

Rotary Club Provides Relief for Families in Nepal who Lost their Homes by Fire

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Jun 15, 2024

The Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise has been actively supporting humanitarian service in Gadhawa, a village in the District of Dang, Nepal since 2018 with 'Creating Possibilities Nepal' (CP) with a Global Grant and currently with a district grant focused at training to support and achieve economic development.

On April 28, 2024, a dreadful forest fire destroyed 24 of 25 homes in a neighbouring village. To assist the devastated community and its citizens, 'Creating Possibilities Nepal' (CP) asked to use funds from the contingency fund of the district grant to provide relief for the families. Unfortunately, by May 3rd our District (5060) denied the request as it "wasn't within the scope of the grant."



Not giving up on helping those in desperate need, many members of the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise, in response to an appeal from club International Chair Linda Frandsen on May 10th, donated a total of \$1,600 CAD. On May 15th, these funds were wired to the CP and three days later supplies were purchase and distributed to students and families, that had lost everything in the fires. Twenty-two students received backpacks, uniforms, and books, while 25 families received kitchenware.

On May 23rd, the following message on the devastation of a fire from 'Creative Possibilities Nepal' was received by Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise International Service Director, Linda Frandsen:

On April 28, a devastating fire broke out in Rajpur rural municipality-7, Hadbas village of Dang Deukhuri, resulting in the destruction of 24 out of 25 houses in the village. The affected houses were predominantly thatch-roofed, which contributed to the rapid spread of the fire from the nearby forest into the village. In response to this tragic event, Creating Possibilities Nepal, in coordination with the local government and with support from the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise BC Canada, provided emergency relief support to assist the fire-affected families.