

19 July 2011

The world needs our help ...



With 10.7 million people in need of humanitarian aid in the Horn of Africa (Somalia, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nairobi, South Sudan, Mogadishu) – faced with malnutrition, lack of clean water and no shelter the mortality rate has risen to epidemic levels.

In Kenya alone, 20,000 people have arrived since June all seeking shelter, food and clean drinking water. According to the United Nations, approximately 4,000 people arrive on a daily basis into the area of the Horn of Africa with women and children being the high risk factor as they lack the security of housing and food.

At this time, **Disaster Aid International** Training and Deployment Manager, Ed Cox is on his way to Nairobi to assess what we can as Rotarians do to assist those in need. Ed will be working with other NGOs and Rotarians on the ground to ensure our aid reaches survivors effectively and quickly.

"Our assessment will be complete in the next days and teams of volunteer DARTs (Disaster Aid Response Teams) will deploy to the Horn of Africa to assist in the delivery of our vital aid in the form of our Family Survival boxes," John Steward, Trustee of **Disaster Aid UK & Ireland** said.

"Our DARTs here in Australia are on stand-by to assist in the delivery of fellow Rotarians sponsored aid. Without this support, we would not be in a position to assist the neediest," he said.

Disaster Aid UK & Ireland together with our Rotary partners in Australia, Canada and the USA has air-shipped the first container of Family Survival boxes to Nairobi with plans for more to follow as we gain the intelligence from the field and the continued support of fellow Rotarians around the world.

With one quarter of Somalia's 7.5 million people displaced, the need is enormous and we will assist as best we can. But we need your help too... to ensure these survivors are housed safely as a family unit – *please consider sponsoring a Family Survival box so that we can assist as many survivors as possible.*

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Disaster Aid UK & Ireland

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We continue our assistance in Haiti ...



Thanks to the generosity of fellow Rotarians, **Disaster Aid UK & Ireland** and our Rotary partners around the world have delivered our first **Disaster Aid International** school to Haiti.

With another container of schools on the ground, our volunteer DARTs will over the next month deploy to erect another nine schools to ensure the children of Haiti have some form of normality in their lives. Also included in this shipment are 150 Family Survival boxes to assist those survivors still displaced and two Disaster Aid medical tents to assist in the ongoing treatment of the ill.

Each Disaster Aid School kit contains enough school supplies for 80 school children, complete with their own rucksack and a Teacher's kit – everything needed for the continuance of their schooling.

With millions dying of water-borne cholera, we are also installing our long-term water solution, the SkyHydrant to ensure that these children and their families have clean drinking water – a fundamental human right and in this instance a life-saving aid.

And in Bogotá, Colombia ...

Disaster Aid International is partnering with Red Cross and Red Crescent Society to assist with shelter for the people of Bogotá who have faced floods (more than 400% of their annual rainfall) for the past twelve months. More than 2.2 million people have been affected by these floods. A team of volunteer DARTs will deploy in the next weeks to assist and deliver our aid, all of which has been sponsored by Rotarians around the world.

How you can help ...

Those marginalised – the people of the Horn of Africa, Haiti and Bogotá? We ask for your continued and valued support of our Australian initiative to deliver the aid needed by these people and their children.

£400 provides shelter, security and dignity to a family who has lost everything.

£250 provides a LifeBox.

\$1,600 provides a school for up to 80 school children complete with rucksacks for each student filled with vital tools so they can continue their learning and also bring their lives back into some form of normality.

\$3,300 will provide a village with 10,000 litres of clean drinking water for ten years.

And of course, who knows when the next call will come into the office asking for our help?

We sincerely thank you in advance for any assistance you can afford us.

Yours in Rotary service,

Rotarian John Steward

Trustee, Disaster Aid UK & Ireland

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