



ShelterBox

HANDBOOK FOR CLUB CHAMPIONS

ShelterBox is a charity independent of Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation.

INTRODUCING SHELTERBOX

Right now, more than 113 million people around the world have been made homeless by weather-related disasters and conflict. Here at ShelterBox, we're working to change that.

We hand-deliver emergency shelter and essential aid items to help people rebuild following disasters.

We know that shelter is more than just a roof—it's a home and a foundation for life. Having somewhere dry and warm to sleep, to prepare meals, and to be with your community is vital for starting the long process of rebuilding your life.

So, our teams work with disaster-hit communities around the world, offering emergency shelter in order to transform despair into hope.

OUR VISION: No one without shelter after disaster.

OUR MISSION: We provide shelter, essential items, and technical assistance to help some of the world's most vulnerable people recover and rebuild their homes after disaster. We listen and adapt our support to the needs of each community, working together with those affected by disaster, alongside our supporters and partners.

OUR VALUES: Integrity. Flexibility. Participation. Learning.



GOING THE EXTRA MILE



DISASTER STRIKES:

We immediately contact our partners on the ground, including local Rotary clubs, to establish the scale of the disaster and how we can help.



A CUSTOMISED SOLUTION:

The aid we provide comes in the form of ShelterBoxes and ShelterKits, which are customised to the needs of the community.



DELIVERY:

We go to the ends of the earth to deliver the essentials people need to begin rebuilding their lives after disaster.

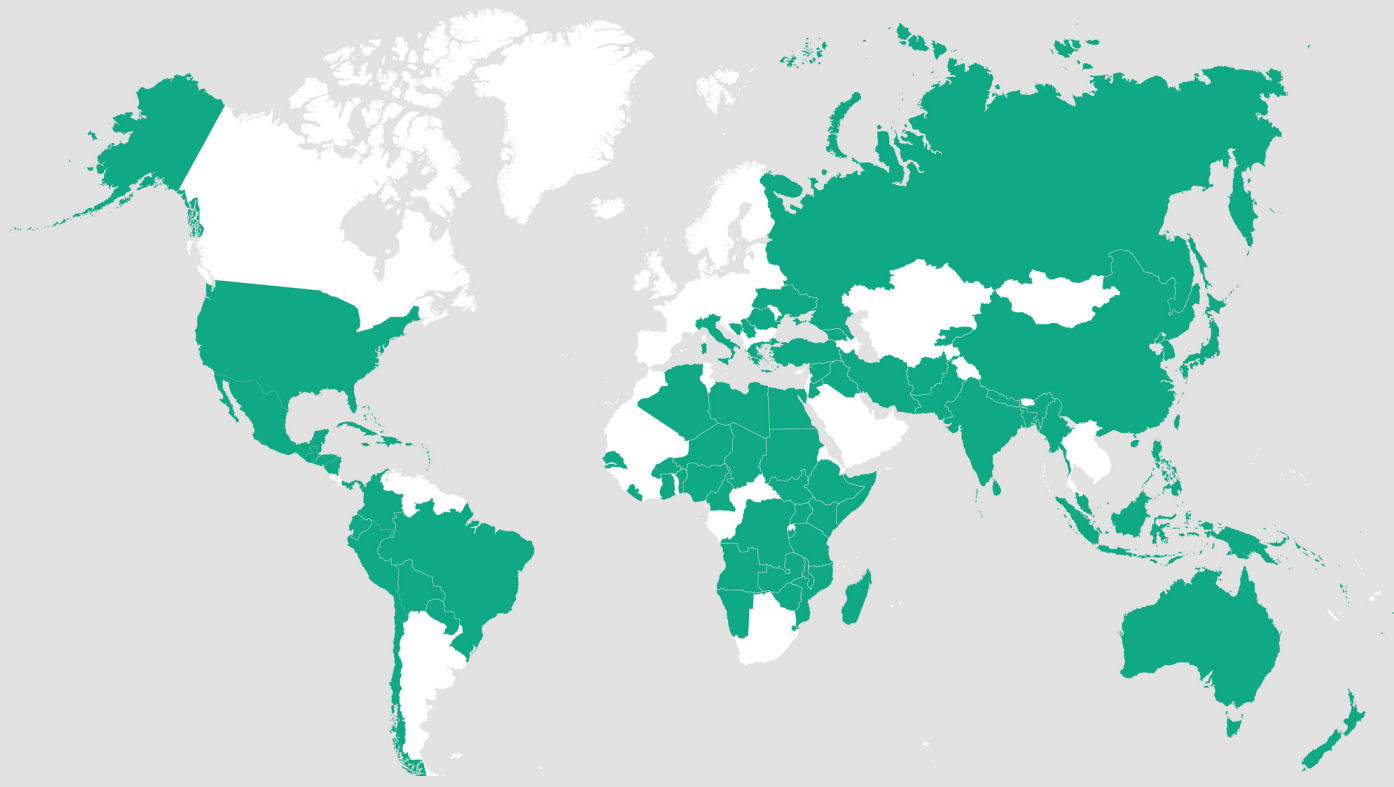


COMMUNITY RECOVERY:

We don't just give people what they need to survive, we give them the tools to self-recover in order to keep them together with their communities.

