Seattle, Wednesday April 29, 2015

The Adara Group which has worked side by side with Nepali communities for 17 years – is calling on every person who is able to assist with relief efforts following the devastating earthquake in Nepal on Saturday, which has taken the lives of more than more than 5,000 people, and left more than 100,000 people homeless.

The 7.9-magnitude earthquake represents the worst disaster in the country in 80 years. The Australia-based Adara Group has been working in Nepal since 1998 assisting the child victims of human trafficking and working hand in hand with remote communities on health and education projects.

Adara Group founder and Chair, Audette Exel, asks that people donate whatever they can to assist with what will be one of the largest worldwide relief efforts seen in recent times.

“This is one of the largest catastrophes the Nepali people have faced, and there are countless people still unaccounted for,” Exel said. “There are so many brilliant International Non-Government Organisations who are worthy of support, including Adara, and with support from the global community we can make a real difference on the ground. We can assure all people wishing to donate to Adara that every cent that comes to us will go directly to relief efforts, as my business funds all administration costs directly. In a catastrophe of this size, every cent counts.

“It's in times of tragedy that the world stands up together and shows just what humanity is capable of. The relief efforts will go on long after today, and we implore people to continue with their assistance, however they can.”

Adara will use the funds to assist in ways that reflect their areas of expertise, and have identified short, medium and long-term goals for action. Although the plans are still being developed, funds raised will be used for projects such as:

- **Mobile medical camps** – using its expertise in mobile healthcare, the Adara Nepal team is already travelling to affected areas with a team of medical professionals to provide emergency first aid, sanitation and health education to some of the 6,800 injured.

- **Working to protect vulnerable children** – for the past 11 years Adara have worked with children at risk in Nepal and has developed extensive knowledge in the care and protection of vulnerable children. Adara will collaborate with the Central Children’s Welfare Board (CCWB) in Nepal to establish what they can contribute to help the homeless and distraught children currently at risk, separated with parents, orphaned and on the streets, and the best way to offer them shelter, food and care.

- **School rebuilding project** – Adara will work in partnership with a local school and the community to rebuild it as a child friendly and earthquake proof model that other schools can replicate. In partnership with the government of Nepal and civil society organisations, Adara has built similar model schools in Humla and has much to share in this area.

Under the Adara Group’s unique donation model, in which all administrative costs are covered by the Adara business arm, 100% of all donations received will be directed to the relief effort. Should funds raised exceed the amount required to meet the emergency relief and recovery needs of people in the affected areas, excess funds will be directed to the Nepal government's relief effort. Adara will work hand-in-hand with local government authorities and other International NGOs to ensure that it does not duplicate efforts.

www.adaragroup.org
Adara’s Nepal Country Director, Pralhad Dhakal, reports that all Adara staff, local project partners and the 136 formerly trafficked children that Adara works with are safe and accounted for.

“I am overwhelmed by the support that Adara’s friends from all over the world have offered during this difficult time,” Dhakal said. “It has been humbling to see the love and support that neighbours and strangers are giving to each other in Kathmandu. There is a lot to do and any help our friends can provide will be much appreciated by the people of Nepal.”

People wishing to donate can visit the following link: http://www.adaragroup.org/general/reaching-out-to-the-people-of-nepal-adara-responds-to-nepal-earthquake-disaster/

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