

## **TEARFUND: 16 January 2010**

### **Tearfund Ask Pembrokeshire To Help Haiti's Earthquake Victims**

Aid agency Tearfund has dispatched £50,000 to help survivors of the earthquake that has shattered impoverished Haiti.

The earthquake, measuring seven on the Richter Scale, claimed thousands of lives; leaving many more people missing feared dead, as it struck the Caribbean island on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January. Many buildings have been destroyed or badly damaged in the capital Port-au-Prince, including the presidential palace and the five-storey UN offices.

Rescue efforts to dig people from the rubble of smashed homes, shops and offices are being hampered by blocked roads, power cuts and a lack of equipment. As the devastation spirals so the victims need more help and Tearfund are asking the people of Pembrokeshire to respond.

“We need to act quickly. People's lives are in chaos and Pembrokeshire can offer them hope. Tearfund are providing practical ways which we can support. You can visit Tearfund's website for news, ways to pray and give financially.” Said Tearfund's Media Officer For Pembrokeshire, Sharron Hardwick.

Tearfund have a power point presentation that is free to use in your community or church group: [www.tearfund.org/webdocs/website/News/Haiti\\_earthquake.ppt](http://www.tearfund.org/webdocs/website/News/Haiti_earthquake.ppt)

There is also a news page [www.tearfund.org/News/Haiti+earthquake+news.htm](http://www.tearfund.org/News/Haiti+earthquake+news.htm) and a prayer page [www.tearfund.org/Praying/Urgent+prayer+news/Haiti+earthquake.htm](http://www.tearfund.org/Praying/Urgent+prayer+news/Haiti+earthquake.htm).

Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere and millions of people live in the affected area. The death toll, currently in the tens of thousands, is expected to rise significantly. Many more will be without shelter and basic facilities. Communications have been severely disrupted making logistics extremely difficult for emergency and relief agencies.

Tearfund have six partners in Haiti who are assessing emergency aid needs. Peter Grant, Tearfund's International Director, said, ‘Although detailed information about the number of people needing help is proving hard to come by, it's clear that we are facing a very serious disaster. With so many buildings destroyed and so many people made homeless, the need for shelter and basic essentials such as food and water is extremely urgent.’

Tearfund are in Haiti, responding to this disaster. They are sending disaster specialists to help local Haitian Tearfund partners to assess the scale of the immediate needs. These will be emergency shelter, clean water and sanitation, nutrition and health care.

“Pembrokeshire can be a part of Tearfund's response, showing love and support to those who are suffering. Together we can make a difference.” concludes Sharron Hardwick.

To support Tearfund's Haiti Disaster Appeal, donate online at [www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org) Tearfund are also part of the joint-agency Disasters Emergency Committee Haiti Appeal to give visit [www.dec.org.uk](http://www.dec.org.uk) or call **0370 60 60 900**.



**EMERGENCY APPEAL**  
**HAITI**  
**EMERGENCY APPEAL**

**TEARFUND IS  
RESPONDING  
GIVE, PRAY AND  
FIND OUT MORE**

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