



In the following pages you'll find answers to questions asked during the February 11th Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar. Answers were provided by various staff members from the PC(USA).

Contents:	Page #
I. Displaced persons/refugees.....	1
II. Financial Support.....	2
III. Haiti Mission Network.....	4
IV. Kits.....	4
V. Mission Personnel.....	5
VI. Partnerships.....	6
VII. Presbyterian Hunger Program.....	6
VIII. Trauma.....	9
IX. Volunteers.....	9
X. Water.....	11
XI. Other.....	12

DISPLACED PERSONS/REFUGEES

Q: How can a congregation support an amputee with medical care in their community?

- Medical evacuees are in need of assistance as are the individuals who accompany them. Check with you local Church World Service affiliate office to determine if they are working with Haitian evacuees or parolees. The contact information is on the CWS website http://www.churchworldservice.org/site/PageServer?pagename=action_what_assist_contact_net_work
- If the patient is stateside - Make any and all types of supportive connections. If you have language skills (Kreyol) or connections to someone with the skills GREAT! Through the hospital patient support network offer support.
- If the patient is in Haiti, work through the partnership or community supports already present. It is a more complicated process if the patient is in Haiti. Not only the patient but usually the entire family will need support. To find prosthetic devices it will take longer. Schooling is one of the most long-term supportive actions.

Q: We are in a rural area of CO and do not have any Haitians locally.

Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar

02-11-2010

Questions & Answers



- Check with your local Church World Service affiliate office to determine if they are working with Haitian evacuees or parolees. The contact information is on the CWS website http://www.churchworldservice.org/site/PageServer?pagename=action_what_assist_contact_net_work. CWS Affiliate offices are not in every community so this may not be an option for some communities.
- If there are no Haitians in your local community, pray, act (make kits) and give. Learn about Haiti, about the history, the language, the culture, the music, the art, the struggles and the joys. Read about Haiti and books written by Haitians. Learn more about Haiti from sites such as www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis/archive/november/haitifood.htm.

Q: Can you give examples of types of assistance our congregation may anticipate providing to a local Haitian community?

- Reach out in fellowship. Listen to the stories and the concerns of the Haitians in your community. Build a bridge of communication. Work to attend specific needs (see question on displaced persons and refugees, above).

Q: Is it possible to assist For Haiti with Love Burn Clinic in Cap Haitien? It is over come now with "refuges" from Port au Prince.

- We are not familiar with this organization and would encourage you to find out how who they partner with and how they relate to PC(USA).

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Q: Financial support is better than mission trips, right?

- Yes, for now. Financial support enables us to use and partners to use the funds in the most efficient way as the local communities identify the needs. However, there is currently a need for first responders (see "volunteers", below) and in the future there will be a need for mission trips.

Q: How does PDA coordinate with other NGOs, like ACT, CWS, Red Cross, etc., in its response in Haiti?

- PDA is working in close cooperation with ACT and CWS. Both CWS and several members of the ACT Alliance have long-standing relationships with numerous local Haitian organizations in providing assistance for some of the most vulnerable among the survivors of the earthquake
- Churches and other civil society networks in Haiti and in the neighboring Dominican Republic are working with members of the ACT Alliance, particularly in locales not reached by other international aid groups. In many areas, local community networks and self- help groups are often the sole providers of assistance

Q: Is the financial system and Haiti up and running again in some fashion? Can PDA get funds to partners in Haiti?

Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar

02-11-2010

Questions & Answers



- Yes. PDA is working in cooperation with ecumenical partners ACT and CWS both of whom have long-term relationships with local Haitian organizations. PDA is also working with historic PC(USA) mission partners. Churches and other civil society networks in Haiti and in the neighboring Dominican Republic are working with members of the ACT Alliance, particularly in locales not reached by other international aid groups. In many areas, local community networks and self- help groups are often the sole providers of assistance.

Q: We hear about how little aid is getting to the streets even now. Is this situation improving?

- Yes. Because PDA is working with local Haitian organizations with whom long-term relationships have been established, we are getting reports of aid delivery in the areas where our partners are working.

