

Give to Haiti Relief

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#DR000064

Help is on the way - what is needed, what is not



The people of Haiti work together to distribute relief supplies. Photo by Paul Jeffrey, ACT.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance continues to respond in Haiti. As of January 28, 2010, in addition to a key expert being assigned to Haiti to carry out assessments, \$409,000 has been sent to assist with emergency needs. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is responding as a member of the ACT Alliance (ACT.)

The response in Haiti is still in the relatively early phase of emergency relief. The most effective way to respond is through financial support. PDA is not requesting material aid, other than the preparation of Gift of the Heart hygiene and baby kits, to replenish the supply after more than 35,000 kits have been directed to Haiti.

Volunteers are not requested at this time, but you may register your interest for if/when future opportunities arise.

Relief distributions

As of January 27, relief services through ACT partners include:

- distribution of clean water; installation of latrines; health/hygiene team
- provision of hot meals and/or funding to purchase meals
- health and nutrition clinics
- food distribution and assistance for people with disabilities
- hygiene kits, baby kits, blankets
- medicines

According to the January 27 OCHA report, the government is reporting more than 260,000 people who have left the earthquake-affected areas, moving to departments in the north and south. While Leogane was affected, the Hôpital Sainte Croix is functional, and together with the Faculte des Sciences Infirmiere l'Universite Episcopale d'Haiti (FSIL) nursing school is offering support to those injured. PDA is supporting these entities as they work with people injured during the earthquake.

Upcoming needs

As assessments continue, needs for intermediate support and long term recovery assistance will become more clearly defined. Updates will be provided on the needs and the response. Some of the needs being identified at this time include:

- Food preparation items and cooking facilities, for people to prepare locally purchased foods
- Support for restoring livelihoods
- Options for shelter
- Community based psychosocial support
- Staff care
- Rehabilitation services

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance will continue to care for those in need, regardless of religion, race, creed, or nationality of the recipients. The coordinated response will include (but may not be limited to) the areas of relief, education, psychosocial support, water and sanitation and disaster preparedness.

GEORGETOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GPC members have once again responded to the call for help.

- ◆ 100 hygiene kits have been assembled and delivered
- ◆ \$3710.00 has been donated to PDA
- ◆ \$280 has been donated to Church World Service