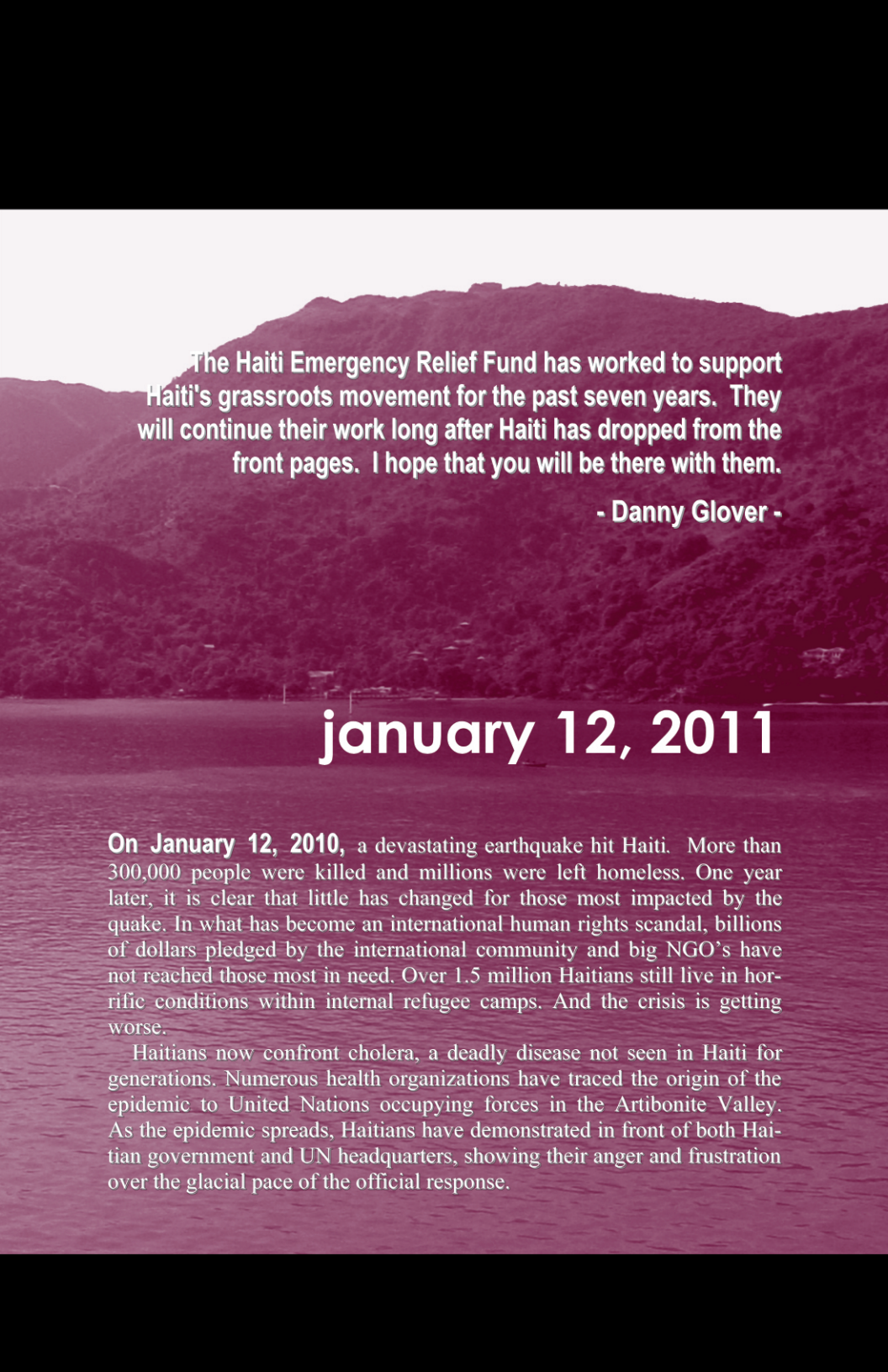




Haiti
Emergency
Relief
Fund





The Haiti Emergency Relief Fund has worked to support Haiti's grassroots movement for the past seven years. They will continue their work long after Haiti has dropped from the front pages. I hope that you will be there with them.