RESPONSE MAP

THE 97 COUNTRIES WE'VE PROVIDED AID TO OVER THE PAST 21 YEARS:



AID ITEMS



The ShelterBox (\$1500): A ShelterBox is a practical solution to help people in the midst of disaster or conflict. We select the most appropriate items to put in it, depending on the needs of the community. This may include:

Tents (\$500): Our tents have the power to transform lives. They provide protection against the elements and have internal dividers to add privacy. They are very durable, and can stand extreme weather in order to reliably protect residents against the elements.



Blankets, mattresses, and groundsheets (\$75): These not only provide vital warmth, but comfort too, when people are recovering from disaster or conflict.

Solar lights (\$40): These lights help create safe environments where people can pick up their daily routine—enabling people to cook meals, children to finish their school work, and community members to travel to the latrine after dark. The lights last up to 24 hours on one charge.



Cooking sets (\$250): Being able to cook and access nutritious food after a disaster or conflict is fundamental. Our cooking sets enable people to spend quality time cooking together, for normality and nourishment.

Mosquito nets (\$20): In countries where insect-borne diseases are common, our mosquito nets are a simple and effective way of keeping people safe.



Water containers and purification (\$50): When disasters devastate the landscape, it can be hard to access safe, clean water. By providing water purification equipment, safe drinking water is one less thing for disaster victims to worry about.

ShelterKits (\$150): Whilst our ShelterBoxes are designed for those who have lost everything, our ShelterKits help people repair damaged buildings, and make emergency shelters straight away. These Kits include hard wearing tarpaulins, nails, rope, and tools.



FROM THE FIELD

Every box holds a story. These are just a few of the stories of those who we've been able to help over the past 20 years:

SHELLEY (VANUATU)

"Thank you to those that have saved us, for using your time to look out for us".

In April 2020, Category 5 Cyclone Harold hit Vanuatu. Shelley's home, alongside thousands of others, was completely destroyed. However, Shelley and her community received ShelterKits, containing vital home equipment and tool sets, which have enabled her to not only rebuild her house, but also return to work on her garden, planting food for her village.



DIANE AND YOKIMI (FIJI)

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



Baby Yokimi was just three months old when Cyclone Winston, the worst storm ever recorded in the southern hemisphere, hit Fiji. Diane and Yokimi's house was destroyed, and they lost all of their belongings. When we met them both, they had been living at the local community centre for six weeks. However, we were able to provide them with a ShelterBox, which enabled them to rebuild their home and return to normal life.

ADIJA ALI (CAMEROON)

"My goal is to become a doctor and with the provision of a solar light from ShelterBox, I've been able to continue my studies at night".

After Boko Haram attacked her village, Adija fled with her family to Mokolo in Cameroon. It is from here that Adija's family was able to travel to Minawao refugee camp, where ShelterBox has supported over 2,500 families so far. Adija has been living in a ShelterBox tent for almost a year now. She goes to school in the camp and helps her mother with keeping their tent clean and tidy.



THE ROTARY PARTNERSHIP

Rotary is in the DNA of ShelterBox, and is the cement that binds us together.

In 2000, the Rotary Club of Helston Lizard, in Cornwall, championed a simple idea to package up essential shelter items, in our now-iconic green ShelterBoxes, to help those who were left with nothing after disasters. Little did they know that it would become the largest Rotary Club project in the world, with affiliates in countries across the globe.

We are now proud project partners with Rotary International, a global community of 1.4 million people of action. Together, we have been able to reach and support more than 2 million people in desperate need of shelter.

Whenever disaster strikes, Rotary is beside us. From the earliest planning stages to final evaluations, Rotarians worldwide provide first-hand knowledge of the communities we work within, help us to make contact on the ground, and organise logistics and operations, ultimately enabling us to get shelter to where it's needed most.

In honour of this, and given the synergies between ShelterBox and Rotary, we place a strong focus on our [Rotary Club Champions](#) programme. This programme enhances the collaboration between our two organisations by engaging a member of each Rotary club to act as a key point of contact and champion ShelterBox at the local level.

"The partnership between Rotary and ShelterBox has provided a place of refuge to people facing some of the most difficult and uncertain moments in their lives"

- John Hewko, General Secretary of Rotary International



ShelterBox

Rotary



YOUR ROLE

So where do you fit in?

