

Nepal

# Picking up after the devastating earthquake



Unifor  
Social  
Justice  
Fund

[www.unifor.org/sjf](http://www.unifor.org/sjf)





The SJF provides support on the ground to agencies in cases of sudden disasters.

On April 25, 2015, a 7.9 magnitude earthquake shook the bustling capitol of Kathmandu, Nepal. The powerful earthquake caused a massive loss of life in the thousands with tens of thousands more people badly injured. Entire communities were wiped out. Relief efforts stirred into action, with the intention of mitigating further tragedy and helping those who survived rebuild their lives.





On May 12, a second earthquake – this time a 7.3 magnitude, shook Nepal again, in the Himalayan foothills between Kathmandu and Mount Everest. The tremors from the earthquake were felt as far away as New Delhi, India. Over 8,500 people died, another 22,000 people were injured and 2.8 million people were left homeless.

The SJF, along with thousands of additional monies from Unifor locals and individual members, contributed \$60,000 to Oxfam Canada, which had an emergency team on the ground shortly after the first earthquake took place. In order to begin the complex rebuilding efforts, the most pressing immediate needs had to first be met.

Oxfam's emergency team in Nepal reached over 367,000 women, men and children in seven of the worst hit districts. By employing local Sherpas put out of work by the earthquakes, Oxfam was able to bring emergency relief high into the mountains.

Aided by the contributions of the SJF, Unifor locals and members, Oxfam Canada was able to provide a total of:



**Clean water for**

**30,000**

**people**

through the use of jerry cans and water purification tablets.



**Food baskets to**

**27,000**

**households,**

including rice, lentils, cooking oil and where possible support to grow crops again.



**45,300**

**emergency hygiene kits,**

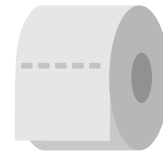
including basic items such as soap, blankets, underwear and toiletries for those who had to flee their homes.



**32,800**

**emergency and improved shelter kits,**

including foam mats, ground sheets, blankets and solar lamps.



**4,470**

**latrines built,**

as well as handwashing sites to help prevent the spread of disease and provide dignity to those who have lost almost everything.