



HAITI EARTHQUAKE



Charlie Crist
Governor

David Halstead
Interim Director

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FLORIDA DISASTER MEDICAL TEAM ON SITE IN HAITI

TALLAHASSEE – The FloridaOne Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) from Pensacola has deployed to Haiti to help earthquake survivors. The FloridaOne DMAT is comprised of people with expertise in the fields of medicine, mental health, communications, administration and logistics.

“We understand the critical need for trained, disaster-medical personnel and hospital resources in Haiti and the state of Florida will continue to assist both field and stateside services during this recovery process,” said Interim Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management David Halstead.

In response to Tuesday’s earthquake in Haiti, the Florida State Emergency Information Line opened at 10 a.m. Friday to provide Floridians a link to informational resources on the international response and recovery efforts in Haiti. The Florida Emergency Information Line (FEIL) will operate from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. until further notice. The number for residents to call is:

800-342-3557

Additional response efforts by the state of Florida to date include:

- Two 72-member urban search and rescue teams, South Florida Task Force Team 1 and South Florida Task Force 2 and 12 canines deployed to Haiti to provide search and rescue assistance. To date, 20 lives have been saved by U.S. search and rescue teams.
- On Friday, Governor Charlie Crist issued an Executive Order (#10-06) in response to the earthquake.
- The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) remains operational at a Level 2 or partial activation.
- Florida’s Department of Children and Families has provided services to 375 Americans returning from Haiti since 7pm, Wednesday, January 13, 2010.
- The Governor’s Office facilitated the donation of 18 truckloads of water by Nestle, which have been received at a federal facility in Jacksonville and will shortly be en route to Haiti.

The most effective way for Floridians to assist with relief efforts is to make a cash contribution to a humanitarian organization they trust. For a complete list of relief agencies working in Haiti that are taking donations, please visit www.volunteerflorida.org.

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