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Rebuilding Nepal - How You Can Help

Dear Friends of The Advocacy Project

We are all shocked by the scale of the devastation in Nepal following the recent earthquake. This email offers a simple but effective way to help.

The tragedy in Nepal has a special meaning for our organization. Since 2003, The Advocacy Project (AP) has sent 35 graduate students - Peace Fellows - to help nine Nepali civil society partners defend human rights. We have built strong friendships in the process.

This work has suddenly become much harder because social inequality is always magnified by disaster. As Ram Kumar Bhandari, the founder of the <u>National Network of Families of the Disappeared in Nepal (NEFAD)</u>, writes: "The earthquake will widen discrimination in Nepal. We must continue our struggle and work for justice."

Ram lost his father to the disappearances in 2001. He tells us that several NEFAD members have again lost family members - this time to the earthquake. It is truly heartbreaking.

Four AP partners, including NEFAD, have asked us to support their essential work in a very practical manner, and we now share this with you. Before the end of the summer,

they plan to fund a health camp for hundreds of village women in an isolated district; enable at least 200 relatives of the disappeared testify before new government truth commissions; rescue 20 children from forced labor in the brick kilns by placing them in school; and expose acts of caste discrimination against the Dalit. The <u>details are set out here</u>, on our web site.

Our target is \$16,000, and we are asking for your help. To donate, simply click on the button at the top of this page, select "Nepal reconstruction appeal" from the drop-down menu and specify an amount. We will share all funds raised between the four partners, minus a 3% processing fee charged by Network for Good. We will also recruit four Peace Fellows to help our Nepali partners manage the money, report back through blogs and generally respond to the emergency. You can <u>meet this summer's Fellows here</u>.

We hope you will give generously. Nepali civil society is incredibly resilient and innovative. By helping these advocates you will help Nepal rebuild for the future.

Thank you.

The Advocacy Project team.

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