

## Himalayan Children's Fund News

Dear Friends,

Though communication is not easy for people in Nepal, some staff members are occasionally able to send messages and a few photos. Everyone seems relieved to be able to be in touch and to know that they are being thought of, cared about and that others want to help.

Tarps have been strung over head out in the open, bedding arranged underneath and everyone huddles together to sleep. Thrangu Rinpoche has an actual tent as you can see here and is well attended to. Meals are outside and many prayers are being recited. You are probably already aware that aftershocks have not yet abated. While Khenpo Chonyi was leaving me a message from Tara Abbey yesterday, his last words were "here comes another one", and I could hear the excited and worried voices of the young nuns in the background. He also communicated that they are attending to the emotions of the nuns and helping them to understand impermanence and to calm their fear.

Until it is safe, we will not know the full extent of damages and what will need to be repaired or rebuilt. It will take time to make plans and estimate costs. This means our efforts to help will be in several phases:

- \* Initially all sites need funding for basic relief efforts. (water, food, medicine, temporary housing, clothing, clean-up, etc.)
- \* After some time, each site will have their own requests for very specific needs.
- \* Much later, repair and rebuilding will begin and funding support will be needed until all construction is completed.

Thrangu Rinpoche has requested that HCF assistance be given in the following two ways:

1. Earthquake Relief can be given in general, in which case we will determine the designation and distribute between the monasteries, abbey, schools and clinics according to need.
2. Donors can also choose a designation. Just identify the donation as *Earthquake Relief* for any of the following: Tara Abbey; SMD Boarding School; SMD Clinic; Boudha Monastery; Namu Buddha Monastery; SMDBS (monks branch school in Namu Buddha); or Namu Buddha Clinic.

(We have no word yet about the Nubri Monastery or Lumbini or any of the other regions further away. When there is confirmation regarding these areas I will let you know about their needs.)

### How to donate:

- \* Checks made payable to Himalayan Children's Fund and sent to our address below. (Most efficient.)
- \* Donate here [online](#) with credit card or pay pal. (This requires the payment of a fee and takes a few weeks to receive.)
- \* If you have a Capital One credit card, use their '[No Hassle Giving Site](#)' and they pay the fee.
- \* We are listed on the [Network For Good](#) page for helping Nepal and on [GuideStar](#).
- \* Federal or State employees can donate through the CFC. Our number is: 88367 under Child Aid International.

We have heard from several groups that want to do fundraising activities and are grateful to have the help. I can provide any information you need if you would like to arrange a group donation or fundraising event.

**Please feel free to share this information widely. Many people want to help but are unsure of which donation sites are reliable.**

With great appreciation to all who have been expressing their concern and making donations ~ your response is encouraging.

– Debra Ann