Q: Does PDA financially support "Pay for Work" in helping restart the Haitian economy?

- This is something that is being considered as part of the recovery stage. We are still in the relief stage at this point.

Q: How can we be sure that the money we've given to PDA will be effectively used in Haiti?

- PDA is working with partners who have long-term relationships with various Haitians organizations. These partners have proven to be faithful stewards in previous responses and we expect that this trust will continue

Q: Why should I give to PDA or One Great Hour of Sharing rather than to Partners in Health?

- At PDA, we believe that we are simply one way to support the work that God has already inspired in the hearts of God's people. In most disaster situations, the needs of the people far exceed the ability of one organization to meet all of the needs. Most non-governmental organizations (NGOs) do good work and have an important role to play in providing assistance to hurting people. As the Church, we were already on the ground prior to the disaster, we are on the ground during the disaster, and we will be on the ground following the disaster — long after many others have left —ministering to people in need. PDA sees its role in helping disaster-affected families in the long road of recovery.

In addition, as the Church, we are bound to be faithful stewards to funds that have been entrusted to us. The generous support by Presbyterians to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering means that funds are immediately available to share with our mission partners as they initiate the immediate local response. As additional funds are received, we are able to apply them to the response and all administrative expenses towards the response in five percent or less.

Q: Does PDA publish some kind of reports on how the money was used or distributed?

- PDA has information on the PDA website of national and international grants provided. www.pcusa.org/pda.

Q: How has the first \$209,000 been used?

Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar

02-11-2010

Questions & Answers



- Funds were distributed to our ecumenical partners ACT (Action by Churches Together) and CWS (Church World Service). Both have long-standing relationships with numerous local Haitian organizations and funds were used to provide immediate basic humanitarian assistance of food, water, medicine, and temporary shelter.

Q: Can't gifts also be sent to CWS in New Windsor, MD?

- PDA considered CWS to be one of our primary partners in this response. Gifts can be sent to CWS. PDA asks Presbyterians to send their funds through the denomination to ensure sufficient funds are available to meet to long-terms needs of the disaster.

HAITI MISSION NETWORK

Q: What role is the Haiti Network playing in the current recovery efforts?

- The Haiti Network website is one of several opportunities to be connected with others whose mission focus is Haiti. <http://pcusahaitinetwork.ning.com/>. (Copy and paste into your browser).

Q: What do you think US Presbyterians need to know about the history of Haiti and US relations with Haiti (including economic and political issues, such as the ones you mentioned, related to import/export and debt issues, military, etc.) as we move forward, helping from a distance and eventually seeing more groups travel to Haiti? Are there resources you would recommend for congregations seeking to begin these conversations?

- You can begin here: www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis/archive/november/haitifood.htm and here: www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis/archive/may/index.htm.

KITS

Q: Members of the congregation of 1st Pres church of Boise, Idaho, wish to help in the most effective way. Is that relief kits, or money? Should we send kits to Arkansas or Maryland?

- The Gift of the Heart kits is a program that has been sponsored by Church World Service for almost three decades. Relationships have been established in multiple countries —including Haiti and the Dominican Republic — that ensures an efficient distribution network for the kits. The contents of each kit have been selected with care based on years of experience to make them as useful as possible, wherever and whenever they are sent, and the standardization of the contents controls shipping costs.

Kits can be mailed to either Arkansas or Maryland.

Q: Any suggestions for the least costly way to send kits to the warehouse in Arkansas?

- Some of the Church World Service regional offices are serving as depots for the kits. You can call the toll-free number 888-297-2767 to see if this is something that will be helpful in your area.
- Some Presbyteries coordinate the efforts of congregations and send combined shipments.

Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar

02-11-2010

Questions & Answers



Q: We have talked to kidsalive.org in asking what they would like our Sunday school kids to do for Haiti, and they were advising against sending down anything tangible, because we were told that it would probably be stolen before it got to the right people to be distributed. How are these hygiene and baby kits getting through?

