

Message from Shelterbox Canada – August 17, 2020

We want to thank the many clubs in your district and the hundreds of clubs across Canada who have supported us over the last **20 years**. Since our beginning in 2000, we have been able to reach over **1.5 million** people all over the world and because of your support, we have been able to reach even more families year after year. This year alone we were able to reach families in Ethiopia, Somaliland, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, The Philippines, Paraguay, Vanuatu, and Bangladesh.

This is your support in action. Without passionate Rotarians, families would remain in over-crowded schools and evacuation centres after disaster. But because of your district's continued support, families can begin to rebuild and recover in privacy. Because of you, families can have access to safe, clean drinking water and other essential items that make a house a home.

For districts, clubs and individual Rotarians we have a wide range tools neatly packed in our [Action Tool Kit](#). This Kit, created especially for Rotarians, contains everything from information about the partnership between Rotary and ShelterBox to digital fundraising ideas and district newsletter updates. This Tool Kit is also home to the [ShelterBox Training Centre](#), where we have adapted resources from our ShelterBox Response Team training to help improve clubs' communications, effective goal setting and much more!

Just because the world seems to have slowed down it doesn't mean your district's passion for sheltering families after disaster has to! For individuals with an interest in donating their time, we have a [robust volunteer program](#).

Each year, with Rotary support across the world, we launch the [ShelterBox District Challenge](#)! With help from District Governors, the Challenge dares every Rotary club in a District to support the shared mission of no family left without shelter after disaster. No matter how large or small, every donation makes a difference in providing shelter to families worldwide. No Canadian district has ever won the challenge, will this year be a first? We offer [online fundraising pages](#) for districts and clubs where you can set fundraising goals and accept online donations from supporters.

It may be incredibly early to start thinking of your district conference and President Elect training, but we at ShelterBox have breakout sessions and workshops at our fingertips addressing issues ranging from high-stakes leadership to compassionate needs assessments and would love to be a part of your conference.

This year we are also very excited to announce that on **September 3 at 1 pm ET** we will be holding a panel especially for Canadian Rotary Leadership. Here you will be able to ask any questions that you may have, as well as receive updates of ShelterBox's work in the field. To register please visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpdcOCoqDwvEtUpW_Bs_ebcuhO_jL7SPQtr

We are so excited to spend this new Rotary Year with you. Thank you for helping ensure no family is left without shelter after disaster.



Tess Widdifield

Member, Rotary Club of Toronto-Twilight
Acting Director
ShelterBox Canada