

The day disaster hit

Reaching in...

On April 25th, 2015 a devastating 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit Nepal and the very next day our team jumped into action. The people and families of CloudFactory were shaken to the core. Overnight our tech company had turned into a humanitarian aid center. On the second day, the team was on the phone contacting over 120 core staff and over 1400 cloud workers. In a matter of a few days, we were finally able to verify the safety of every single team member. It was essential for us to know that everyone was safe so that we could turn our full attention to helping in our communities as first responders.



Dear Friends and Family,

I want to thank you for partnering with us to respond quickly and generously. Your donations enabled us to care for literally thousands of people in their biggest time of need. We are so thankful for the deep roots that CloudFactory has into many communities across Nepal and the serving mindset that developed over 3 years and 5,000 community service projects. I believe God prepared us "for such a time as this" and along with the \$100,000 raised, we were able to get directly to many true needs in the face of disaster.

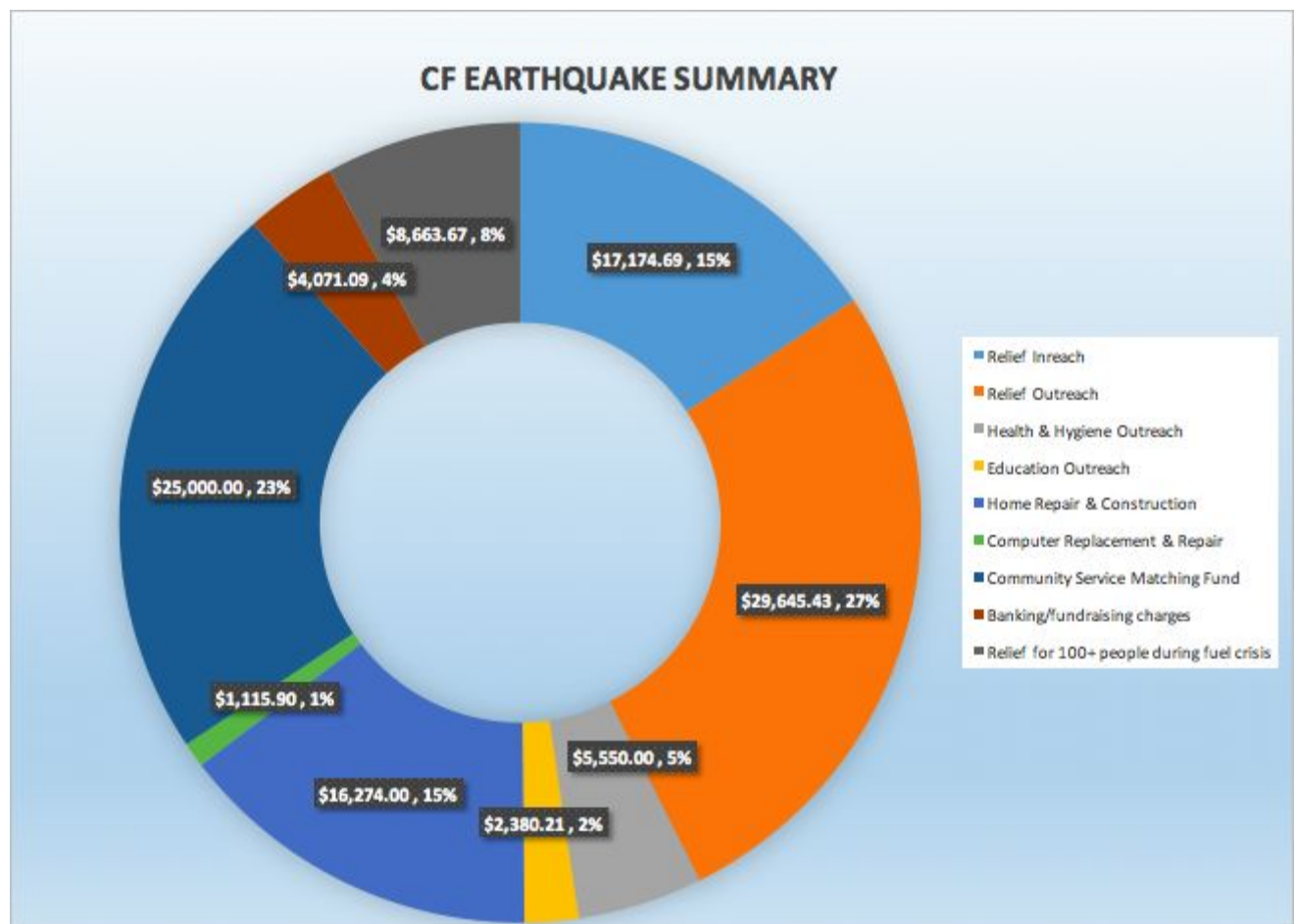
CloudFactory was able to deploy the donation money with almost 100% efficiency thanks to volunteers and employee time paid by the company. Many people on our team look back and feel like we can face almost anything together, thinking "these are the people I want to work with, who I want to live life with." They were touched that strangers from around the world would help care for their families and support them as they went out to serve others in small and big ways. Thank you for entrusting your donations to us. I hope you are blessed as you read through and see a glimpse of the relief and recovery you enabled.

