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*The children are ready for school, shown standing in front of the tin hut and tents where they are living.*

# Earthquake Update

**JUNE 25, 2015**

**A Message from Beverly**

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I am now back in Nepal sorting out the challenges we face brought on by the two earthquakes—a 7.8 magnitude on April 25 and a 7.3 on May 12. Our buildings sustained significant damage in both.

I am happy to be reunited with the children and staff who have done an amazing job during this trying time. The dedication of our staff members is such an encouragement to me. We are still living in tents and a quickly erected tin hut. Monsoon has started with relentless rain and severe thunderstorms that make sleeping in tents very exciting!

I am reminded daily we are luckier than most because of our generous supporters. Many people from around the world are helping us. Your generosity and creativity is overwhelming. Did you know there is now a House with Heart hot sauce?! Please visit our [earthquake news](#) page on our website and read about the ways people have reached out to us thus far. If we've missed something please let me know.

The children have settled into a routine of sorts. They recently returned to school, which luckily sustained only slight damage. Their summer holiday has been cancelled, so they're not too happy about that. The significant aftershocks continue. On June 16 there were four registering from 4.2 to 5.4. The children are not very bothered by them now, having survived over 350 of them! The first few days after the first quake everyone felt dizzy and had headaches, but happily no one was hurt.

We are so grateful to **Martin Loy** of **New Line Structures Inc** in NYC who sent **Delia Shumway**, Director of Construction Activities, to inspect our facilities for structural damage. She also assessed several buildings in our community. It is hard to find an engineer or laborers at present as many of them returned to their villages to check on their own families and communities. Most of the Indian nationals who work in Nepal left immediately after the quake.

With Delia's final report in hand, we have started on the most critical task—removing our two 1000 litre water tanks from the roof, as the concrete table they were perched on was badly cracked. Three young men worked tirelessly for three days, breaking the concrete by hand and carrying it down four flights in baskets attached to their foreheads. The repair and retrofit to our House will require several things, including making the windows smaller to strengthen the walls, and adding wire mesh support

engineer. Some of the work will have to wait until the monsoon is over in September. Our office building is badly damaged, our learning center is now structurally unsafe, and the sewing training room needs extensive rebuilding as well. In short, we have a lot of work ahead of us.

We look forward to taking in more children in need of a loving home as soon as the House is stabilized. So far, three children have been slated to join our family—a two-year-old and two sisters, aged 9 and 11. All three of these children lost their parents in the quake.

I'm happy to report that my one-year visa was approved by the Nepal government. Thanks to **Suresh KC** and **Binda KC** for their effort on my behalf. Now I don't have to worry about how much time I spend in Nepal.

We continue to reach out to the wider community with assistance. We have distributed food, supplies, tents, medicine, and school supplies to local community groups, neighbors, and remote villages. We're partnering with other organizations like the SOS home for disabled children to maximize our outreach.

We are in the process of planning more significant work to reach larger groups of people, most likely with a focus on rebuilding schools. I will keep you all informed on our progress.

My heart aches for everyone who has suffered so much. Sadly there is more suffering to come. If you can help with a donation, it will make a real difference.



*Beverly Bronson (in black) and structural engineer Delia Shumway (in white) from New Line Structures Inc with some of the children.*

## Can you help? [Donate online](#)

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### **Our mailing address is:**

House with Heart  
151 First Ave, #74  
New York, NY 10003

*House with Heart (formerly Ghar Sita Mutu) is a home for abandoned children, an education center for impoverished women and children, and an outreach program for needy families in Kathmandu, Nepal.*

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