



American Red Cross



ONE-MONTH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS RESPONSE

February 12, 2010

**A HISTORIC RELIEF EFFORT**

On January 12, 2010, a series of earthquakes ranging from magnitude 6.5 - 7.3 struck the island nation of Haiti, killing an estimated 200,000 people, and forcing 3 million Haitians to cope with the loss of loved ones, homes, schools and livelihoods. The earthquakes and their aftershocks, which repeatedly hit just outside the country's capital city Port-au-Prince, reduced most buildings to rubble and left an estimated 1.2 million people instantly homeless. It is a monumental catastrophe, inflicting massive damage and suffering in Haiti—already the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.

“The needs are great, but the generous support of the American people is making a difference every day.”

—Gail McGovern, President and CEO

Once the first quake ended, the American Red Cross began working around the clock to provide emergency relief and assistance to survivors. One month later, the Red Cross has reached hundreds of thousands more with relief supplies, food, medical services, water, sanitation support and shelter. [View photos showing the many ways support from the American public has enabled the Red Cross to assist the people of Haiti after the earthquake.](#)

**Relief Workers**

The global Red Cross network is responding on a massive scale—more than 600 Red Cross and Red Crescent workers from 30 nations are in Haiti today supporting thousands of Haitian volunteers. The international relief operation has involved more emergency response teams than any other single-country disaster in Red Cross history.

Each Red Cross team has its own role and expertise, and we collectively form a powerful engine of relief. [Watch a video capturing activities at the Red Cross base camp in Haiti, from which hundreds of relief workers are mounting this historic, coordinated response.](#)

More than 100 people are representing the American Red Cross in Haiti:

- 30 specialists are responding through activities like relief distribution and telecommunications support
- 14 employees, who were permanently based in Haiti prior to the earthquake, are helping to guide the response
- More than 50 Creole-speaking interpreters are stationed offshore supporting a military hospital ship, the USNS *Comfort*

**Food, Water and Other Relief Items**

In addition to deploying relief workers and other disaster management specialists, the American Red Cross is providing:

- Relief supplies for 130,000 people, including blankets, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, water containers and mosquito nets
- Three million pre-packaged meals to the United Nations World Food Programme
- Funding to help feed an additional 1 million people for a month
- More than 1 million water-purification sachets, thanks to Population Services International

[Watch a video showing how the Red Cross is providing earthquake survivors with these basic items using an orderly, effective and dignified distribution process.](#)

To meet the dire need for clean water, the global Red Cross network has collectively provided 17 million liters, reaching approximately 300,000 people per day, since the earthquake. In addition,

to address sanitation needs and reduce the spread of disease, relief workers are constructing hundreds of latrines and portable toilets as well as collecting tons of garbage in and around Port-au-Prince.

**Healthcare**

The earthquake destroyed many of the hospitals and healthcare facilities in Port-au-Prince. To help meet the needs of the hundreds of thousands injured and prevent the spread of diseases common after disasters of this scale, Red Cross teams from around the world partnered to:

- Establish two field hospitals and four mobile healthcare clinics, which are providing medical services to approximately 1,600 patients per day
- Support a government-led immunization and hygiene promotion campaign that will initially help protect and educate more than 250,000 children

[Read about other ways the Red Cross is helping children in Haiti, including a four-year-old boy named Joe.](#)

Additionally, the American Red Cross has:

- Provided nearly 750 units of blood for earthquake survivors
- Funded \$600,000 worth of food for the mobile clinics

**Shelter**

More than 1 million people in Haiti are in need of shelter. In coordination with other relief agencies, the Red Cross aims to address this complex situation through a combination of strategies, including:

- Providing local families with solutions that will encourage them to rebuild safely near their pre-disaster homes
- Supporting the needs of host families who are housing displaced people
- Supporting people in post-quake settlements by providing both tarps and tents

## A TRUSTED PRESENCE IN HAITI

The American Red Cross has had an ongoing presence in Haiti since 2004, supporting local disaster preparedness, HIV education, malaria prevention and measles immunization initiatives. When the earth began to shake on January 12, 2010, the American Red Cross staff of 14, including head of the local delegation [Matthew Marek](#), reacted quickly by providing first aid, assessing the damage and distributing pre-positioned supplies to people fleeing the crumbling buildings. One month later, Matthew, his team and the more than 3,000 local Haitian Red Cross Society volunteers continue to be a critical part of the response. They have intimate knowledge of Haiti and the trust of its people because of the Red Cross' permanent role in the community.