- The Gift of the Heart kits is a program that has been sponsored by Church World Service for almost three decades. Relationships have been established in multiple countries —including Haiti and the Dominican Republic — that ensures an efficient distribution network for the kits. The contents of each kit have been selected with care based on years of experience to make them as useful as possible, wherever and whenever they are sent, and the standardization of the contents controls shipping costs.

Q: Church World service regional office in Syracuse NY has trucks going to various locations. Perhaps other regional offices are doing the same.

- Call the toll-free number 888-297-2767 to see if the CWS regional office is serving as a depot and/or picking up kits.

Q: I am particularly interested in opportunities for church projects which will be meaningful for children. What suggestions do you have?

- Gift of the Heart kits is an excellent hands-on project for children and youth as well as various groups.

MISSION PERSONNEL

Q: How is Sharyn Babe?

- Sharyn Babe is out of the rehabilitation hospital in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Her recovery road is going to be long but she is progressing well.
- Cards and letters may be sent to: Sharyn - Attn: The Presbytery of Tropical Florida, 440 E. Sample Rd., Suite 208, Pompano Beach, FL 33064-4440

Q: Has Pix been there since the earthquake?

- Not yet. I am not a first responder for medical or rescue. It is my hope to be in Haiti by early April.

Q: When is Pix coming back to NC to speak with the Presbytery of NC?

- Ask and I shall come! (writes Pix).



PARTNERSHIPS

Q: What are the key PC(USA) long-term missions Haiti: Leogone School of Nursing, agriculture, etc?

- PC(USA) is working with various partners in Haiti including our ecumenical partners through Action by Churches Together (ACT) and Church World Service. We also work in partnership with the Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF) and the Haiti Foundation, among others.
- Long term mission relationships are with:
 1. The Episcopal Diocese of Haiti (Hopital St. Croix, Nursing School in Leogane/FSIL, St. Barnabas Agricultural School in Terrier Rouge, St. Vincent's School for the Handicapped in Port au Prince, Vocational School in Cap Haitian, La Gonave Partnership/Greater Atlanta Presbytery
 2. The Farmer's Movement of Papay – agriculture
 3. CODEP/Fund Inc.

Q: Will PDA be involved in helping with long-term recovery and health care?

- PDA will be involved in the long-term recovery efforts of Haiti. We will continue to support the health needs in cooperation with International Health Ministries and MBF, and will also support other mission networks in the long-term recovery efforts.

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM

Q: Is the PHP directly involved yet in Haiti with food relief?

- PHP/SDOP/PDA and World Mission all work together as PC(USA). Large-scale food relief after a disaster like this earthquake is best done through PDA while PHP focuses on long-term agricultural development. Currently PDA is in negotiation with the Peasant Movement of Papay (MPP) over a relief program in three geographical regions: the Central Plateau, the Northwest, and the Artibonite Valley.
- PHP had strong partnerships before the earthquake with Peasant's Movement of Papaye (MPP) and FONDAMA (the Joining Hands partnership).
- February 7-14, 2010, Lionel Derenoncourt, PHP staff, went to Papay, near Hinche in the Central Plateau and met with the executive committee of the FONDAMA network, which is a network of farmers associations and rural organizations including farmers from all rural regions of Haiti. He participated in a strategic planning exercise including their assessment of needs for agriculture, water, livestock, environmental protection, etc. Two important categories of activities cut across all the dimensions indicated above: disaster preparedness and institutional reinforcement of rural organizations. While the strategic plan defines the main axes of actions and identifies broad goals to be reached at medium and long terms, activities will be packaged in an integrated manner in smaller units as projects to be implemented all over the country by the

Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar

02-11-2010

Questions & Answers



organization members of Fondama. Such proposed projects will be considered by PC(USA) and by other partners of Fondama for funding in the coming weeks and months.

