

Marianna

Sent: Friday, January 15, 2010 2:31 PM

Subject: Haiti Earthquake Relief Efforts

Importance: High

Dear all –

HAITI RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

On January 12, a series of earthquakes measuring 6.5 to 7.3 on the Richter scale struck near Port-au-Prince, devastating Haiti. The American Red Cross is working with its partners in the global Red Cross and Red Crescent network, including the Haitian Red Cross, and other partners to assist those affected by this disaster. The full extent of the damage is still being assessed, but the death toll -- already in the thousands -- is climbing fast. This is the worst earthquake to hit the area in more than 200 years. The American Red Cross is sending money, supplies and staff to Haiti to support relief efforts there after yesterday's earthquake, which caused catastrophic damage and loss of life. According to reports, as many as three million people may have been affected by the quake, which collapsed government buildings and caused major damage to hospitals in the area. The Red Cross is contributing an initial \$1 million from the International Response Fund to support the relief operation, and has opened its warehouse in Panama to provide tarps, mosquito nets and cooking sets for approximately 5,000 families. In addition to Red Cross staff already in Haiti, six disaster management specialists are being deployed to the disaster zone to help coordinate relief efforts. At this time, the American Red Cross is only deploying volunteers specially trained to manage international emergency operations. Debris and collapsed bridges are making access to many areas extremely difficult. Telephone service and electricity are out in many places. Haitian Red Cross staff worked throughout the night to rescue people still trapped in their homes and provide first aid. The priority remains to provide food, water, temporary shelter, medical services and emotional support.

Your gift to the American Red Cross will support emergency relief and recovery efforts to help those people affected by the earthquake in Haiti. Assistance provided by the American Red Cross may include sending relief supplies, mobilizing relief workers and providing financial resources and recovery.

Computershare is making an initial lump-sum donation of \$25,000 directly to the Red Cross. In addition, we will match employee contributions up to an additional \$25,000.

Making a matched donation

To contribute and have your contribution matched by Computershare, go to this link:

- Please enter **Computershare** in the box labeled "Employer Name"
- To effectively track your contribution, please click directly on the link and then enter your donation information. If you visit other pages on the Red Cross site before making a donation, please return to this link above, click again and then make your donation.

Computershare uses its best efforts to respect and protect the privacy of our employees. Name information (First, Last), mailing address, email address and donation amount may be shared between Computershare and the American Red Cross simply to verify employment for the giving campaign. All other contact and gift information remains confidential.

Other ways to help

If you can't make a financial contribution at this time, here are some other ways you can help.

- **Volunteer with your local Red Cross Chapter**

Red Cross chapters nationwide are always in need of trained volunteers to help serve their communities. For more information on volunteering for this or future disasters, please contact your local Red Cross Chapter which can be located by visiting www.redcross.org and entering your zip code in the gray Chapter Locator box at the top of the page.

- **Make regular appointments to DONATE BLOOD**

Every two seconds someone in America needs blood. Blood used in an emergency needs to be on the shelves *before* an emergency occurs. Patients in your community cannot afford to wait for blood to be donated, tested and distributed – it must be ready before the need occurs. Blood is a perishable resource and must be replenished through regular donation. Make and keep an appointment today by calling 1-800-GIVE LIFE or visiting www.givelife.org.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization — not a government agency — and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit www.redcross.org or join our blog at <http://blog.redcross.org>.

Steve