



**American
Red Cross**

Lee County Chapter

Red Cross Aid Reaching Haitian Earthquake Survivors

We're making progress. The American public has reached out to help and their support is getting to Haiti.

Monday, January 18, 2010 - More than 400 Red Cross workers from around the world as well as several thousands of local volunteers are addressing urgent needs and mobilizing a massive response operation in Haiti.

The Red Cross is providing a wide range of help and support in the form of food, water, relief supplies, field hospitals, emotional support, sanitation facilities and family linking services for the people of Haiti.

Relief materials are being delivered, and more help is on the way by air, land and sea.

- American Red Cross President and CEO Gail McGovern is in the Dominican Republic, meeting with Red Cross leadership from around the world, and will travel to Haiti on Tuesday to visit relief operations.
- Today (Monday), American Red Cross workers are delivering basic supplies to people gathering in camps near Croix Deprez.
- First aid posts have been set up in the streets, outside the damaged American Red Cross office, where volunteers from Haiti and other countries are working side-by-side to clean and stitch up wounds amidst the rubble.
- In the days ahead, the American Red Cross will begin to provide supplies for temporary shelters in Haiti. Kits, containing tarps, rope and tools, as well as tents and blankets, will be made available for an initial 20,000 families.
- Over the weekend, planes and trucks carrying Red Cross humanitarian assistance arrived in the region, delivering a field hospital and much needed materials such as tarps, blankets, hygiene items, buckets, shelter supplies and kitchen sets. Three additional shipments of relief items should arrive on Monday and Tuesday in the Dominican Republic before being trucked into Haiti.
- The Red Cross is training dozens of Creole-speaking volunteers who will work as translators on the USNS Comfort when Haitians will be brought aboard for medical care.
- The Red Cross spent the weekend delivering clean drinking water to survivors gathering in six different communities. Latrines have also been built to help address sanitation issues.
- The Red Cross is treating crush injuries and triaging people for surgery outside a hospital in downtown Port-au-Prince. Two additional Red Cross hospitals and three health outreach teams are expected to be operational within the day (Monday).
- **This is a massive urban disaster of unprecedented proportions, and we know that this is going to be a costly long-term recovery operation.**
- Terrible times like these bring out the best in people, and we are grateful for the support being given to the American Red Cross.
- People can donate in support of the relief effort in Haiti at www.redcross.org or by calling 1-800-REDCROSS. Mobile donors can text "Haiti" to 90999 to make a \$10 contribution.

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 honors donor intent. If you wish to designate your donation to a specific disaster, please do so at the time of your donation by mailing your donation with the designation to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, D.C. 20013 or to your local American Red Cross chapter. Donations to the International Response Fund can be made by phone at 1-800-REDCROSS or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish) or online at www.redcross.org

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