

Haiti Earthquake Two-month Report



On January 12, 2010, a 7.0-magnitude earthquake rocked southern Haiti, killing more than 230,000 people. One of the hardest hit areas was Port-au-Prince, the nation's capital. Millions of Haitians were hurt and homeless - and they are still injured and struggling to survive. This earthquake is considered by many to be the worst disaster to hit the country in 200 years.

This catastrophe has affected people already living in an area ranked by the United Nations as the poorest country in the Western hemisphere. It is a chronically unstable region in economic decline. Haitian families are poorer now than they were 40 years ago. The United Nations Development Program estimates that nearly 80 percent of Haitians live on less than \$2 per day.

Our Response

Relief Workers

During the first eight weeks after the earthquake, Medical Teams International sent 13 volunteer teams composed of more than 70 doctors, nurses and other health professionals. Our first team arrived in Haiti on January 15 and our volunteers have been working in the areas of Port-au-Prince, Leogane, Les Cayes and Carrefour. Watch [videos](#) and view their [photos](#) to learn more about their work.

Gifts-in-kind

More than \$4.6 million worth of supplies and medicines has been given to local hospitals and survivors living in tent cities. These include an Interagency Emergency Health Kit (IEHK), orthopedic equipment and supplies, suture materials and a broad range of medicines, including antibiotics. Two additional IEHKs with malaria components will be arriving in Haiti within the next few weeks.

Health Care

The earthquake damaged many of the health care facilities in the affected areas. Medical Teams International met the needs of those who are injured through:

- rehabilitating King's Hospital with infrastructure repairs, medical staff, supplies, medicines and emergency orthopedic surgeries;
- deploying nearly 100 mobile medical units to various tent cities; and
- supplying eight hospitals with urgently needed orthopedic supplies.

Volunteers and staff have been able to provide care for nearly 15,000 people. Services include orthopedic surgery, primary health care, wound care and psychosocial treatment.

Working Together

Medical Teams International has been coordinating daily with the United Nations and other non-governmental organizations. Partners include Haiti Foundation of Hope, Christian Reformed World Relief Committee, World Relief, International Orthodox Christian Charities, Apostolic Christian World Relief and Surgical Implant Generation Network. Additionally, Medical Teams International has been working with local Haitian churches and community groups for logistical coordination, transport services and medical referrals.

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Looking Forward

For the next several months, Medical Teams International will be providing care in the cities of Port-au-Prince, Leogane and Les Cayes through:

- sending out mobile medical units where Medical Teams International volunteers will provide direct medical care services to displaced Haitians;
- coordinating medical support for the hospitals and clinics in the earthquake zones;
- establishing a curriculum supported by the Haiti Ministry of Health that will help address the psychosocial needs of the population;
- providing post-surgical care of prosthetics and orthopedics for affected Haitians; and
- conducting projects that will improve community health, water and sanitation.

Our History in Haiti

Medical Teams International first sent volunteers to Haiti in 1994 to assist the victims of a civil conflict. During 2004 and 2005, we deployed six disaster response teams to provide health care services for those wounded in Hurricane Jeanne. In 2006, Medical Teams International funded a safer home birthing program through Catholic Relief Services and sent a midwifery team to train traditional birth attendants on effective ways to oversee maternal labor and delivery. Since 2004, we have deployed 18 primary care teams to work with Haiti Foundation of Hope.

Financials

Medical Teams International has received overwhelming support from individual and corporate donors. To date, more than \$4.1 million dollars in cash has been pledged for the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund. More than \$4.6 million in medicines and medical supplies has been shipped to Haiti. Donations are accepted online at www.medicalteams.org or by texting HOPE to 253-83 for a \$10 gift.

97 percent of gifts go to our programs and services. The contribution of thousands of hours of volunteers' time and millions of dollars in donated medicines, supplies and equipment helps Medical Teams International keep its overhead to an astounding 3 percent.

Accountability



To ensure accountability for contributions, Medical Teams International is a member of the Better Business Bureau and the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. Medical Teams International is a 4-star charity as awarded by Charity Navigator.

THANK YOU

Your support for our Haiti relief efforts and for our other programs allows us to provide care for people affected by disaster, conflict and poverty around the world. To follow the Medical Teams International response as it evolves, please visit www.medicalteams.org. You can also receive regular updates through the Medical Teams International [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.