



SNMA Response to Haiti Disaster

January 15, 2010

As you know, the unfortunate disaster due to a 7.0-magnitude earthquake in Haiti that occurred on Tuesday afternoon (1.12.10) has likely resulted in an estimated death toll of over 100,000. The poorest nation in the Western hemisphere has a long history of devastation by natural disasters, extreme poverty, and political turmoil. The Student National Medical Association offers our prayers for all who have family and loved ones in Haiti. We are working earnestly to address this matter as effectively and efficiently as possible. With your help, we will do our part to assist in the relief effort. We strongly encourage local chapters to become active and mobilize members when deemed appropriate.

How can YOU stay informed? Go to www.snma.org and visit Medconnect Forums <http://snma.org/medconnect/forum/index.php?board=1.0> to share your stories, receive updates, communicate with other members and let us know what you are doing on a local level!

Stay tuned for the Presidents Newsletter (coming soon) that will address SNMA's short and long-term plan to organize and implement our response to the disaster in Haiti.

How can you help right now? The Haitian government has asked that donations at this time be in monetary form and suggest contributions be made through trusted relief efforts. Please consider donating to any of the organizations below.

Doctors Without Borders (DWB) - DWB is an international medical humanitarian organization founded by doctors and journalists in France in 1971. The organization currently has staff on the ground in Haiti working to stem possible loss of life. **Visit the site here:** <http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/donate/haiti-share.cfm>

The Red Cross - To help with relief efforts, text "HAITI" to "90999" and \$10 will be given automatically to the Red Cross, charged to your cell phone bill. You can also give online, via phone or even through wire transfer. **Website here:** <http://www.redcross.org/>

The Clinton Foundation - Text "HAITI" to "20222" and \$10 will be given to the Clinton Foundation's Haiti Relief Fund, charged to your cell phone bill. Website: <http://www.clintonfoundation.org/haitiearthquake/>

Yéle Haiti - Founded by musician and U.N. Goodwill Ambassador Wyclef Jean, Yéle's is a grassroots movement that builds global awareness for Haiti while helping to transform the country through programs in education, sports, the arts and environment. Texting "yele" to 501501 to donate \$5 to relief efforts via Wyclef Jean's Yele Haiti Earthquake Fund. **Website here:** <http://www.yele.org/>

The best way to locate someone in Haiti is to call the U.S. Department of State at 1-888-407-4747. If you have any questions any family/friends in Haiti and want to share your experience with us please email international@snma.org

Travelle Franklin-Ford
Student National Medical Association
National President 2009-2010