



# DISASTER UPDATES

EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

UPDATE #4

FEBRUARY 01, 2010

## STATUS

**Agencies and organizations** from around the world to continue to work cooperatively as rescue and relief efforts in Haiti transition to recovery. UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) continues to lead the way in Haiti for the United Methodist Church. The Rev. Cynthia Fierro Harvey of Houston is taking a leave of absence from her current ministerial appointment to serve UMCOR as liaison between United Methodist operations in Haiti and the enormous response of annual conferences and congregations in the United States. [Read more...](#)

Agencies of the US Government are also actively involved in assisting the survivors in Haiti. To learn more about these "behind the scenes" activities, [click here.](#)

**Haitian children** coming into the United States were already in the adoption process before the earthquake. For more information, [click here.](#)

**Haitian Refugees** coming into the United States are repatriated citizens, those with dual citizenship or those with passports who have family and/or friends to go to. This process is being managed by DCF with help from the Red Cross. No other agencies are involved at this time.

Disaster Recovery is gathering information and working with other responding organizations and agencies to plan for the possible influx of large numbers of Haitian refugees into the United States. Information is changing constantly and continues to be "sketchy" at best. The civilian government of Haiti has clearly indicated they want their citizens to remain and be a part of the recovery process. As we learn more, we will update you.

## RESOURCES NEEDED

**An online questionnaire** requesting information about how your church is responding to this disaster has been e-mailed to all clergy serving in a local church in the conference. Bishop Whitaker has asked Disaster Recovery Ministry to collect this information and submit it to Volunteer Florida and State Emergency Management. This information demonstrates the tremendous impact of volunteers in responding to disaster. Thank you in advance for your prompt completion of this form. As always, please contact Disaster Recovery with any questions: (800) 282-8011 Ext. 149 or [DisasterRecovery@flumc.org](mailto:DisasterRecovery@flumc.org).

**Health Kits are still urgently needed.** Instructions for assembling kits are here: [UMCOR Health Kit Guidelines](#). Please be sure to follow these guidelines exactly, as this is critical to the timely shipping of these kits internationally. Churches will also need to make arrangement to get these kits to Sager Brown, the UMCOR depot in Louisiana. Some churches and districts are collecting kits and working together to arrange for delivery or shipment. Please check with your District Disaster Coordinator ([list here](#)) or Disaster Recovery Ministry to learn

more.

**Financial donations** may be sent to UMCOR Advance #418325 or Florida Advance # 100190. [Click here](#) to learn more.

**Other Needs** For others ways to help survivors in Haiti, please contact Pastor Timothe Jacques, Chair of the Conference Committee on Haitian Ministry at [newlifeinhim@att.net](mailto:newlifeinhim@att.net) or by phone (954) 763-2525 or (954) 573-3925.

For more information about the United Methodist response, please visit [www.UMCOR.org](http://www.UMCOR.org) and [www.umvim.org](http://www.umvim.org). You can also visit [www.flumc.org](http://www.flumc.org) for links to these sites or [Disaster Recovery Ministry](#).

Please note: This e-mail was sent from an automated address that cannot reply to incoming e-mail. If you have questions or comments regarding this email, please refer to the email itself for contact information.

This email blast was sent to the following groups: All Clergy, Conference Disaster Ministry Advisory Team, Haiti/FL Covenant, District Disaster Response Teams, Local Church, Conference and District Lay Leaders, Haitian Ministries, Global Missions, Mission Ministries, Outreach Ministries, Disaster Coordinators and Volunteers, United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, and Conference Employees (Conference Center, District Offices, Camps and Retreat Center).

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