Mark Sam

Funding

Income and Expenditure. . .

GoFundMe provided us the platform to quickly bring together so many helping hands after the earthquake. We received \$109,875 in gifts and the following is the summary of how that has been invested:



Breakdown

Relief Inreach	\$17,174.69
Relief Outreach	\$29,645.43
Health & Hygiene Outreach	\$5,550.00
Education Outreach	\$2,380.21
Home Repair & Construction	\$16,274.00
Computer Replacement & Repair	\$1,115.90
Community Service Matching Fund	\$25,000.00
Banking/fundraising charges	\$4,071.09
Relief for 100+ people during fuel crisis	\$8,663.67
Total	\$109,875.00

Relief outreach

Relief for villages in the outskirts . . .

We provided 5000 litres of water and tents to 50 families. Some had lost their loved ones, others lost their homes. When everyone was confirmed safe, we got together to meet the needs of the affected staff and their families. We rationed eatables like rice, lentils, dry food, water jars and began distributing them to our team and their families. The last Cloud worker was confirmed safe after 3 weeks of the disaster. A few stories from the first week follows:



Amar (Associate Manager Solutions Team) tells about his experience at Bungamati:

“My first visit with the CloudFactory relief team was a village nearby our office, Bungamati. The once culturally beautiful village was turned into rubble and was in desperate need of help.

We reached Bungamati by 1:00 PM food and basic sanitary material. People were unsure about what to do next. I saw few people trying to scrape through their belongings from a house that could collapse anytime. Some people were gathering around a radio trying to get updated with the latest happening. Some elders were playing cards and around them were the youth watching them play. Children were running around not knowing the level of destruction the earthquake caused. We saw some health workers providing basic medical treatment. It was a scene of total chaos. Amidst all the chaos, confusion, emotions and destruction we felt as if we were a part of that crowd.

We quickly distributed the packages to the people who we identified as the most needy ones. They gave us blessings and appreciated our effort. The joy we saw in their eyes after receiving the packages made us determined to help more people who were in need.”

Rikesh Karki (QA Engineer) looks back:

“Two days after the quake, I along with other friends decided to go visit CloudFactory and find out what was going on. We found that many of our fellow colleagues were busy finding ways to contact staff members and cloud workers and busy with preparations of relief materials for the needy. We soon jumped into the action and helped with distribution and delivery of things. By the end of the day, we had plenty of workers accounted for.

I also got a chance to visit a Cloud worker at Harisiddhi. We got some water, dry food and clothes for him. He shared that he lost his home and had some injuries as he was rescued.



Thankfully, all of his family members were rescued from the debris. It felt good to be able to meet him, hear his story and receive his gratitude for being there to help. During the first day, I realized that we had only one vehicle for delivery which was slowing things down. So I pulled up some contacts and got a delivery van for the next day. Then I moved towards procurement of things as we had plenty of people coming in to help. I went to collect water,

rice and other necessary items so that we could prepare cookable relief materials. I got a chance a few days later for another field visit to cloud workers shelter distributing relief materials. It was challenging to gather materials like Tarps as it was one of the most demanded things. All in all, it was an overwhelming experience to help fellow colleagues and fulfil our promise of returning to them with tarps that they had requested for. I got a chance to get closer to our online cloud workers and provide some kind of support to them directly and that is the feeling I will cherish for the rest of my life.”





Help for Shanti Magar

Shanti is a widow. Goon, her only son, is pursuing Bachelors at a nearby college with support from the local Church. They were living a room but the house owner asked them to leave since the house not livable. They were desperately looking for a room. With help from some friends, she found a land on lease and built a small two room huts with corrugated sheets. We handed over a an amount toward the completion of the hut through the local church pastor.



Reconstruction outreach

Building Repair and Reconstruction . . .