## Assistance in the U.S.

The American Red Cross has been providing welcoming services, shelter and other support for repatriated citizens and medical evacuees who arrived in the United States following the earthquake. In addition, the American Red Cross is helping people find and reestablish contact with their loved ones in Haiti through its international family tracing service—a form of assistance that is also being provided by the Red Cross in Haiti. [Read how survivors in Haiti are using cell phones, like those donated by the American Red Cross, to call loved ones around the world to share that they are safe and well.](#)

## LOOKING AHEAD

It is clear that what took minutes to destroy will take many years and the collective support from governments and relief agencies across the globe to help rebuild. Because of extraordinary support from the

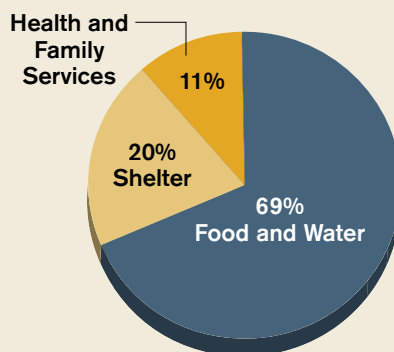
American public, we will continue to play an important role in the relief efforts in the months ahead.

## FINANCIALS

Since the January 2010 Haiti earthquake, the American Red Cross has received unprecedented support from compassionate individuals, corporations and foundations throughout the United States. The American Red Cross has received approximately \$255 million (as of February 10, 2010) for the Haiti relief and recovery efforts.

More than \$32 million has been pledged through a record-breaking mobile giving effort in which people text "Haiti" to 90999 to donate \$10. Thank you for enabling the American Red Cross to respond immediately and effectively as the needs on the ground evolve.

**American Red Cross Funds Spent/Committed for Haiti Earthquake Response**  
Total: \$80 Million



Reflects funds spent/committed as of 2/9/10.

To date, the American Red Cross has already spent or committed \$80 million to meet the most urgent needs of earthquake survivors in Haiti. Aimed at immediate relief, approximately 69 percent of the funds committed thus far have been for food and water; 20 percent have been allocated for shelter;

and the rest have been dedicated for health and family services. As the response progresses and recovery begins, the Red Cross will continue to support these priority areas and longer-term assistance initiatives.

The American Red Cross is committed to using every dollar wisely. An average of 91 cents of every dollar received is invested directly into humanitarian services and programs.

## EVERY YARD SALE, EVERY CUPCAKE

Whether it's a workplace collection, a celebrity telethon or a boy's donation of the dollar left by the tooth fairy, Americans have been extraordinarily generous in their support of American Red Cross relief operations in Haiti. [Read some of their inspiring stories](#) and [watch a Public Service Announcement](#), both showing how local action is making global impact.

Each **\$10 donation**, millions of which were received via text message, helped urgently needed supplies and support reach survivors within hours of the earthquake. For example, just one of these gifts provided a first aid kit equipped with enough ointment and bandages for a Red Cross responder to treat 15-20 injured earthquake survivors. [See the faces of the men, women and children receiving this basic, yet lifesaving support, thanks to you.](#)

## THANK YOU

Thank you for coming to the aid of the families left homeless, hungry and frightened by the January 2010 Haiti earthquake. To follow the American Red Cross response as it evolves, please visit [redcross.org/haiti](http://redcross.org/haiti). You can also receive regular updates through the Red Cross [Blog](#), [Disaster Online Newsroom](#), [Flickr](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) sites.

You can help the victims of countless crises, like the recent earthquake in Haiti, around the world each year by making a financial gift to the American Red Cross International Response Fund, which will provide immediate relief and long-term support through supplies, technical assistance and other support to help those in need. The American Red Cross was able to respond immediately to this earthquake—even before donations were received—because of contributions already made to the International Response Fund. Please consider helping the Red Cross as we prepare for the next emergency. Call **1-800-RED-CROSS** or visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).



Michaëlle Fleamvil carries supplies distributed by the American Red Cross at Croix Desprez. She is helped by Red Cross worker Matthew Marek