Well, we'll provide you with regular updates about all things ShelterBox for you to share with your Club however/whenever you see fit. However, if you'd like to help us even further, you could consider ...

1) RAISING AWARENESS

Let people know about us! Whether you talk to your club and other Rotarians, your friends and family, or share our online content across your own social media channels, it all goes a long way in helping us spread the word. We'd like to deliver an annual [presentation](#) to your club, or we can train you and provide resources so you can deliver your own.

2) FUNDRAISING

You could rally your club to host a community fundraiser for ShelterBox or get behind our Shine for ShelterBox campaign by hosting a candlelight dinner or supper with your club to help families affected by disaster find light in their darkest hours. Or you could request an annual donation from your club or your club's foundation.

5) VOLUNTEER

In addition to keeping your club informed, you could join other ShelterBox volunteers in representing ShelterBox at your District Conference or help at other clubs' fundraisers.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where are we delivering aid?

Over the past 21 years, we have delivered aid to people in 97 countries across the world — from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe (including New Zealand). We have responded to the Philippines more than any other country (27 times since 2004), and our work in Syria is our largest and longest running response (we've been working there since 2012). At the time of writing, we are delivering aid to Haiti, Yemen, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Cameroon, Syria, and the Philippines.

What impact are we having?

In 2021 alone, we changed the lives of over 140,000 people in 10 countries, despite dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past 21 years, we have provided aid to over 2 million people worldwide.

How do we decide where to send aid?

When natural disasters and conflicts occur, our ShelterBox operations team make careful assessments to ensure that ShelterBox aid is right for the situation. Unfortunately, the need is ever growing and we aren't able to help everyone. That is why we have developed our '[Response Criteria](#)', to help us prioritise the most vulnerable people around the world who wouldn't otherwise receive the vital support they need. As part of this, we consider factors such as how many people are in need of help, how long the support will be needed, and what the local capacity is.

How do we source aid items?

Our items are specially sourced and designed to ensure that the people we support have exactly the aid they need. The aid is designed to withstand extreme conditions, from torrential rain to hurricane winds, and to last for a long time—until people are able to rebuild their homes.

Do we work with other aid organisations?

We often collaborate with other aid organisations, from specialists in the country to UN agencies. Combining our expertise with that of our partners enables us to go further, faster.

How quickly can we respond?

ShelterBox aims to get its aid and a ShelterBox Response Team to the scene—anywhere worldwide—within two to three days of a major disaster. The exact time will depend on the circumstances, and we can only distribute aid within safe and achievable operational parameters. We store aid in strategic locations around the world to reduce our response time.

How does the aid get to its destination?

Aid is delivered to the disaster area by whatever means are appropriate, and is accompanied by volunteer ShelterBox Response Team (SRT) members. SRTs arrange transport by conventional means or through alternative forms, whether using donkeys in the mountains of Kashmir or building rafts in Sri Lanka to reach communities cut off by flooding.

Who takes care of the equipment when people move into their new housing?

When our team sets up the shelter and equipment, they train representatives from the local community, as well as Rotarians and representatives from local aid agencies, on how to look after it. This includes maintaining the aid when it's in use, and ensuring that it is stored or disposed of responsibly once recipients move back into their own homes. ShelterBox's Operations department also carries out monitoring and evaluation visits after a deployment to check that the response was effective and to follow up on any issues with the equipment that was provided.

What happens with the used shelter and equipment?

These are given as a gift from ShelterBox to the recipient. Many recipients find a use for the empty box, such as for water storage or to keep their belongings dry. ShelterBoxes have even been used as a cradle or a mobile library. Tents and tarpaulins may be re-used for shops or schools, and the tools provided can be used for farming, construction, and fishing.

How are we adapting to Covid-19?

Coronavirus has presented a huge challenge to our organisation, but for those people left in despair following disaster, the challenge is far greater. In many of the places where we're working, families are already vulnerable due to crowded conditions and lack of health-care. Every time we're able to provide someone with our life-saving aid, we're reducing the likelihood of transmission and contributing to a global effort to flatten the curve.

The ban on international travel has made deploying our SRTs difficult, so we've been working with our trusted in-country partners to get our aid to families in need. We have also adapted our aid packages to include soap, handwashing basins and PPE. Families are receiving virtual trainings on how to use their aid items, and how to prevent the spread of the virus.



LEADERSHIP, SHELTERBOX AND ROTARY
EMERGENCY SHELTER AND TOOLS
LIVES ROBBED OF THEIR HOMES BY
AND DISASTER. TOGETHER WE
TURNING DESPAIR INTO HOPE



ShelterBox

Rotary



If you'd like to know more about ShelterBox and how you can help,
please do not hesitate to reach out:

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