkit/20years

VOLUNTEER EXPO

ShelterBox is pleased to be part of Volunteer Expo, the new Rotary hosted event in the UK for people interested in volunteering, developing their skills and learning more from 3rd sector organisations. For Rotary clubs this is an opportunity to experience an interactive ShelterBox experience, which offers an in depth look at how ShelterBox helps rebuild lives after disaster strikes. Come join us and immerse yourself in the world of international disaster relief.

This event will give Rotarians a chance to:

- Find out how ShelterBox provides aid for families to kick start their recovery process
- Learn more about the Rotary Project Partnership and what this means in action
- Gather ideas and support for how you can showcase ShelterBox and the partnership we share in your community

1-3
MAY
2020
NEC, Birmingham, UK
[shelterbox.org/
volunteer-expo-2020](http://shelterbox.org/volunteer-expo-2020)

CURRENT OPERATIONS BOARD

JANUARY 2020

COUNTRY	DISASTER	ACTION
Philippines	Typhoon	At the beginning of December, Typhoon Kammuri made landfall as a category 3 storm in different provinces across the Philippines. Initial assessments showed over 200,000 homes were damaged. Working with Rotary and the local government, ShelterBox carried out needs assessments and identified 5 communities to support with shelter kits, tarpaulins and rope and household items tailored to the needs of the community. To date more than 2,300 households have been supported and distributions are continuing into January.
Philippines	Earthquakes	Three major earthquakes occurred in Mindanao, in October. More than 21,000 homes were destroyed. ShelterBox distributions were completed at the end of November to 6 communities, sheltering over 1,600 families. Tailored aid packages were created to meet the needs of the different communities.
Bangladesh	Flooding	Since July 2019, heavy monsoon rains have triggered flooding in the low-lying areas of Bangladesh leaving one third of the country under water. According to UN Bangladesh, as of 30th of July, 7.3 million people were directly affected and an estimated 308,800 people were displaced. ShelterBox worked with Rotary and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) to distribute 745 shelter tool kits and tarpaulins that were prepositioned in country, to support communities affected by flooding from monsoon rains.
Ethiopia	Displacement	Ethiopia faces combined challenges of conflict, drought and seasonal flooding. ShelterBox has been supporting families in Ethiopia since 2018 and the first project with our partner the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), supported 3,445 displaced families. Throughout November 2019, we implemented Project 2 with IOM. This consisted of 1,100 emergency kits containing tarpaulin, rope, blankets, water carriers, sleeping mats, and kitchen sets for families who recently returned to West Guji. ShelterBox and IOM are now in discussions for a third project.
Syria	Conflict	Throughout December, Syrian government forces, backed by Russian and other international support increased their assault in the province of Idlib. At least a further 200,000 people are believed to have fled the violence in the last few weeks, adding to the hundreds of thousands who have fled to oversubscribed and underserved camps in the governorate. We are continuing to work with our trusted partners in Syria to support families caught up in the violence. Our partner ReliefAid has recently distributed winterisation and shelter packages of household items (such as thermal blankets, solar lights, mattresses) and age specific children's winter clothes to 2,400 families. We are working to scale up our response following the latest offensive. Our partner Bahar Organisation has distributed 500 tents to support families who had been evacuated from a camp that was at significant risk of mortar fire following the Turkish offensive into north east Syria in October 2019.
Nigeria	Conflict	We have been working with our trusted partner ACTED on a 4 th project which aimed to support families with two variations of emergency shelter kits (one with more wood to support families with no shelter, and one with less wood for families who need to improve their existing shelter). In December 1,263 families were successfully supported with shelter and household items and a further 677 households received a package of household items.
Cameroon	Conflict	In 2019 we began a 7 th project with IEDA Relief. This project consisted of 1,000 tents and 700 tarpaulins and ropes for distribution in Minawao camp and 336 shelter kits for distribution off camp, as well as household items distributed across both. By the end of 2019, all distributions had been completed and we are now working with IEDA to analyse post-distribution monitoring data. It is anticipated that Project 8 will begin in January.

WE CONTINUALLY MONITOR GLOBAL DISPLACEMENT CAUSED BY CONFLICT AND UNREST, AS WELL AS IMPACT FROM NATURAL DISASTERS TO ENSURE WE ARE ALWAYS READY TO SHELTER VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN NEED.