- After the earthquake the FONDAMA network considers that “all clocks have been brought to Zero”, meaning that the tasks of rebuilding the country takes precedence over earlier arrangements and plans. Therefore, FONDAMA itself will be looking at rebuilding activities in addition to the education and advocacy elements of its previously identified campaign for using land for planting food instead of the cash crop jatropa for bio-fuel.
- PHP immediately sent \$25k to for the Road to Life project of MPP to assist with their 2010 operations which are significantly stretched as MPP has registered nearly 8,000 people from Port au Prince returning to distant relatives in the countryside.

Q: What are the most effective means to improve agriculture in Haiti? What US government policies need to be changed to assist in this matter?

- Haiti needs to be able to redevelop its agricultural sector.
- To that effect the Haitian government should re-establish tariffs on imported food commodities – even if exempting temporary food aid imports—and provide subsidies to farmers for seeds, tools and agricultural input.
- Haitian government should be helped to rebuild agricultural extension services to farmers in the rural areas all over the country. Rural technical schools should be established in all geographical departments to provide training of agricultural technicians to serve as extension agents.
- Substantial parts of the international multi-lateral and bi-lateral aid should be allocated to rebuilding infrastructures for irrigation and transportation. No aid should be loans.
- The Haitian government should be helped in establishing /reinforcing a national agricultural credit program in order to provide farmers with access to capital needed for their farming activities.
- The Haitian government should be helped in establishing various commodity marketing/exchange boards including decentralized regional storage facilities and industrial mills to process rural commodities and facilitate their commercialization in rural areas.
- A nationwide program should be set underway to provide decentralized potable water systems to the population in the rural areas.
- Environmental protection should be a priority in the Haitian government plan. Systematic reforestation of the countryside should be engaged immediately with fruit trees and construction wood.
- A program of alternative fuel for cooking and domestic use should be launched, including a subsidized natural or propane gas, just as is done in various countries in South America and Africa.
- A Program of electrification of rural areas should be developed to help rural families to have sufficient hours of light and power each day.

Q: What about other food besides rice being imported?

- As stated above, except for specific amounts of temporary import of food aids to deal with the current emergency, food commodities should be acquired on local markets. The timeframe for the import of food aid should be clearly established, be limited and advertized so that all would know

Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar

02-11-2010

Questions & Answers



that beyond that period Haitian products would be the ones mostly available on the local markets. With the appropriate tariffs put on the import of rice, corn, beans and sorghum, Haitian commodities would become competitive. People who can afford and are willing to pay the higher price would still be able to access imports through regular commercial channels.

Q: It would be helpful to have a summary of how PHP and, if applicable, SDOP, are responding to the earthquake - we are trying to lift up all three branches of One Great Hour of Sharing to encourage churches to set those greater goal numbers.

- PHP/SDOP/PDA and World Mission all work together as PC(USA). Large-scale food relief after a disaster like this earthquake is best done through PDA while PHP focuses on long-term agricultural development. Currently PDA is in negotiation with the Peasant Movement of Papay (MPP) over a relief program in three geographical regions: the Central Plateau, the Northwest, and the Artibonite Valley.
- PHP will be working primarily with FONDAMA which includes farmers from all rural areas in Haiti. FONDAMA just had a strategic plan developed and is in the process of preparing integrated proposals for submission to its international partners.

Q: Where does debt relief for Haiti stand?

- After the earthquake on February 5, 2010 U.S. Treasury Secretary Geithner pledged to work with global leaders to achieve full debt cancellation for Haiti and to ensure that additional support for the country be in the form of grants, not loans. That work is in process. In June 2009 \$1.2 billion of Haiti's nearly \$ 2 billion debt was cancelled. At the time of the earthquake, Haiti still owed somewhere between \$709 million - \$1.1 billion. The servicing of that debt took about 10% of the Haitian government revenues. Part of the reason the earthquake was so devastating in Haiti was the incredible poverty – over the years Haiti had paid out billions of dollars in questionable loans. This is currently true in 22 other countries. There is no need to wait for an earthquake to bring this to our attention. Learn how the Jubilee Act www.jubileeusa.org can help other countries now. A final word, the cancellation of the debt is a wonderful step in addressing some of the human-created structural problems with our international financial system, but the amounts needed for the real recovery of Haiti after the earthquake are much, much more than the cancelled debt.

