



" God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Psalm 46



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# HAITI RECONSTRUCTION

## – HOW YOUR CHURCH CAN HELP THIS SUNDAY

Can you ask your church to PRAY and to DONATE this Sunday? Read on to find out how YOU can help...

The scale of destruction caused by the earthquake in Haiti on 12th January is becoming more apparent with each passing day. Latest estimates are that 200,000 people could have lost their lives, and up to 3 million, that's almost 30% of the population, are homeless or injured, all in a country little bigger than Wales.

**Currently the focus is on frontline aid. But if a bigger disaster is to be averted, shelter and reconstruction will soon be the priority.**

**Habitat for Humanity** is a Christian international housing charity. We have helped over 1.75 million people living in poverty housing in 92 countries to have a safe, decent place to live. We have worked in Haiti for 26 years, so have experienced local staff on the ground (praise God, all our staff are safe, although our rented office collapsed). We also have offices and staff in neighbouring countries poised to assist. We have extensive expertise in reconstruction and repair of houses following disasters: we helped over 25,000 families following the 2004 Asian Tsunami to rebuild or repair their homes, and have been actively involved in repair or rebuilding in dozens of other disasters since, including Haiti in 2008 when hurricanes destroyed 50,000 homes.

News reports have observed that Haiti has no building standards, and the collapse of badly constructed buildings has undoubtedly contributed to the loss of life. But all the homes that **Habitat for Humanity** has built already in Haiti are built to good standards, and have survived the earthquake. In addition, **Habitat for Humanity** has been working with RICS (the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors) for the past year to establish building regulations in Haiti.

**Habitat for Humanity** is ideally placed to help the people of Haiti to rebuild their homes.

Whilst some detail may change as we get clarity of the situation, our current plan consists of:

### Stage 1: Early Recovery

**Starter Kit:** The hurricane season will hit Haiti in May, so it's essential to get people out of tents and into more robust shelter, until their homes can be properly rebuilt or repaired. We will provide families with Starter Kits of tools and materials, enabling them repair less badly damaged homes or to build robust temporary shelters under supervision of our staff and partners who have been trained in disaster response and construction techniques.

**Re-establish operations:** As part of our immediate response, it will be vital to assist Habitat Haiti in restoring its capacity to fully participate in the recovery efforts.

### Stage 2: Rehabilitation and cleanup

**Habitat for Humanity** will organise the community into groups, equip them with tools and help them to clean up debris, salvaging good materials that can be reused in rebuilding. This will help the Haitians to contribute positively to their own recovery and keep building costs down (many of Haiti's building materials have to be imported).

### Stage 3: Reconstruction and Recovery

**Core homes:** Destroyed homes will be replaced with core homes, small but adequately sized permanent, disaster resistant homes which are quick to build but which are also easy for families to extend in due course. These will adhere to international Sphere standards, providing adequate living space and sanitation facilities for the average family of five.

**Habitat Resource Centres:** These centres are based on the proven solution we developed after the 2004 Tsunami in Asia. We will develop a number of Resource Centres, tailored to local need. Through them we will identify gaps in the local supply of housing materials, architectural, finance and construction skills and address them in ways that support local livelihoods.

Through all aspects of the work, **Habitat for Humanity** will cultivate partnerships with local residents and other charities and humanitarian groups that can leverage the effectiveness of the response.

# PRACTICAL FAITH IN ACTION

- **PRAY** - for the safety of our staff, and for their good judgment in knowing how best to help the local people; for the survivors of Haiti, that God will bring them comfort; that the various charities involved are able to work efficiently and compassionately together, in spite of the difficult circumstances. For the latest, visit [www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk](http://www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk).
- **DONATE** – complete and return the form below, or call 01295 264240 to make a donation over the phone.
- **RAISE FUNDS**
  - Get a team together to enter our unique Hope Challenge fundraising event in June: Visit [www.hopechallenge.org.uk](http://www.hopechallenge.org.uk) or call 01295 264240 for more information. June might seem ages away, but the rebuilding of homes in Haiti will be a longterm effort and take considerable funds, and so we don't just need donations in the short term. If you can't take part yourself, can you encourage others to do so – others in your church, local companies or a community group?
  - Take up a special collection, or give out copies of this leaflet (we can print and send you more or email you copies to print out, call 01295 264240) to enable your congregation to donate direct.
  - Alternatively, email [eives@habitatforhumanity.org.uk](mailto:eives@habitatforhumanity.org.uk) for our Fundraising Toolkit, full of good ideas to help you raise funds in other ways.
  - **TALK** – Help spread the word amongst colleagues, family, friends, your church networks: Posters, leaflets and a PowerPoint presentation can all be downloaded to print out from our website, [www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk](http://www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk).

**On behalf of the survivors in Haiti, thank you.**

Keep up with the latest at  
[www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk](http://www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk).



## PLEASE MAKE A DONATION!

**Yes, I want to help the survivors of the Haiti Earthquake to rebuild their homes and lives!**

Please complete this form and send to the address below.

Title: ..... Forename: .....

Surname: .....

Home Address: .....

..... Postcode: .....

Telephone: ..... Email address: .....

I enclose my donation of:  £20  £50 Other amount £.....

CAF voucher  Cheque  Postal Order

**Please make cheques/postal orders payable to Habitat for Humanity GB**

Mastercard  Visa  Amex  CAF Card  Maestro  Delta

Card No:

Maestro only:    Issue Number (Delta only):

Start date:    Expiry date:

Security Code (last 3 digits on reverse of card)

Name on Card: .....

Signature: .....

Date:      I do not require an acknowledgement

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**You can make your gift worth more at no extra cost.** Using Gift Aid means that for every pound you give, we get an extra 28 pence from the Inland Revenue, helping your donation go further.

(Please tick) I want Habitat for Humanity to treat all donations that I have made in the past 6 years **and** all future donations that I make from the date of this declaration, until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.

You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax for each tax year (6 April one year to 5 April the next) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that the charity will reclaim from HM Revenue & Customs on your Gift Aid donation(s).

The money reclaimed through Gift Aid will be used to help fund Habitat for Humanity's work where the need is greatest.

Habitat for Humanity would like to keep you up to date about its vital work around the world.

If you would **not** like to be contacted please tick the boxes that apply:

By post  By email  By phone

In the future we may wish to exchange supporter details with other charities. If you would rather your name was **not** included, please tick here:

**Thank you for your donation to help shelter the survivors of the Haiti earthquake.**

Please return this form to: HAITI APPEAL, Habitat for Humanity Great Britain, 46 West Bar Street, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9RZ

Registered charity No.1043641 Office Code: 10EM01-WebChurch