

HAITI RELIEF DONATIONS

For Haiti Relief, make checks out to PCCH and then in the memo designate either “The Haiti Fund” or “Presbyterian Disaster Assistance” which is collected by the denomination and spent ecumenically through Church World Service.

If you are not prepared to write a check today and want to send one off personally, the addresses are:

The Haiti Fund
P.O. Box 1075
New Bern, NC 28563

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

HAITI FUND/ CODEP UPDATE- JANUARY 19, 2010

How will my contribution be used? – Many people have asked if their contributions to Haiti Fund, Inc. will be used for the relief effort, instead of our normal development work.

Yes, definitely. The executive committee met today and decided that we are suspending our reforestation work to focus on the immediate relief effort. The rationale is as follows:

- the urgent need right now is to assess the damage and provide relief
- primary needs are for medical supplies, clean water, housing and food
- we are seeking a variety of ways to get relief materials to the area so our project workers can distribute them
- we have a leadership team on the ground, with a management structure in place
- they are trusted, local, have been in place for many years and are able to quickly provide for distribution

Therefore, your contributions will be used to provide relief to all the communities in our project area – from near Carrefour Dufort to Tombe Gateau at the top of the mountain.

What is the situation? – We have verified reports that APKF, Siloe schools and many homes in the project have collapsed. While it seems that none of our people have been killed, there are injuries and deaths in the project. We have distributed all of our clothing and medicine supplies we had at the L'Acul facility. We have participated in the team effort that brought medical supply flights into Léogâne. As you know from watching the news reports from Haiti, the major problem now is not the lack of relief supplies, but the receipt and distribution of them through the port and then to the rest of the country. Accordingly, we are exploring a variety of ways to get the needed supplies to our area. Then we can implement our project distribution system to deliver them. We will keep you posted on that as we know more.

What are the next steps? – Project directors, Mike and Nicole Carlin, were in the US at the time of the earthquake. Mike is currently making plans to return to Haiti over the next several days with the following goals:

- to establish a reliable means of communication with the leadership team of CODEP
- to assess the level of personal injury and damage in the project, and
- to evaluate the needs in reference to medicine, food, water and shelter

As noted, we have already distributed all the L'Acul supplies. Now we need to establish consistent channel of communication so we can assess how best to bring more relief to the project area.

Please continue to pray for the people of Haiti and for those who now are helping them through this crisis.