

Buddha Jyoti Himalayan Youth Club

“Maitri--Griha”

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Dear friends of “Maitri-Griha”

We would like to update you about our project. To move up with a proper strategy and plan we came up with a temporary tin roof shelter for” Maitri-Griha” to save our children in monsoon from the rain and water and also because of aftershock, which is still scaring us. According to the municipality engineer, our house is not safe to stay. We tried to open MG on 31st of May but engineer suggested me not to take a risk. We looked for a new house for the last 7-8 days but we could not find a suitable one for our little project. It's not easy to find the good and proper house in Kathmandu after the earthquake, since most of the houses are badly damaged. We found one house but it was too expensive for our budget.

We all are very sad that we are now unable to continue our project here. As we all love this house and the place is very reachable to transportation, Boudhanath is just 10 minutes away. Sadly we must give up this house. But to continue the project here, is putting life of all MG children, staff and volunteers in danger.

MG house is a wall system house, which has no concrete pillar. These kind of houses are mostly destroyed during the major earthquake in May and those left are either not livable or need a lot of investment for repair. Our MG house has cracked walls and ceiling since the earthquake.

As we all know that our project is home for mentally challenged children, you can imagine how it will be to work with them and how scared they are, when there are aftershocks. Even today we had it couple of time.

We heard that there are some mechanic practical engineers who could fix the house by putting iron frame called retrofitting. So, today we showed them our house. They visited our MG house. After observing the house from ground floor to the top, they said as well it is not safe to live in. They said the cracks on the walls are not a major issue but the cracks on the ceiling mean the house is unsafe to live in.

He told us we should remove the top two rooms (physiotherapy and advanced class room), which would reduce the weight burden on the ceiling. But this means we will have less room. This is not a good option for us.

The House owner visited the house recently without engineer and told us we could live in it with a little maintenance. But the engineers opinion is very much different to the house owners. We can understand his opinion, that it would be nice for him if we could continue the project here. But we cannot risk the life of the children and the staff.

Finally we have made the plan to move out. We are just running our school temporary here. As we would not like to show our children, staff and family, that we cannot move on. Till the last breath we would continue this little project. We want to get the children out of fear, out of rooms and would like to make time and environment at MG like before.

Renovating this house is costlier for us and it makes no sense and finding new house very soon is difficult either.

Friends, so we are now with a plan to buy a piece of land for MG. We realized it as well this time, we spend lots of money and energy to build new rooms, well, roof of the house, painting; at the end nothing belongs to us. With even just small piece of land which would be ours, everything we spend would belong to "Maitri Griha"; laying a single brick is a foundation of MG, a saving for the future of the mentally challenged children, and a future for a stable friendly home for volunteers and visitors.

This is our plan. To come over this mission we need your kind cooperation.

We would like to invite you all to take part in this MG rebuild mission.

Help us to raise fund and request you all "lets join hands together to rebuild "Maitri-Griha" to make its future and long term existence.

Pema Lama

(Buddha Jyoti Himalayan Youth Club "Maitri-Griha")

Some pictures from our temporary shelter of "Maitri Griha"





Finally we would like to thank all of you for the generous support you all did for "Maitri-Griha"