

### Haiti's Reality

It is now one month since a 7.0 magnitude earthquake devastated Haiti. The Haitian Government reports over 200,000 people were killed, 300,000 were treated for injuries, and 250,000 houses were destroyed. In Port-au-Prince, up to 20 million cubic yards of rubble needs to be removed. Seven organized settlements have been established for 42,000 homeless people; some 460,000 people remain in 315 makeshift camps. Despite this, the resilience of the Haitian people is heard in a popular saying on the streets and in the camps, "*Nou bite men nou pap tonbe*: we may stumble but we will not fall."

Last weekend, Haitians across the country observed the one-month marker of the earthquake in a three-day period of prayer. Songs of gratitude could be heard across the city in formal and make-shift churches and settlements.



### Latest CRS/Caritas Haiti Efforts

CRS, working with Caritas Haiti, the local Church's charitable agency, has focused on the distribution of food and emergency shelter kits, and coordinated with partners on water, sanitation, health and security issues. The security at distribution points is going well and supplies are getting into camps without incident. See *Catholic News Service* article on [Haitians living in camps](#). We have:

- Provided food to 533,422 people at Petionville Golf Club camp, downtown Port-au-Prince and outside areas.
- Distributed roughly 22,323 ready-to-eat food kits and other dry food rations that have helped 277, 818 people. CRS has also distributed rice to support 51,562 families, or 257,808 people.
- Distributed emergency shelter kits to an estimated 6,500 families (32,500 people) in Petionville Club, and will be distributing 10,000 more this week in smaller camps, settlements and in Champs de Mars, Port-au-Prince.
- Developed a new supply chain management system, allowing a smooth and continuous pipeline of goods between supply hubs in Miami, Santo Domingo, and Port-au-Prince.
- We will construct 400 mobile latrines in Champ de Mars, Port-au-Prince. In three sites, a wide range of infrastructure is in place and/or underway, from basic latrines to septic tanks, showers, and drainage systems. Water systems continue to improve.
- In a January article describing the initial relief efforts in Haiti, the *Washington Post* noted, "*Perhaps the most successful food operation in the capital took place this week on a once exclusive golf course in the hills east of the crippled downtown. Catholic Relief Services teamed with soldiers from the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division to distribute more than 200 tons of food, principally lentils and bulgur, to about 6,500 families.*"

### U.S. Catholic Community Responds

During the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering last week, when 400 Catholic social ministry leaders from across the U.S. came to Washington, D.C., delegations visited congressional offices to thank them for supporting Haiti's relief, Temporary Protected Status, and tax incentives for donations. The delegations urged congressional support of an emergency supplemental appropriation, recovery and long-term development funds, debt relief, and trade incentives. CRS co-sponsors the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering.

An outpouring of prayers and donations from Catholics communities across the U.S. are flowing to help the people in Haiti. ***Thank you for all you are doing! Please share this Special Report with others interested in responding to the Haiti earthquake relief effort.***

### For More Information

Visit: [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) for prayers, resources and information about the Haiti Earthquake. See us on [Facebook](#).