Rising back to normal life became a big challenge to people who had lost their homes to the earthquake. Majority of the houses in the worst hit districts like Sindhupalchowk, Dhading and Gorkha were down in ruins. Our Core team members and friends of CloudFactory went in person and helped people and groups outside of the Kathmandu valley. Some personal recollections follow next to give you an idea of some projects we carried out.



Sudip (Jr QA Engineer) writes:

“Our team went to Lachyang VDC for distribution of relief materials on 30 May. People gathered at 8 AM to plan how to run the event peacefully and systematically. They cleared stones to make a space for putting a tent for health check up. They welcomed our team as part of their culture. It was so warming pleasure. People were extremely helpful, kind and innocent. They managed everything so well that we could distribute the materials without any hassle. 80 families from 4 different wards of Lachyang VDC were selected by local committee who were affected by the earthquake.

We handed over them 6 corrugated sheets per family for temporary shelter. We could see that they were in desperate need of those metal sheets. We also provided them Mosquito Nets (1pc) per family including a Solar Lamp. People were happy to receive Nets and Lamp which can make their daily life easier. We also had a free health camp where we also distributed necessary medicine was also helpful. Doctor treated more than 200 people and administered necessary medicines. Besides these, we also distributed copies, pencils and some dry eatable to 150 children. Nepal Police and the local committee coordinated well to make the relief distribution program a success. We also thank our volunteer friends and local youth volunteers who made the event

systematic. 2 Doctors who helped us contributing their 1 day on free health camp did an amazing job.

A big thank you to our donor friends for making this possible for us in such an impossible situation.”

Sapana (Production Coordinator) recollects:

“We went for a repair and reconstruction program at Manthali, Ramechhap. The distribution process was a challenge as we had limited resources and unlimited people. We managed to call people at a church in Manthali, Anugraha Church, and have them collect their share.

We were able to reach 150 families with a bundle of corrugated sheets, and a blanket for



each family. The images here display collapsed houses, the distribution effort at Manthali, Anugraha Church, and the temporary houses where people are now residing using the supplies we distributed, one of the houses being mine. I am proud to be a part of CloudFactory!”

Yudina Poudel (Marketing Coordinator) looks back:

“Right after the Earthquake hit Kathmandu, an ad hoc group of friends from diverse profession came together with a single intent – “Rebuilding Hopes” with the aim to join hands with people and aid them to move on with their lives.



The quake had caused many to lose their homes and lives. The only thing left for them was hope. Among many relief activities this group was engaged in, rebuilding schools/ helping schools which had limited resources to build TLC quickly so children could at least resume their school, was our primary focus. There were many schools completely destroyed by the earthquake. We chose Majhuwa Primary School as our first project. The main reason of the location was, it

was right at the outskirts of Kathmandu valley, but help had not reached in that region. After receiving the news about the abandoned village, we went right away with our limited food/ medicines supplies (first phase of relief). We noticed, out of 110 households, not a single house stood firm. Same was the condition of the only local school of that area.

The school has 35 students. The children of Majhuwa were the most excited as they felt relieved, they could at least go to school. When the metal structures, were completed, the prefab panels were attached and roofs put in place. Finally, the Shelter was painted with the help of our volunteers.

The temporary learning shelter is already ready and we handed it over to the Principal of Majhuwa Primary school.”



Health and hygiene outreach

Meeting Emergency Health Needs . . .

We dedicated some part of the donations in bringing sustainable support to people in distress. The relief team spend time determining cases and identifying the cost that was required to get things back to normal for those affected. Some stories of this phase will give a picture of what happened next. Read more to find out firsthand stories from people involved firsthand.

For Mother and Child



Kailash (Sr Product Manager) left for Sindhupalchowk on a truck filled with supplies for pregnant women, mothers, and young children. As they drove past one of the villages, they witnessed the true extent of the earthquake's damage for the first time.

They drove past several villages along the hills through a narrow, winding (and scary) dirt road before they could reach their destination

- a Bhimtar village. As the truck slowed down to turn at a particularly challenging curve, a crowd of small children swarmed at them. "Chau chau deu (give noodles)!" they all shouted in unison. The impassivity in their expression hinted that they were used to repeating the ritual for every vehicle passing by. Post-disaster relief operations often create a "begging culture" in the communities they operate in. Sadly, it seemed like Nepal was no exception.

When they reached Bhimtar, friends from a local NGO helped set up a 'distribution center' at a relatively intact portion of a school that had otherwise been razed to ground. As they handed over relief supplies meant for women and children, the villagers expressed both surprise and appreciation. The only relief they had received so far was a tarpaulin, 20 Kg rice, and 20 Kg lentils for each family. Their lives under tarps were about to get much safer thanks to warm clothes and hygiene products we had provided,





more so when the monsoon arrives. Living in open tents meant that children needed to be protected from cold. Not having a proper toilet and sanitation meant that they have to be extra careful about hygiene.

