



American Public Health Association  
Student Assembly

## **Urgent Action Alert for January 2010**

### **Haiti Earthquake Crisis**

***TAKE ACTION NOW!***

***BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE!***

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please contact Brittany Marshall at [action@aphastudents.org](mailto:action@aphastudents.org)

A 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck Tuesday, January 12, 2010 near Port-au-Prince in Haiti affecting as many as 3 million people and reducing many of the city's homes, government buildings and foreign aid headquarters to rubble. The death toll is estimated to be in the thousands. 80 percent of the Caribbean country's estimated 9 million people are living below the poverty line. According to UNAIDS, approximately 120,000 Haitians are living with HIV. Haitians also struggle with tuberculosis, which USAID estimates claimed the lives of 6,814 Haitians in 2007. Ensuring positive health outcomes for the sick, vulnerable and wounded in Haiti in the aftermath of the quake is a top priority. It has been reported that the two main facilities of an AIDS treatment center called Gheskio were heavily damaged during the quake. According to Warren Johnson, MD, one of the group's board members, now-impassible roads will make it difficult for people living with HIV or tuberculosis to get treatment.

Aid organizations such as the Red Cross, Save the Children and Partners in Health have set up emergency relief funds to provide urgently needed medical attention, food, safe drinking water, shelter and other necessities for tens of thousands of people. If you can, **TAKE ACTION** and donate now. Your support will help meet the most critical needs of those affected by the earthquake.

### ***How YOU Can Help!***

#### **Text Donations**

To make an automatic \$10 donation to the Red Cross, text "HAITI" to 90999; the money will be charged directly to your cell phone bill.

To donate \$5 via your cellphone to Wyclef Jean's grassroots organization: text "Yele" to 501501.

**Partner with a charitable organization on your campus and/or around your community that offers aid to Haiti.**

- **American Red Cross:** Since its founding in 1881 by visionary leader Clara Barton, the American Red Cross has been the nation's premier emergency response organization.
- **Salvation Army:** an international movement, is an evangelical part of the

universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

- [Action Against Hunger](#): Named for the original member of the International Network, Action contre la Faim, or ACF, the ACF International Network shares an overall vision of a world without hunger, collaborating closely and sharing human resources, logistics, and technical capacity.
- [AmeriCares](#): a nonprofit disaster relief and humanitarian aid organization which provides immediate response to emergency medical needs - and supports long-term humanitarian assistance programs - for all people around the world, irrespective of race, creed or political persuasion.
- [American Jewish World Service](#): American Jewish World Service (AJWS) is an international development organization motivated by Judaism's imperative to pursue justice. AJWS is dedicated to alleviating poverty, hunger and disease among the people of the developing world regardless of race, religion or nationality. AJWS fosters civil society, sustainable development and human rights for all people, while promoting the values and responsibilities of global citizenship within the Jewish community.
- [Beyond Borders](#): Beyond Borders is a registered tax-exempt (501c3) non-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible. We are certified by the state of Pennsylvania as a charitable organization.
- [CARE](#): CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty.
- [Catholic Relief Services](#): Help CRS rush humanitarian relief to survivors within hours of man-made and natural disasters around the world.
- [ConcernUSA.org](#): a non-governmental, international, humanitarian organization dedicated to the reduction of suffering and working towards the ultimate elimination of extreme poverty in the world's poorest countries.
- [Childcare Worldwide](#): At Childcare Worldwide, our unique programs not only help feed hungry children and their families, they also help children receive an education that leads to employment. Our goal is to help children survive and succeed.
- [Direct Relief International](#): Since 1948, Direct Relief International has worked to help people who confront enormous hardship to improve the quality of their lives.

