

READ THIS SCRIPT TO INTRODUCE SHELTERBOX



When disaster strikes, families flee their homes in search of a safer place. That can often mean an overcrowded space with no electricity. ShelterBox believe recovery starts with shelter. Having somewhere dry and warm to sleep, to prepare meals and be with our family and friends is vital, which we are fortunate to have. ShelterBox delivers emergency shelter and essential tools to help start this recovery, and light plays a surprisingly important role.

A solar light can help make everyday tasks possible and transform a shelter into a home. This winter, as our days get shorter and nights darker, I want you all to imagine trying to keep up your day to day routine in the dark. For example, (name relevant friend) imagine preparing food and cooking dinner in the dark, (name relevant friend) putting your kids to bed or trying to simply catch up with friends in the dark. Families affected by disaster often face these challenges, where simple routine tasks become a lot more difficult if not impossible. Catherine and her family are just one example of this:

Catherine George is an elderly lady living in Calabishie in Dominica with her severely disabled daughter, Elaine. She was badly affected by Hurricane Maria in 2017 which tore off her roof, leaving her and her daughter very scared and vulnerable.

Ten weeks after the hurricane, a ShelterBox response team met Catherine and her sister, who were in great spirits, laughing on the steps of their patched-up home. A local man called Nixon had kindly repaired their roof using some salvaged corrugated iron and nails, and tarpaulin supplied by ShelterBox. Catherine told the team: *"We used the ShelterKit, solar light and water carrier which ShelterBox supplied to us, these items really helped us get back on track."*

The solar light was especially valuable to them: *"The light is bright and lovely."* She continued, *"I charge it in the sunshine during the day and it makes a huge difference at night-time. It allows me to cook, to safely collect water and stay up after dark to get my life back to normal,"*

When Elaine was asked how the solar light had helped her she replied: *"It has really helped me. My mother uses it to read to me at night, and it is really helpful when I need to get into and out of bed to go to the bathroom."*

ShelterBox are committed to supporting families to rebuild their lives after disaster. To do this they need our help. By donating today, we can help families like Catherine's to start the long process of recovery.

£10 could provide a solar light, £30 could provide a kitchen set, £69 could provide a ShelterKit.

Thank you.

We're here to support you and would love to hear what you're planning!

Get in touch at hello@shelterbox.org or call us on 01872 302 600