



When the 2015 earthquake devastated Nepal, D2N was in a unique position. We were already working with community organizations and had developed trusting relationships with their members. Therefore, we could quickly provide appropriate funding.

During the COVID pandemic we find ourselves similarly positioned to provide needed aid in both Detroit and Nepal and are grateful to be able to do so.



This mural, designed by Jasmine Harris of Cr8tive Minds and funded through a grant from the DMC Foundation, resides on Glendale Avenue in Highland Park in front of Buckets of Rain.

DETROIT

D2N has been working in Highland Park since 2016. In March we assembled four Highland Park-based grassroots organizations from the D2N family. This gathering became the Highland Park Community Crisis Coalition (HPC3), an entity created to address the COVID crisis. D2N is providing funding to HPC3.



HPC3 is a one-stop source for COVID relief, general support information and services. Direct resources and services include masks, food (including fresh vegetables from the D2N-funded Buckets of Rain gardens), water and water filters, sanitary supplies to prevent COVID, mental health counseling and the Energy Utility Assistance Fund which supplies small grants to households in need.

HPC3 mails a monthly newsletter to all residents of Highland Park with information about the COVID-19 crisis and available resources. Residents of Highland Park can call, text or email HPC3 to be connected to the organization which can meet their needs; nearly 900 residents of Highland Park have already received services from HPC3.



D2N has also provided funding to the mentorship organization Building Better Men to allow them to expand services during COVID. Director Odis Bellingier created virtual infrastructure necessary to address the educational, health and physical fitness needs of his mentees. Mental health counseling and food programs were also added to Building Better Men's services.





All COVID relief projects in Nepal are located in the Khotang District. Our partner organization, Janasewa Samaj Nepal, is implementing D2N's COVID Relief Initiative, consisting of the following:



NEPAL

Schools reopened September 1, 2020. A coordinated effort between teachers, students, ward (village) and municipality officials resulted in a plan to provide educational material, hand washing stations, masks and hand sanitizer at 56 public schools.



Due to travel restrictions and other stresses of COVID, there were gaps in the care that D2N-constructed health posts and birthing centers could provide. In response, D2N is fully funding five free health camps. Services will complement the health care provided at the health posts, including ophthalmology evaluation and operations, radiology, lab testing, dental services and minor procedures and operations.



Job losses have hit rural Nepal hard, many young men who had been working abroad or in Nepal's cities have returned to Khotang unemployed. A week-long «Start and Improve Your Business» training is planned in ten different wards. Candidates with the best business plan will then be selected to receive a one-time matching grant to support their plan. D2N will also fund jobs to create 10,000 cloth masks.

COVID awareness is not widespread in Khotang's villages. For that reason short educational segments about the spread and prevention of COVID will be broadcast on three local FM radio stations.



Janasewa Samaj Nepal will work with wards and their health posts to help coordinate and support home quarantine for individuals returning from urban areas or abroad. At least one quarantine center will be available in each of the ten municipalities in Khotang. Support will include education, hand sanitizer and masks.

