

CWIN on the move: Relief and Recovery

In the month following the Nepal Earthquake of 25th April, 2015, CWIN has been focused, active and intent on reaching out to communities affected by earthquake and frequent tremors. CWIN has, during this period, distributed aid including food supply, tarpaulins, medicines, and children's recreational packs to 10,349 families and more than 55,000 people in all of the 14 most affected districts of Nepal. These districts are Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Lalitpur, Dhading, Dolakha, Gorkha, Kaski, Kavre, Makwanpur, Nuwakot, Ramechhap, Rasuwa, Sindhuli and Sindhupalchowk. CWIN continues to maintain a strong presence in these communities. CWIN has reached to more than 45,000 children directly in 11 districts with children's packs.

CWIN collaborated with Nepal Pediatric Society (NEPAS) and volunteer doctors in organizing 15 health camps for children this past month. More than 3500 children have benefited from these camps held in 7 districts. Together with NEPAS and Child Health Division of the Ministry of Health, CWIN has produced 200,000 leaflets on promoting psycho-social wellbeing of children in times of disaster to raise awareness among parents and guardians.

Similarly, CWIN Child Helpline has been diligent in responding swiftly to child protection issues during the time of disaster. Child Helpline 1098 has responded to hundreds of cases of injured children, missing children and children who have lost their parents in the earthquake. It has also involved in rescue and family reunification of the children who were brought to Kathmandu by suspected traffickers. CWIN is working closely with the Women and Children Service Directorate of Nepal Police to raise awareness of issues related to child protection and to prevent trafficking. CWIN plans to run district child protection desks in Kavre, Sindhupalchowk and Dolkha districts to protect children from abuse and exploitation. We are running child protection desks through Child Helpline 1098 in Kathmandu, Makwanpur and Kaski districts.

CWIN alongwith Nepal Psychological Institute has established mobile counseling camps in multiple hospitals and temporary shelter camps, to respond to the psycho-social needs of traumatised children. CWIN has so far trained 52 counsellors, who are now involved in this initiative with children at different locations within and outside the valley in districts like Nuwakot, Dolakha, Kaski, Makwanpur and Sindhupalchowk. CWIN Child Helpline 1098 is also providing telephone counselling to children and young people calling our hotline number.

Together with Plan Nepal and on its own initiative, CWIN is also operating Child Friendly spaces in Kirtipur, Kathmandu and Dolakha. CWIN is working towards establishing Temporary Learning Centres in Kathmandu, Dolkha, Makwanpur and Sindhupalchowk districts to bridge the school education in partnership with FORUT, Peace Boat Disaster Relief Volunteer Center (PBV) and ICDI.

CWIN's outreach to the needy children and families was made possible by the generous support and solidarity by its international partners like FORUT-Norway,

CINI-India, Seljord Folk High School-Norway and Comic Relief. We have also received support from ICDI-Netherlands, Quinoa/Salaai-Belgium, GRT-Italy, Peace Boat Disaster Relief Volunteer Center (PBV), We-world-Italy, United world College South East Asia and well-wishers from different countries. We have been strengthened and heartened by the response of our local community. We were privileged to have 500 youth volunteers, who selflessly worked with CWIN in delivering relief to children and families this past month.

CWIN has begun discussions at the community level and with children through focus groups discussions, for innovative initiatives to move towards the recovery process. We need to work with the local stakeholders and people to restore a dignified life for families and children. There's a huge task ahead of us to take forward the recovery and development work to reduce the external dependency of communities and rebuild a sustainable future. It will be another challenge to undertake recovery and development work simultaneously.

CWIN will continue to serve children and families in the affected districts and encourage them to remain hopeful and resolute.



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