



Charlie Crist
Governor

David Halstead
Interim Director

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OPERATION HAITI RELIEF – RECOVERY DAY 18

TALLAHASSEE - Florida-based disaster response teams continue to assist in the international response and recovery efforts from the 7.0 earthquake that struck Haiti earlier this month. Today is day 18 of emergency operations both on the island nation and the Sunshine State.

Response efforts by the state of Florida to date include:

- On January 15, 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.
- The State Emergency Response Team has established a Flight Following Cell at the State EOC to track incoming flights from Haiti to Florida. To date 799 flights with 18,363 passengers have returned to Florida airports. Most recently there were 38 flights with 868 passengers on Friday, January 29.
- Florida's Department of Children and Families (DCF) has provided services to 6,630 individuals coming from Haiti to the United States since January 13.
- The Florida Department of Health reports that 526 persons have been received at Florida hospitals, 413 have been received in South Florida, 76 have been received in the Orlando area and 37 have been received in the Tampa area. On Wednesday Governor Crist requested that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services activate the National Disaster Medical System and provide a plan to support the ongoing medical and humanitarian needs of evacuees.
- Volunteer Florida is currently coordinating and assisting 41 community and faith-based organizations that are on the ground or providing services in support of the survivors in Haiti. Over 1,300 volunteers from the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities of Florida, Compassion Alliance, The Eagles Way Foundation, Florida Association of Food Banks, Florida Interfaith Networking In Disaster and Lutheran Services Florida have logged nearly 28,000 hours during entering the three week relief operation.
- Ten Florida National Guard and 10 Agency for Workforce Innovation Creole translators are on scene at Sanford International Airport to aid repatriates. Ten Florida National Guardsmen are providing additional support services for incoming flights to the Orlando/Sanford International Airport from Haiti.

For more information on the Florida Division of Emergency Management and to GET A PLAN!, please visit: www.FloridaDisaster.org. All students, teachers and parents can find educational information and free downloadable materials at: www.KidsGetAPlan.com. And for the latest situation and flash reports go to: www.YouTube.com/FloridaSERT.

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