Newsletter: June 2017

What can happen in 22 minutes?

Hundreds of lives in nine villages were devastated in just 22 minutes when a storm killed people and livestock, and destroyed houses and crops.

Dear Friend,

On March 25th 2017, a massive storm, wreaked havoc in Malda, West Bengal. The storm damaged/destroyed 69 houses, crops and innumerable livestock. This has been financially devastating for the poor rural people.

IDRF and ERDS joined hands to assist these people and make them self-reliant once again. IDRF immediately sent 2 grants aggregating $22,400 towards repairs/reconstruction of houses and for providing new livestock (one cow, four goats or four pigs) in order to help them get back on their feet.

Beneficiaries have moved back into their reconstructed houses

E-pustakalaya: Digital Library Enhancement

Open Learning Exchange Nepal (OLE Nepal), is dedicated to enhancing quality education and access through the integration of technology in classrooms. IDRF has partnered with OLE and made grants of $25,000, for ‘One Laptop per Child’ to ensure that schools in Nepal provide students access to laptops and incorporate e-technology into the everyday school curriculum. OLE is currently providing a school with 250 laptops.
IDRF-OLE have also launched the E-Pustakalaya, a digital repository that can be accessed from the Internet or through an internal network of local servers. This e-library enables students to freely access and download the educational resources. The e-library has made great progress with a collection of thousands of e-books, audio books, videos, softwares and reference materials.

For more information on OLE Nepal’s programs: http://pustakalaya.org/index.php?lang=en

Fundraising by Children: Young Leaders in Community Service

Roopa Avula, Anand, and Aradhana Bannerji are a team from New Jersey, with a connection through a passion for music and community service. Roopa, a former music teacher of Anand (7th Grader) and Aradhana (9th Grader) was invited by the Bannerjis to attend Anand’s Upanayam Ceremony. Roopa couldn’t attend the event, but in lieu of sending a gift, she created an opportunity for her former students to become young leaders of a community service project. Three of them created a team to fundraise for IDRF and chose 3 causes closest to their hearts: healthcare, education for women, and clean living. They have been successful in raising over $1,700 by reaching out to the local community, via social media and word of mouth.
IDRF Team and supporters laud their efforts and passion to give back!

These are a few of the many successful projects that IDRF has been able to extend its help due to your generosity....

Please continue your support to IDRF and tell us if there is a cause near to your heart, a cherished dream of giving back that we can help you fulfill!

Regards,
Dr. Vinod Prakash,
President,
India Development and Relief Fund, Inc. (IDRF)