



Imagine sitting down to dinner and having the roof collapse on you.

Surya was eating a meal when a staggering 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck her home in Nepal.

Her father-in-law urged her to get out of the house, but she didn't make it in time. The roof fell in and trapped her. Without the help of her family, who rescued her, Surya would have died.

ShelterBox was able to help Surya and other families in her village - providing them with ShelterKits full of materials, including tools and tarps to mend and create shelters.

"If another earthquake happened, it wouldn't be like before. The new shelter is safer and I wouldn't be trapped again".



Being a new mum can be difficult enough. Imagine having to survive a cyclone on top of that.

Diane and her 3-month-old baby, Yokimi, along with the rest of their family, lived in a community centre for six weeks after Cyclone Winston hit their village in Fiji. It was terrifying. Their home was destroyed and they lost all of their possessions.

ShelterBox teams were able to provide Diane and her family with a ShelterBox, containing a tent, cooking supplies, a solar light, water filter and mosquito net.

"I'm so happy to have a tent - to have a safe place of our own to sleep".



Imagine having to save not just yourself, but also your 7-year-old grandson during a flood.

For Ismail and his wife, the water rose so rapidly that even on high ground they were surrounded. The family spent days living in an old railroad station until the waters receded.

Returning to their village, they couldn't believe what they saw. Another house had been swept away from its foundations and had landed right on top of their family home. ShelterBox provided a ShelterBox and put up a family-sized tent near their old home, so they could stay in their close-knit community and rebuild.

"The box means so much because we are too scared to try and enter the house. Now we have a place to live and the things to make our life better. Thank you ShelterBox."





Imagine being trapped in a monsoon that destroys all you have. You must rebuild for your family. Now imagine that you are blind.

Enoch and Mary live on a homestead in Malawi with their four children. Despite being totally blind, Enoch knows every inch of his home.

But, after the wind blew the roof off their house, and the rain destroyed their walls, Mary had to leave Enoch and the children, while she braved a long, frightening journey to the nearest emergency camp.

Many miles and hours later, she arrived - and came across a ShelterBox team, who took Mary home to her village, and helped her put up a tent.

"Staying in the tent felt like I was staying in a house with a roof of iron sheets".



Imagine starting a family and building a home - and then having it all destroyed in conflict.

Mohammed and his family live in southern Gaza. Their happiness was shattered during Ramadan, when the whole family was gathered for an evening meal. A missile hit the house - and in one evening, Mohammed lost his wife, father, brother, and sister.

He now looks after his two young sons by himself - and after some time, he remarried, to a woman who also lost her family in the war.

ShelterBox provided him with a tent, which arrived on his wedding day. He now lives in the tent with his wife and children, on the land where his house once stood.

"This tent enabled me to stay on my own land, where, with all determination, I will rebuild my home".



Imagine being the second oldest person in your village. Then imagine having to survive a typhoon.

At age 82, Valentin Acra is the second oldest in his village of Binaly in the Philippines.

When Category 4 Typhoon Melor destroyed the roof of his family home, he and his wife fled to the local school, where more than 400 people were crammed.

Here, ShelterBox teams showed families techniques to rebuild safer, more resilient shelters that would stand firm in the face of future storms, and distributed ShelterKits. With the tools to rebuild, they rediscovered a sense of hope for the future.

"Thank you, thank you, thank you. ShelterBox was the answer to my prayers".

