

HAITI

Haiti earthquake, cholera outbreak and hurricane, January 2010

The most powerful earthquake to strike Haiti in more than 200 years devastated the country on January 12, 2010. Nearly 250,000 people were killed, 300,000 injured and more than a million people left homeless.

After the earthquake, due to the lack of access to clean water and poor sanitation a cholera outbreak occurred in October of 2010. Over 2,000 people died from the outbreak and over 93,000 people were hospitalized. ELCA Disaster Response assisted in meeting the immediate health needs of communities affected by the cholera outbreak. Working with the community, education and awareness were provided to prevent future outbreaks.

Then, in November 2010, Hurricane Tomas hit Haiti. The hurricane led to 16,000 people voluntarily evacuating their homes. Of those 16,000, just under 13,000 sought refuge in temporary shelters such as schools, churches and public buildings.

ELCA Disaster Response

The ELCA has been present in Haiti for more than 20 years. This relationship enabled a quick and effective response immediately following the January earthquake. This came in the form of food, water and shelter to meet the immediate needs of those affected.

ELCA Disaster Response assisted in meeting the health needs of communities affected by the earthquake and the cholera outbreak. We worked to minimize the risk of the disease but also provided education on how to prevent future outbreaks.

After the hurricane, the ELCA responded by supplying 1,700 families with food, water and hygiene kits. Roofing repair also took place so that families could be kept dry.

The ELCA has pledged a five-year commitment to continued engagement with the Haitian people—as they continue to rebuild their lives, literally from the ground up.



ACT/Paul Jeffrey



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Jauvalda Francique is three years old and eager to go to school—especially since the school she'll be going to is brand new and her parents helped build it. The school building in Jauvalda's home town of Léogâne in Haiti was nearly destroyed by the earthquake. With help from ELCA Disaster Response, a new school building has risen from the rubble, designed to withstand earthquakes, floods and hurricanes.

Partners in response: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti, Lutheran Church of Haiti and The Lutheran World Federation

Contribution: \$4,318,664.35

Response:

- Food, blankets, mosquito nets, shelter, farming supplies for 8,200 families
- Removal of rubble, rebuilding of roads, construction of community centers
- Chlorine, soap and aquatabs for 13,000 people to combat the spread of cholera
- Community training on how to stop the spread of cholera
- Food, water and hygiene kits to 1,700 families following the hurricane
- Re-roofing of 300 homes



ACT/Maria Havalá