Q: What can we do to influence the policy of the US to sell subsidized rice in Haiti thereby undercutting the price that Haitian rice farmers can charge?

- There are two things at work here – one is U.S. farm policies; the other is U.S. trade policies. Our US farm policy determines which crops grown on U.S. farms will be subsidized and which will not. Rice, along with sugar, cotton, corn, soybeans and wheat, is one of the crops receiving the most subsidies. Subsidies (including direct and indirect payments, and loans) provide rice producers (most of whom are corporate operations) with a guaranteed income and allow rice to be exported to countries around the world at a price below competitors and often below production costs. This wipes out farmers in those countries, including those in Haiti. Beginning next year, activity around the 2013 Farm Bill will begin and we encourage you to learn and advocate for policies that promote food sovereignty. www.pcusa.org/trade/foodsov.htm

Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar

02-11-2010

Questions & Answers



- Then, we come to the issue of free trade and related policies. Special protections for a nation's farmers and food supply must be built into trade rules and development approaches. Revamping trade agreements is critical to ensuring the food security and food sovereignty of all nations. Along with this, the development and loan policies of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund must be changed to prioritize food sovereignty for all countries to make sure people have enough to eat during emergencies, to ensure that there are sufficient farmers, and to strengthen agricultural capacity and redevelop the rural economy.
- People can continue to learn about and call for such measures by advocating for the Trade Act. www.citizen.org/trade/tradeact/
- The US can continue to sell subsidized rice to Haiti, but the Haitian government should be free to apply adequate tariff on such imports without retribution by the US government in order to restore competitiveness to the local production of similar commodities

Q: If the WB/IMF influence of the 90's undermined the Haitian rice farmers is /are there way that we might be active that would encourage both farming but also business development?

- Yes. From early February reflections in Papay among Haitian rural organizations here are some main lines of actions that need your support:
 - 1.- Advocate with the US and Haitian governments on behalf of grassroots rural community efforts in Haiti instead of big agro-industrial plans controlled by major corporations;
 - 2.- Support activities considering the institutional reinforcement of rural organizations to enable them to meet the new challenges of massive influx of displaced people that have worsened existing local conditions;
 - 3.- Support the coordination of rural organizations in specific regions for more effectiveness and efficiency in the coverage of the needs of local populations;
 - 4.- Educate and organize local populations about their rights as well as about what they need to do to restore the environment and boost agricultural production.
 - 5.- Support programs that provide small credits to farmers and to small traders to boost up production and also to set up small businesses to store, process, and market local commodities.
 - 6 – The World Bank's 2008 World Development Report shows that for the poorest people, agricultural growth has been about four times more effective in raising the incomes of extremely poor people than GDP growth outside the sector. This means that setting up factories in Haiti to produce shirts, for example, does not impact the lives of poor people nearly as much as investing in agricultural growth.

TRAUMA

Q: Greencross (Charles Figley's work) does work with caregivers, particularly in the area of compassion fatigue. How are we caring for our workers?

Through ACT, a Staff Care Officer is supporting staff members of the ACT Alliance, local as well as international. The support includes individual talks with members of the staff, arrange meetings for groups and inform as well as do therapeutic work among staff. Depending on the circumstances, the Staff Care

Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar

02-11-2010

Questions & Answers



Officers are able to prepare and organize rest and recuperation (R&R) for staff members. PDA is part of the ACT response and it is possible this care may be available to other PDA-related workers.

VOLUNTEERS

Q: What you tell people about planning to take groups to help with relief work in Haiti?

- Do NOT just GO without having a partner in-country.
- It is important not to be “taking” jobs from Haitians. If there is work to be done, for every team worker, I would consider being able to contract/pay three additional Haitians to work alongside.
- Plan to purchase as MUCH of the material as possible in Haiti.
- Plan to be self-sufficient for a majority of the physical needs (medical. Food, water, etc.)
- Ask yourself, “For whom am I doing this? Is it to make me feel better?” Are you responding to a need and a call or something else?

