



SHELTERBOX AND ROTARACT IN NEPAL

Meet the amazing Rotaractor who helped ShelterBox in Nepal

In April of 2015, the first of several massive earthquakes shook Nepal to its core. The first tremor measured a shocking 7.8 in magnitude. It was felt as far away as Delhi and whole villages across Nepal were flattened.

However, thanks to our partnership with Rotary, we received reports from local Rotarians and Rotaractors on the ground. These first-hand accounts enabled us to build a picture of the devastation and to put a plan into action within hours.

Meet Ashish. Ashish is one of the Rotaractors whose amazing support, knowledge and dedication has helped to bring about lasting change to communities in need across Nepal.

Ashish Chaulagain lives and works in Kathmandu, Nepal, and first became aware of ShelterBox in 2007 at the age of 19. He explains, 'My home club the Rotaract Club of Kathmandu had helped a ShelterBox deployment in the far western region of Nepal to support families affected by flooding. Later in 2008, when there was another flood in the country, I contacted ShelterBox HQ asking for help. ShelterBox sent a response team of four with 624 ShelterBoxes to the flood affected victims.'

Ashish was also first to notify ShelterBox in 2015 when a massive earthquake struck Nepal. Now a Head of Department at Thames International College in Kathmandu, he has also been a team leader on Rotary's literacy mission in Nepal, and presented a paper entitled the 'Call of Youth' at the World Forum Conference in 2014.

Ashish's connections with ShelterBox continue today, and he is one of the most enthusiastic advocates of attracting young people to humanitarian ethics. He says,

'ShelterBox is an amazing organisation to work with. I know of only a few organisations that push themselves beyond their boundaries to help people in need, and ShelterBox is one such organisation.'

'I give most of my free time to Rotary and ShelterBox. Both organisations give me an opportunity to help society and people in need, which in fact gives me immense satisfaction. I have made my family and employers clear on my passion for community service, so it's easy for me to get time from them and from my other appointments. They are also proud of my involvement.'

Ashish feels he brings the particular skills of communication, cross-cultural adaptability, negotiation, and above all, friendliness. Looking to the future for both Rotary and ShelterBox he sees, 'More opportunity to involve more youngsters, with the right communication and training and development for them.'

