

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2020

Proposed Aid Delivery in 2020 - 2021

It is expected that the COVID -19 Pandemic will continue to cause major difficulties to our operations for at least the majority of the 2020 - 2021 financial year.

This has included our office being closed from 5th August for 6 Weeks!

The Board have however committed this year to:

- Complete the Bhutan 2020 project.
- Provide SkyHydrants to partners with the skills to complete installations.
- Provide COVID assistance grants to trusted partners.
- Make financial provision for the possibility of a DART deployment in 2021.

2019 - 2020 Resulted In \$250,000 Of Aid Delivered

2019 – 2020 has been a difficult year for fundraising for International Aid.

With the summer bushfires many of our supporters understandably diverted their charitable donations to bushfire relief.

Although our income dropped to \$291,000 for the financial year, we are pleased to report that we delivered just over \$250,000 in International Aid.

The aid has included

- Earthquake Response in the Philippines.
- Substantial Progress on our Bhutan 2020 Safe Water Project.
- 10 Safe Water for Every Child Installations in the Philippines.
- COVID-19 Relief Grants for, Nepal, Guatemala, the Philippines.
- Assisting other aid organisations in Myanmar, Malaysia, Mozambique and Timor Leste.



Rotary Club Merger

Since it was formed in 2010 Disaster Aid Australia has been a 'Project of the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills'.

With the merger of that club with the Rotary Club of Greater Dandenong which was completed in July 2020 we are now a '**Project of the Rotary Club of Greater Dandenong and Endeavour Hills**'.

Why We Install SkyHydrants

| Sr.NO | Name of the school | Student Strength | Number of students falling ill every week (Before) | Number of students falling ill every week (After) |
|-------|--------------------|------------------|--|---|
| 1. | Suryamal | 899 | 88 | 9 |
| 2. | Palsunda | 1099 | 92 | 7 |
| 3. | Ghanwal | 661 | 63 | 7 |
| 4. | Hirwe | 879 | 89 | 8 |
| 5. | Chas | 836 | 73 | 12 |
| 6. | Gonde | 1101 | 82 | 8 |
| 7. | Nyahale | 1054 | 77 | 12 |
| 8. | Bharti Vidyapeeth | 1233 | 79 | 11 |
| | Total | 7762 | | |

****This is an average of 1 month**

We recently received results of the health impact of a SkyHydrant project for eight schools in India we supported.

This table indicates the improvements across the eight schools:

Before the SkyHydrants were installed on average **643** students were ill every week

Afterwards the number of ill students dropped to **74** per week.

An overall **88%** reduction in illness from all causes.

This shows that the majority of child illness had been caused by contaminated water and with the removal of bacteria that form of illness has practically disappeared.

Working with Balay Mindanaw

During the COVID-19 Pandemic we have been supporting our long-term partner Balay Mindanaw in delivering aid to the Philippines.

Although COVID-19 is very difficult in Australia it is much more difficult in the Philippines.

Wages are just a few dollars a day and many people are self-employed in activities that have disappeared.

Grants from DAA have enabled them to purchase rice for front line workers to supplement limited government rations.

Balay Mindanaw workers and volunteers have also been setting up and running isolation facilities using Disaster Aid Australia tents



Bhutan Update



The Engineers from the Bhutan School Planning and Building Division are working hard, and travelling long distances, to continue installing Disaster Aid Australia SkyHydrants around this mountainous country.

70 SkyHydrants have now been installed with another 20 units arriving in late July.

We have now delivered 75% of the units for this project to deliver safe drinking water to all of the 120 major schools in Bhutan.

Although COVID-19 has caused delays to the project we expect to be completed by June 2021, only six months later than the planned completion

World Environment Day

In June we took the time to celebrate World Environment Day and remind our supporters Disaster Aid Australia are helping our environment with our '**Safe Water for Every Child**' Program.

Every permanent SkyHydrant can deliver the following environmental benefits, as well as providing safe drinking water to up to 1,000 children.

- **Saving of energy used for bottled water** – No need for industrial plants and commercial transport
- **Reduced use of raw materials** – Disposable bottles replaced by re-usable bottles;
- **Reduced private transport energy** – No need to drive to buy bottled water;
- **Reduced plastic waste** – No plastic bottles to dispose of;
- **Reduced deforestation** – No need to burn wood for boiling water to make it safe.



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

COVID 19 Response in Nepal



The Rotary Club of Kathmandu have taken an important role in responding to COVID-19 in Nepal.

This has included; Food Support; personal protective equipment (PPE) to health facilities; and hand washing stations.

In recognition of this Disaster Response DAA provided a \$5,000 grant to the club to assist in this important relief work.

Helping Disaster Aid Canada in Guatemala

Disaster Aid Canada has been supporting Mayan Women's Groups in San Lucas Toliman and San Antonio Palopo, Guatemala for many years.

In this area most Mayans are marginal farmers, or work at minimal wage for the 22 families that control 80% of the land in Guatemala.

As a result of COVID-19 pandemic there is currently massive unemployment and no money to buy food.

Following the recent major support of Australian families by DA Canada's bushfire appeal, the board of Disaster Aid Australia has decided to support this initiative with a \$5,000 grant.



Will you please help support the work of Disaster Aid?
It is a Rotary Club project that really is ... making a difference

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE at www.disasteraidaustralia.org.au

For more information, including DONATIONS (tax deductible), please contact us at:

Email: admin@disasteraidaustralia.org.au
Ph: 0499 373 233
Post: PO Box790 Endeavour Hills, VIC 3802



If you are unable to make a donation online, please use the below coupon and post it to the above address.

Name: _____

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Amount: \$ _____ Please send me a Tax Receipt

I wish to pay by Cheque CreditCard  Name on card: _____

Card Number: Expiry Date: / CVC

Direct credit: BSB 633 000 Account Number: 1400 38993
Account Name: Disaster Aid Australia Overseas Aid Fund. Ref: (your name)

Disclaimer: Disaster Aid is unable to accept location and time specific donations



Donations of \$2 or more to Disaster Aid Australia are tax-deductible in Australia.