

Comments about Shelter Box

From: Sarah Oliver [mailto:mailservice@clubrunner.ca]

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Many of us this week have been thinking about the Philippines and asking how we might help with disaster relief and recovery in the areas devastated by Super Typhoon Haiyan. Rotary partner ShelterBox had teams already in the country in response to an earthquake there in October, and some team members from that effort and additional teams now have repositioned to assist in the areas impacted by the typhoon. The goal of ShelterBox is eventually to assist 4000 families on the islands most affected by Haiyan.

RI President Ron Burton states, "I know we all want to help. I am urging clubs to take action to provide emergency aid now and begin planning for the future when we can help rebuild homes, schools, and businesses. We are in the business of helping people in need." He goes on to say that such disasters are "exactly why we entered into our partnership with ShelterBox. It gives Rotary members worldwide the opportunity to respond immediately and in a very meaningful way to the life-threatening conditions faced by the people of the Philippines."

SPONSOR A SHELTERBOX

Sponsorship of one of the classic green boxes is one way that clubs can help ShelterBox with its response efforts in the Philippines. The district Grants Committee has voted to allocate \$200 of our contingency District Grant monies to match \$800 that a club raises to sponsor a ShelterBox, up to a total of 15 ShelterBox units (\$3000 total of District Grant contingency funds). A club wishing to participate in this match should send a check for \$800 made out to ShelterBox USA to Administrative Assistant Kristina Laib, 6413 Terrace Drive, Tinley Park, IL 60477. If fifteen clubs already have submitted sponsorship checks to Kristina by the time your check arrives, then Kristina will return your club check.

In its response to a major disaster, ShelterBox no longer tracks (for the purpose of reporting back to a contributor) the specific number of "your" ShelterBox because of the significant administrative burden to do that tracking.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE SHELTERBOX SOLUTION FUND

ShelterBox has established a Solution Fund for contributions of any amount in support of their disaster response efforts. This fund is used sometimes for the fully packed green boxes but always has the flexibility to be used to address crucial needs of families affected by disaster. The ShelterBox Solution

Fund allows ShelterBox response teams, working on the ground with other aid agencies, to access whatever supplies will be most helpful to their service. Individual donations to the fund and directed to typhoon Haiyan relief in the Philippines can be made very easily online [link](#). This website also is a source of information about the ongoing work of ShelterBox there. Please contact Rotarian Donna Gulley (Northbrook) at donnalee127@gmail.com for instructions about contributing by check to this fund.