We reached home at 7 in in the evening - completely exhausted but glad that we were able to deliver real help to 350 women with real needs.



Education outreach

Scholarships, Books, Writing Material for Students . . .

Many families lost their homes and loved ones but there were those who lost everything in terms of finances. Adding to the already distressed children, many schools went down in ruins.

Mahalaxmi Lower Secondary School

About 70 houses were been badly affected in Gairigaon village on the western end of Kathmandu. The children in the village lost all their belongings, especially educational material, in the debris. CloudFactory offered a fund amount for the local church so the church members could help the village children. The team from church decided to bless the village children with school bags, stationery material and an umbrella. The local church team left for the village with a van full of bags with stationery material for children. Gairigaon is badly affected by the earthquake. Although the school building is standing, it is declared unsafe. The team distributed material to 100 children outside in the assembly ground.



Rajan Pandey (Workforce Officer) remembers:

“A team from CloudFactory went to Petku, Sindupalchowk. Sindupalchowk is one of the worst affected districts with the current aftershocks centred there mostly even after 10 months. We went there to encourage children and teachers. The idea was to motivate the children to get back to school. We conducted a short session for them to bring their smiles back. There were few students because they were still scared of the earthquake. The school building was damaged. So, all the students were studying in a temporary house made of bamboo. Our team distributed school bags, notebooks, and pencils to the children. We also provided the school with a CPU, a printer and fans.”



Scholarship for Reena Lama, Dukuchhap

Reena lives in Dukuchhap on the outskirts of Kathmandu. Although 7 kms away from the city, the village where she lives looks remote. Living standards in this village is nothing less than a remote village hundreds of miles away from the city. Vehicles reach the bottom of a hill after which Reena walks about an hour to reach her home. When the first quake hit, she and her parents were out working in the field. When they reached the house, all that was left was a pile of bricks and pieces of wood. They had goats in a pen below the house. A few survived while others were crying for help. It was the most awful sight Reena doesn't wish to remember. A few months after the disaster, a few INGOs reached out to the community but Reena and her family did not get anything except a small tarp. They made themselves a small makeshift hut out of the corrugated sheet from the old house. Reena, who was doing Bachelors in Business Studies from a college in the

next village an hour of walk away, stopped going to college because she did not have any books left. When one of our Core team members reached the place, she shared the need for a fund that would enable her to get back to her studies. So we allocated a scholarship fund for Reena. Reena is happy to hop back on track again but the earthquake has created so many others like Reena who have very limited resources that deter them from living normal lives.

Machine replacement and repair

Laptops, Internet Service ...

Many of our workers lost internet service that they were using to work on CloudFactory platform. Some even lost their machines altogether. For some who showed dedication to work and were contributed much to get us move forward our team carried out an assessment as to who lost what and executed a plan so they workers could get back to normal work. Two workers share their stories with us:

Dipesh Maharjan

When the earthquake hit, I was having meal with my family. As soon as we realised it was an earthquake, we all ran to the ground floor of the house. As the aftershocks decreased, we went to an open space where people were shouting and crying. Many houses were destroyed.

Because of earthquake, my house was also cracked and we temporarily stayed at my Maternal uncle's home. My house got many crack and was declared unsafe by authorities. The machine I worked on, my laptop, also got damaged. My only source of income stopped with the machine gone. I got help from CloudFactory as a relief package and also a matching fund to buy a new laptop so I could resume work. This came as a huge blessing to me and my family. I am extremely grateful to everyone who helped me stand up on my feet once again.



Log Bahadur Chand



When the earthquake hit, my mind was blank. I wasn't able to think properly. I got hold of my nephew and niece on and ran to a safe place by carrying them in my arms. After few hours I went inside my room only to find my belongings broken and scattered. My router and laptop battery lay on the floor. I could not use them anymore. I am so grateful CloudFactory helped me by to buy a router and laptop battery.

Thank you!

Please check out some of the video coverage of the efforts you helped enable:

CloudFactory: Economic Opportunity and a Stronger Nepal

http://youtube.com/watch?v=y_mjCaQFX4o

Nepal Earthquake Update: CloudFactory Relief Efforts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CShqplz-DfM>

CloudFactory: Shaken To The Core

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIxcWi-K7nA>

CloudFactory: Raising Up Leaders and Incubating Relief Projects

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01NJef62b04>

Thank you for your support

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=14MhKZD9WtI&feature=youtu.be>

