

Catastrophic Earthquake Hits Haiti leaving major destruction.

Vessels of Mercy International, emergency relief supplies will be arriving soon to help disaster victims. We are currently evaluating and assessing the disaster so that we may have a strategic response that will be effective. Teams may be deployed. If you are trained in the medical field, disaster relief or have experience and are interested in going please visit our website and complete a disaster relief application www.vesselsofmercy.org. More information about future deployments will be available soon.

The initial shipment of emergency relief items will include medical supplies, tarp material for shelter, and hygiene items.

“The damage is staggering; the people of Haiti need our help. “Being able to help people in a time of need demonstrates Christ's love,” Vessels of Mercy International CEO Bev. Gibson said.

REPORT FROM THE FIELD

Several organization and ministries that we are in touch with report severe damage throughout the area. Power is out, and there is no water. “The needs are overwhelming, said one worker. “At one of the local hospitals patients are lining the floor. It's just unbelievable the amount of people that are lined up trying to get basic medical care.”

The massive 7.0 magnitude earthquake was the strongest to hit the country in 200 years and was felt as far away as Cuba. The tremor sparked widespread panic as it brought down buildings including the presidential palace, hotels, a hospital, and the UN headquarters in Port-au-Prince.

The city “is flattened,” said Haiti's consul general to the U.N., Felix Augustin, who said he believed more than 100,000 people were dead. Haitian senator Youri Latortue said the final figure could reach half a million.

Thousands of people gathered in public squares late into the night Tuesday, singing hymns and weeping. Many gravely injured people sat in the streets, pleading for doctors.

“Everybody is just totally, totally freaked out and shaken,” Henry Bahn, a U.S. Department of Agriculture official visiting Haiti told the Associated Press. “The sky is just gray with dust.”

The earthquake was centered about 10 miles west of Port-au-Prince, the U.S. Geological Survey said. The quake was felt in the Dominican Republic, which shares a border with Haiti on the island of Hispaniola. Some panicked residents in the capital of Santo Domingo fled from their shaking homes.

Join with us in helping the survivors of this quake. Visit our website to make on-line donations to the relief efforts. www.vesselsofmercy.org