

HAITI 90-DAY PROGRESS REPORT

Your gift has made a difference

RESPONDING TO SURVIVORS' NEEDS

In the three months since catastrophe struck Haiti, Mercy Corps has delivered tons of emergency food supplies, created jobs for nearly 3,000 Haitians, and restored a sense of normalcy to more than 8,500 traumatized children.

Since January 12, our team has grown from a handful of emergency-aid veterans to more than 85 seasoned professionals, including 65 Haitians. Each day, they work in Port-au-Prince's poorest neighborhoods and displacement camps, delivering critical aid to families and communities, to help this devastated country rebuild.

Our work began with food deliveries to some of Port-au-Prince's neediest areas, including its beleaguered and overcrowded main hospital. Fifteen tons of food provided the first hot meals that hundreds of patients and staff had eaten since the earthquake. Today, we're continuing to feed 30,000 people in one of the city's poorest neighborhoods.

We also responded quickly to another pressing need: jobs. We're paying nearly 3,000 earthquake survivors to clean up their neighborhoods, distribute food and build infrastructure that helps with water and sanitation. These workers have been able to use their hard-earned income to support their families, buy much-needed supplies and put money back into the local economy. Ultimately, their work will help result in drainage ditches that will protect neighborhoods against flooding during the rainy season, clean water systems to keep families healthy and latrines that will serve 42,000 people.

Our team also listened to the overwhelmed parents of young children who were struggling



One of the first parts of our emergency response was the delivery of tons of food — such as rice, beans, flour, salt and oil — to Port-au-Prince's beleaguered main hospital. Photo: Cassandra Nelson/Mercy Corps



Our cash-for-work program is paying survivors a fair daily wage to clean and repair earthquake damage, putting cash back in households and local economies. Photo: Miguel Samper for Mercy Corps

with the trauma wrought by the earthquake. And -- just as we had in disasters ranging from Hurricane Katrina to China's Sichuan earthquake -- we responded with Comfort for Kids, a program that trains parents, teachers and other caregivers on how to meet the unique needs of children who've suffered loss. Three



Stephania Dely, 8, was drawing in her house when the earthquake struck Haiti. Her mother was able to grab her and take her to the safety of the front yard. Today, our Comfort for Kids program is helping her heal from the trauma of the disaster and its aftermath. Photo: Miguel Samper for Mercy Corps



In the coming months, Mercy Corps will help survivors like 19-year-old Noulianne St. Juste through job creation and other economic programs. Photo: Miguel Samper for Mercy Corps

months after the earthquake, we've trained more than 425 caregivers who have already reached an estimated 8,500 children. Our goal is to reach 280,000 children, helping them heal their trauma and resume healthy, happy childhoods.

Food, water and sanitation, cash-for-work and counseling for children have been our four main priorities over these first three months — priorities that survivors helped us identify right away. Today, survivors have an ongoing need for jobs. So we're hard at work with our partners -- including Fonkoze, Haiti's largest microfinance organization -- to create opportunities for job training and small businesses. This is absolutely critical for reviving an economy that has barely been stirring for years. Together, we can put thousands to work in meaningful, long-term skilled jobs.

When we arrived in Haiti three months ago, we faced not only the challenges that the earthquake brought, but enormous obstacles that have existed for generations. But we're working to turn this crisis into opportunity for thousands of Haitians. It will take years -- not months -- of work to help this country and its deserving, inspiring people achieve everything they can. But, with your ongoing support, we can do it.

April 12, 2010

**You must be the change
you wish to see in the world.**

~ Gandhi



Be the change