



Haiti Relief Update **February 8, 2010**



Catholic Charities of Central Florida, Inc. (CCCF) continues to receive questions about how to help the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. Please continue to pray for the people of Haiti and refer to the revised list of needs and updated information below:

Needed: Financial Donations

You may send your financial donation through the Office of the Bishop, Haiti Relief, P.O. Box 1800, Orlando, FL 32802-1800

Needed: Haitian Family Sponsors

The American Red Cross has reached out to Catholic Charities of Central Florida to assist with providing homes for medical evacuee families. In an effort to keep families together, CCCF has been asked to provide housing and supplies for a family of seven, two families of three and a single mother with a twelve-year-old son. CCCF has received notification that more individuals and families receiving care from local hospitals will need assistance upon discharge. If you would like to Sponsor a Haitian Family, please contact Julie Yetter, 888-658-2828 (Ext. 2305) or email: Julie.yetter@cflcc.org.

Needed: Pro bono Legal & Translation Services and Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering or are able to provide Creole/French translation and interpretation or are an attorney willing to provide pro bono services, contact: Anita at 888-658-2828 (Ext. 2020) or email Anita.Capetillo@cflcc.org.

News:

Temporary Protective Status

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is a temporary immigration status granted to Haitian individuals who are unable to return to their homeland because of the earthquake disaster. The period of the temporary stay is eighteen months. Catholic Charities has provided information and direction to over 700 individuals seeking this status. Haitian nationals who need assistance in completing the necessary paperwork can contact Catholic Charities Immigration and Refugee Services Office at 1771 North Semoran Blvd. or call (407) 658-0110 for an appointment.

Adoption

We continue to receive calls and emails from people interested in adopting Haitian children. The children that are being brought into the US right now have already been legally adopted by US parents. The process of adopting orphaned children from Haiti is currently under review. The federal government has appointed UNICEF (<http://www.unicef.org>) as the lead agency to define the adoption process for orphaned children in Haiti. We will update our website as we receive their information. If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the general process for domestic adoptions, please visit our website at www.cflcc.org/services/adoption.htm or CCUSA at www.catholiccharitiesadoptions.org.

Continued Updates

Catholic Charities of Central Florida, Inc. Disaster Response Office will continue to keep you informed of activities and opportunities for providing relief for the victims of the Haiti Earthquake. CCCF continues to actively collaborate with the Diocese of Orlando, DCF, CCUSA, Catholic Relief Services, American Red Cross, and faith based organizations in Central Florida.