- **Doctors Without Borders:** Doctors Without Borders provides aid in nearly 60 countries to people whose survival is threatened by violence, neglect, or catastrophe, primarily due to armed conflict, epidemics, malnutrition, exclusion from health care, or natural disasters.
- **Episcopal Relief & Development :** In the aftermath of a 7.0-magnitude earthquake, Episcopal Relief & Development is providing critical emergency funds to Haiti.
- **Food for the Poor:** Food For The Poor ministers to spiritually renew impoverished people throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Food For The Poor raises funds and provides direct relief assistance to the poor, usually by purchasing specifically requested materials and distributing them through the churches and charity organizations already operating in areas of need.
- **Feed My Starving Children:** Feed My Starving Children is a non-profit Christian organization committed to feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit.
- **Friends of WFP :** Friends of WFP is a U.S.-based, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that focuses on building support in the United States for the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) and other hunger relief operations.
- **Haitian Health Foundation:** The Haitian Health Foundation provides health care, development, relief, and the hope of a future to more than 225,000 of the poorest people in over 100 rural mountain villages in southwestern Haiti.
- **Hope for Haiti:** Hope for Haiti has held the vision from the very beginning that the people of Haiti are the ones who take control of their future and we are here to lend a needed hand along the difficult path.
- **International Medical Corps:** International Medical Corps is a global, humanitarian, nonprofit organization dedicated to saving lives and relieving suffering through health care training and relief and development programs.
- **International Relief Teams:** International Relief Teams is a nonprofit, international relief organization dedicated to organizing volunteer teams to provide medical and non-medical assistance to the victims of disaster and profound poverty worldwide.
- **The Jewish Federations of North America :** The Jewish Federations of North America represents 157 Jewish Federations and 400 Network communities, which raise and distribute more than \$3 billion annually for social welfare, social services and educational needs.

- [Lutheran World Relief](#) : Lutheran World Relief is responding to the affected communities through its partners on the ground in Haiti. LWR anticipates a large response. Every dollar donated to this life-saving effort is critical to providing the necessary emergency support to the people of Haiti.
- [Medical Teams International](#): Since 1979, Medical Teams International has shipped more than \$1.3 billion in antibiotics, surgical kits and lifesaving medicines to care for 35 million people in 100 countries around the world. More than 2000 volunteers meet the needs of people worldwide each year.
- [Meds and Food for Kids](#): Meds & Food for Kids is dedicated to saving the lives of Haiti's malnourished children and other nutritionally vulnerable people.
- [Mercy Corps](#): Mercy Corps is a team of 3,700 professionals helping turn crisis into opportunity for millions around the world. By trade, we are engineers, financial analysts, drivers, community organizers, project managers, public health experts, administrators, social entrepreneurs and logisticians. In spirit, we are activists, optimists, innovators and proud partners of the people we serve.
- [Operation Blessing International](#): Operation Blessing International Relief and Development Corporation (OBI) is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) humanitarian organization based in Virginia Beach, Virginia, USA.
- [Oxfam](#): Oxfam International is a confederation of 14 like-minded organizations working together and with partners and allies around the world to bring about lasting change.
- [Operation USA](#): Operation USA helps communities alleviate the effects of disasters, disease and endemic poverty throughout the world by providing privately-funded relief, reconstruction and development aid.
- [Partners in Health](#): Our mission is to provide a preferential option for the poor in health care.
- [Samaritan's Purse](#): Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world.
- [Save the Children](#): Save the Children is the leading independent organization creating lasting change in the lives of children in need in the United States and around the world.

- [UN Central Emergency Response Fund \(CERF\)](#) : Humanitarian fund established by the United Nations to enable more timely and reliable humanitarian assistance to areas affected by natural disasters. CERF will assure that the funds for the relief effort in Haiti will go where they are most needed in the network of international aid organizations.
- [UNICEF](#): UNICEF is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.
- [World Concern](#): World Concern works in 24 of the poorest countries on Earth, giving hope and opportunities to vulnerable people in great need.
- [World Vision](#): World Vision helps transform the lives of the world's poorest children and families in nearly 100 countries, including the United States. Our non-profit work extends assistance to all people, regardless of their religious beliefs, gender, race, or ethnic background.
- [Yele Haiti](#): Yéle Haiti is a Wyclef Jean's grassroots movement that builds global awareness for Haiti while helping to transform the country through programs in education, sports, the arts and environment.