



**Blacksburg  
Rotary Club**

Rotary International  
District 7570

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Blacksburg Rotary Raises \$5000 for ShelterBoxes in Haiti**

The Rotary club of Blacksburg, VA, has raised \$5000 thus far to assist the victims of the 7.2 earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12. The funds have purchased five ShelterBoxes which provide tents, blankets and supplies to house up to 50 people.

Among the first international relief workers to reach Haiti were volunteers from [ShelterBox](#) a United Kingdom-based disaster response organization supported by Rotary clubs worldwide. Each ShelterBox kit contains a 10-person tent, a water purification system

and other survival necessities. About 2,000 ShelterBoxes are in Haiti, and another 3,000 are due within a week, coordinated by logistics teams set up in Miami, Fla., and Santo Domingo, D.R. The ShelterBox team is first targeting pregnant women and families with newborns.

Rotary clubs throughout the Caribbean have raised more than \$1 million for immediate and long-term relief, and mobilized to send more than 55 planes carrying 50,000 pounds of medical equipment and supplies.

The Rotary Foundation has set up a Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund to streamline the flow of contributions, primarily for U.S. club members. Fund managers will work with local Rotary clubs and relief agencies to meet the most pressing needs of communities in the affected area. Funds will be used in the relief effort, and for projects providing longer-term support and development.

**About Rotary:** Rotary International is a global network of community volunteers united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Founded in 1905 in Chicago, today there are approximately 1.2 million Rotary club members in over 33,000 Rotary clubs. The Rotary Club of Blacksburg ([www.blacksburgrotary.org](http://www.blacksburgrotary.org)) began in 1978 and today consists of over 110 members who meet at noon on most Thursdays at the Blacksburg Country Club.

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*Tents are being set up for families in desperate need of shelter.*