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## ShelterBox Rotary

# Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas.

200 YEARS 2000-2020

Kia ora,

The countdown to Christmas is well and truly on! At this festive time, our thoughts turn to you - our Rotarians and Rotary Clubs nationwide, who we have so many reasons to thank.

Throughout this year, ShelterBox aid has helped thousands of families across 11 countries.

While this work doesn't often make the headlines, it is lifesaving to families. But, it is only possible because of you, and your extraordinary generosity, and deep compassion for families you may never meet, but whose lives you help transform. We are constantly humbled by the support of Rotary Clubs who come together to provide shelter and consistently put service above self.

In this unprecedented year, so many families across the world have been left without a

home, leaving them particularly vulnerable to Covid-19. The partnership between ShelterBox and Rotary has never been more vital. As people of action, we are steadfast in our commitment to reaching these families, providing emergency shelter and resources to help them recover and keep them safe.

Rotarian support has enabled us to adapt and scale our efforts during the pandemic to help the most vulnerable, by adding soap, hygiene items, and personal protective equipment to our aid package. Thank you endlessly.

Warm wishes for a joyful holiday season,



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Guy Cassidy | Board Chair





Rebecca Aitchison Director of Rotary Engagement Rotary Club of Waimate

### Whether in a disaster, conflict, or a global pandemic, shelter is the most profound difference you can make in someone's life.



Meet Fanne. She's a 30-year-old mother of 8. When violent extremist group Boko Haram destroyed her home in Nigeria, she was forced to flee with her children, leaving her disabled husband behind.

"I had lost everything. This is an indescribable feeling; you can't imagine unless it happens to you".

Her family arrived at Minawao Refugee Camp in Cameroon. They were taken to a crowded collective center, where they lived for three months, at risk of contracting Covid-19.

But, in June 2020, Fanne received a ShelterBox tent, solar light, blankets, and water carriers. She now has a private shelter where she can protect her family from Covid-19, and begin to rebuild her life.

"I feel safe in my tent. Thanks to our donors we can avoid crowded places by staying in the shelter. Home is important to anybody because it is the place you have some rest after a stressful day. It's like a refuge, it keeps you safe from rain, sun and wind.".

With her family safely sheltered, Fanne can now focus on their future.

"I wish to start a business that might help me send my children to school".

"ShelterBox has a vitally important part to play in the global response to Covid-19".

- John Hewko, General Secretary, Rotary International

"The world needs Rotary and ShelterBox now more than ever". - Holger Knaack, President, Rotary International

## Give a family hope this Christmas.

As we plan out our own Christmas celebrations here in New Zealand, we can't help but think about the 104 million people around the globe, who will be spending Christmas without a home, and without basic necessities.

So, we want to give you the opportunity to honour someone special in your life, by paying it forward to help a person in need, with a ShelterBox Christmas Gift, this festive season. For as little as \$20, you could provide families caught in the chaos of disaster with the gift of hygiene, safe drinking water, shelter, and so much more.



#### Give the gift of a ShelterBox | \$1500

When disaster strikes, families lose their homes, possessions and livelihoods. Each ShelterBox provides a family with emergency shelter and other vital equipment, such as blankets, water filtration, and solar lights; to use while they are displaced. This holiday season, rally your Club members, and give the gift of hope, a new home, and the ability to rebuild, to a family who has lost everything dear to them.



**Give the gift of home \$500** Provide a family with a place to call home, and the shelter they need to survive, after a disaster.



**Give the gift of a fresh start \$150** Provide a family with the tools they need to start rebuilding their lives and communities, after a disaster.



**Give the gift of water | \$50** Provide a family with water purification equipment, so safe drinking water can become one <u>less thing to worry</u> about.



**Give the gift of light \$30** Provide a family with light, to help create safe envionments, where families can cook, and children can study, after it gets dark.



**Give the gift of hygiene \$20** Provide a family with handwash basins and soap, so that they can maintain good hygiene and keep themselves protected against Covid-19.

Visit <u>https://www.shelterbox.org.nz/christmas-donation-page-form/</u> to purchase your ShelterBox Christmas gift.