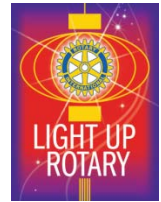




ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

District 6000

John Ockenfels
District Governor 2014-2015



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May 13, 2015

District 6000 and Outreach are sending 285,000 meals to aid the people of Nepal

As most of you may have heard by now, there have been numerous tragic earthquakes in Nepal. Rotary International President, Gary Huang has asked for assistance from Rotary clubs worldwide to help the people of Nepal find Shelter and Food as they struggle to recover from this massive devastation.

In District 6000 we are fortunate to have Outreach Inc., with a distribution center in Des Moines. Outreach is an organization that has a mission of supplying prepackaged meals to those in need, at home and worldwide. The company is owned and managed by Kathy Hamilton and Floyd Hammer, a Rotarian and both are very active in helping wherever the need is. Like Rotary, Outreach holds the highest rating, 4 stars, from Charity Navigator.

District 6000 has joined with Outreach Inc. to ship a 22 ton load of more than 285,000 prepackaged meals in a sea container from Des Moines to Katmandu Nepal. Outreach is donating the meals, valued at almost \$75,000. District 6000 is paying the shipping & delivery fees, estimated to be approximately \$14,000. Deepak Giri, from the Rotary Club of West Liberty, has several family members living in Katmandu, Nepal. Because of the destruction it took several days to contact them and ensure that they were safe and well. Outreach is working to have Deepak's Rotary connections in Katmandu be the recipient of the container.

I am asking each Rotarian to make a free will donation to our District's "Disaster Relief / Humanitarian Services Fund". Please discuss this at a Rotary club meeting and make a donation by whatever means your club chooses. Whether you decide to "Pass the Hat" or authorize something from your club funds or foundation, this money is desperately needed now.

Checks should be written to "**D6000 HEF – Disaster Relief Fund**". (Not the Nepal fund) HEF is the District 501c3 and meets all of the requirements for IRS deductibility. If your club collects cash, please convert it to a check and send that and any other checks collected to:

HEF Treasurer, Don Patterson, 605 S. 15th Avenue, Washington, Iowa 52353

In addition to the container that District 6000 is shipping, Outreach has also donated a 2nd container that is being sponsored by a Kiwanis group out of the Denver area. We also have an Iowa Lions Club that is donating \$1000 to help ship the containers. This outstanding cooperation between service organizations is critical to reaching the goal of helping the most people possible.

I have said many times that District 6000 is one of the best in the world. This support, once again, proves that statement to be justified.

Thank you for all you do to "Light Up Rotary" and "Do good in the world".
Sincerely,

John Ockenfels

John Ockenfels
District Governor 2014-15
LIGHT UP ROTARY