Q: What can college students do to help with the water situation in Haiti?

- PDA is working with our ecumenical partners to address water needs in Haiti. This includes the transport of water to fill bladder tanks, water kiosks and cisterns, as well as building a water purification system, with pipes, filters and pumps, and the construction of latrines. This work is being done by specialists and at this point, the possibility of using non-skilled individuals does not exist.
- Please register your interest in serving on the Haiti interest form located on the PDA web site. www.pcusa.org/pda/register/haiti.jsp

Q: Has PDA ever had a “village” in Haiti?

- No, not yet.

Q: If we are to help Haitians gain employment would work teams that provide technical assistance for small businesses and/or paid work alongside volunteers from USA be most important?

- While this may be something that could be helpful, specific information from our partners on the ground have not conveyed this. We are still in the information gathering phase on volunteers and work teams.

Q: Our youth group had a mission trip already ready to go in June, should we send the money instead?

- Yes. Financial support enables us to use and partners to use the funds in the most efficient way as the local communities identify the needs. We do not yet have information on when/if volunteer work teams may be needed; however, should that need be identified, youth teams may not be a priority.

Listen up! Haiti Response Webinar

02-11-2010

Questions & Answers



Q: Is it time to take feet to the street/ work groups? if so, who from the PC(USA) could help us to get organized?

- Not yet. Information on partnerships, case management, the type of work, specific skills, hosting, and other information needed to make a decision on whether PDA will be able to facilitate volunteers is not complete.

Q: What kinds of pre-training and preparation should someone obtain, if they are feeling called to "go" and serve long-term in Haiti?

- If you are going through an organization that already has a system in place, they should have the pre-training and preparation material for you. This is another reason to go through appropriate channels. In relation to down the road service, Haiti mission personnel may be of great assistance in cultural preparation.

Q: Will there be a need for teachers?

- Yes, but it is still too soon to give an exact timing. Please register with the PDA volunteer site.

Q: The need for medical care in Haiti is clear. Should we send a doctor for short term or long term help?

- We encourage medical personnel to register with the Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF) to support their efforts. MBF is preparing for teams to go when the way is clear and when they know for sure how to be helpful to partners. Contact them at volunteer@mbfoundation.org.

Q: I have a scout that wants to do an eagle project to help the families in Haiti through a scout troop in Haiti. Is there a way to do this?

- We do not yet have information on when/if volunteers may be needed or the type of work that would be done. The age of the scout would also need to be taken into consideration. However, you may use this site to begin a search:
www.scouting.org/scoutsource/International/WorldScouting.aspx.

WATER

Q: What is the status of water availability on the ground?

- Several members of ACT Alliance with expertise in WaSH (Water Sanitation Hygiene) are providing potable water through the Rehabilitation of *watsan* infrastructure, Emergency Water Supply Facilities, and Water supply by tankers.



OTHER

Q: How do you think giving to PDA/Haiti may affect giving in One Great Hour of Sharing?

- We want to encourage generous giving to the OGHS offering. It is the undesignated giving to this offering that enabled a substantial initial response to Haiti. There are many other disasters that do not receive high visibility in the media that OGHS enables us to respond to; therefore PDA's message is if there is a decision to be made between designated funds for Haiti or supporting OGHS, choose OGHS.

Q: Is it possible to get copies of the slides that have been used today?

- These will be available on the PDA website

Q: Are we directly connected to any orphanages and is there a way to donate directly to these orphanages?

- The Episcopal Diocese of Haiti's ministry of St. Vincent's School for the Handicapped may receive contributions through Medical Benevolence Foundation www.mbfoundation.org.

Q: Will the Webinar be available for others to view at a later date?

- Yes! The Feb. 11th *Listen up!* Haiti Response Webinar was recorded and is now available on the Internet within the *God's Mission Matters* podcast archives: www.pcusa.org/missioncrossroads/jan10/index.htm. Scroll down to the bottom to find the link to the recorded Webinar.