

# HAITI: SIX YEARS ON

On January 12, 2010, Haiti was forever changed by a catastrophic 7.0 magnitude earthquake near the capital of Port-au-Prince. Millions of people were affected and thousands of homes and buildings collapsed. It led to the largest disaster response in a single country in Red Cross history.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Emergency relief activities of the Canadian Red Cross included aid distribution, shelter and the provision of clean water and medical care. Over time, activities expanded to include recovery work, such as the construction of durable wooden shelters, disaster preparedness activities and other longer-term development planning. To date, the Red Cross has assisted more than five million earthquake survivors.

The Canadian Red Cross has expanded and rehabilitated 3 rural dispensaries into Health Centres and has constructed one new Health Post.

## HEALTH

The health and well-being of those affected has been a priority for Red Cross teams since day one. Immediately following the disaster, the Canadian Red Cross quickly deployed its emergency field hospital. Today, the Canadian Red Cross is improving access to health services for vulnerable communities across Haiti through investing \$35 million in a health program that will improve access to quality health services for mothers, newborns and children, and strengthen community resilience through community care and first aid. Program activities include working to rebuild a Jacmel hospital that was damaged during the earthquake, rehabilitating and expanding three health centres, constructing a new rural health post, supporting the construction of up to 5,000 latrines, training health care professionals, health education programming at the community level and strengthening institutional capacities in terms of planning, management and evaluation.

## SHELTER

Shelter has also been a focus for the Red Cross. In addition to investing in sustainable long-term programming, the Canadian Red Cross marked a major milestone in recovery efforts through the completion of its Shelter Project last year. The program provided more than 20,000 families with safe shelter solutions. The homes constructed by the Canadian Red Cross meet or exceed construction standards for an earthquake and hurricane zone and care was taken to ensure that the methods and materials for construction were adapted to the particular geography of each region to protect against hurricane winds and flooding. This is just a small part of the larger Red Cross reconstruction program, which has provided safer shelter solutions to almost 44,000 families in Haiti.

## RECOVERY

It is difficult to estimate how long it will take for recovery for Haiti, but it is anticipated it will take at least 10 years to return to where it was prior to the earthquake. The scale of this disaster, coupled with the extreme vulnerabilities that existed in Haiti pre-earthquake, means that the recovery and rebuilding process will be unique and complex. Thanks to generous Canadian donors, the Canadian Red Cross is committed to being there for the people of Haiti today and in the years ahead as they work to ensure their communities are stronger, healthier and more resilient the next time disaster strikes.



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Within hours of the disaster, the Red Cross was there.



**5 million**  
survivors assisted

**300,000** families  
have received door-to-door



cholera  
prevention  
information

**2.5 million** litres of water  
produced and distributed  
each day providing more than  
**320,000** people in Port-au-  
Prince with safe water



**2.5M litres**

More than **20,000**  
families have received safe  
shelter  
solutions  
from  
Canadian  
donations



More than **1 million**  
relief items distributed



To reduce water-  
borne disease,  
**5,000**  
water latrines  
are being built  
as part of the  
community-based health  
and first aid project



The Canadian Red Cross,  
with the support of donor  
funds from the Canadian  
and American public, is  
**constructing a major  
wing of St. Michel  
Hospital in Jacmel**



**Today, the  
Red Cross is  
still there.**

**Thank you for  
your support.**

The generous  
contributions of  
donors have enabled  
the Red Cross to help  
Haiti recover from  
this disaster, rebuild  
communities, and  
restore hope.