- Danny Glover -

january 12, 2011

On January 12, 2010, a devastating earthquake hit Haiti. More than 300,000 people were killed and millions were left homeless. One year later, it is clear that little has changed for those most impacted by the quake. In what has become an international human rights scandal, billions of dollars pledged by the international community and big NGO's have not reached those most in need. Over 1.5 million Haitians still live in horrific conditions within internal refugee camps. And the crisis is getting worse.

Haitians now confront cholera, a deadly disease not seen in Haiti for generations. Numerous health organizations have traced the origin of the epidemic to United Nations occupying forces in the Artibonite Valley. As the epidemic spreads, Haitians have demonstrated in front of both Haitian government and UN headquarters, showing their anger and frustration over the glacial pace of the official response.

supporting the grassroots movement

Since its inception in March 2004, the Haiti Emergency Relief Fund has given concrete aid to Haiti's grassroots movement as it resisted the brutal coup that overthrew Haiti's democratically elected president, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, ousted thousands of elected officials, and shattered community-based development projects.

Nearly seven years after the coup, there is still no democracy in Haiti. Haiti's recent presidential elections were conducted amid widespread fraud, intimidation, and violence at the polls. Fanmi Lavalas, Haiti's most popular political party, was banned from participation. Not surprisingly, turnout was abysmally low, around ten to fifteen percent. As the United States State Department, the United Nations and the Organization of American States deliberate on a "solution" to the electoral fiasco, we can be assured that the end-result will insure elite control in Haiti.

We work with HERF because it focuses on grassroots self-help, from food production to housing. And so they often start with women, who are always central to survival for families and communities. HERF is committed to the accountability of services such as medical care and education. There is no administrative cut and no "experts" in 4x4s carrying out expensive "assessments." HERF deserves every support.

- Selma James -

*Coordinator of the Global Women's Strike
Colleague and widow of CLR James*

ing stream. This makes it all the more critical to fund the projects of Haiti's democratic movement – the women's organizations, peasant groups, neighborhood organizers, human rights networks, labor and youth groups, and educators who represent the future of Haiti.

We know that recovery and development will only come with the full participation of these grassroots community groups. That is why our funds go directly to these organizers, to help build and sustain their work in the face of continued military occupation and repression.

All donations to the Haiti Emergency Relief Fund will be forwarded to our partners on the ground to help them rebuild what has been destroyed.

What follows is a summary of what your generous funding since the earthquake has accomplished.

What does this mean for the next stage of relief, recovery and development? The billions of dollars that have been collected worldwide will not make their way to Haiti's poor. Instead, reconstruction will remain firmly in the hands of the United States Government and the small group of wealthy Haitians who have been and remain their partners.

Grassroots organizations, those most in touch with Haiti's poor majority, have been systematically eliminated from the big donors' funding stream.

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direct relief

In the months immediately following the earthquake, we provided funds for mass distribution of tarps, food and water to displaced communities within Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas. For example, we provided funds to **SOPUDEP** school, which distributed relief supplies to communities in Carrefour, the Delmas area, Djobel, Morne Lazare, Leogane (the epicenter of the quake), Morne Hercule and Cite Soleil.

■ **The Fondasyon Kole Zepol Pou Sove Timoun** is a community organization that assists poor and orphaned children in Cite Soleil, the poorest neighborhood in Port-au-Prince. With support from HERF, organizers purchased a generator for a cyber café, providing a way for residents in Cite Soleil to communicate with friends and family in the days following the quake. They also helped to provide shelter, water, food and medical care to community residents affected by the quake.



■ We supported **MAPOUD**, a grassroots community organization that distributed tarps, tents, water and food for residents in survivor camps in many Port-au-Prince neighborhoods, including the area near the airport, Delmas, and Cite Soleil. These neighborhoods had received little or no aid from international aid organizations in the months after the earthquake.

■ The grassroots organization **CONNADH** distributed food, water and tarps to families in the Champs-de-Mars and Delmas 2 internal refugee camps right after the earthquake. In addition, four housing structures with good sanitation were built for families in Delmas 2. HERF funding helped make this happen.

■ We provided funding to **Foundation Minouche** to give food and water in Cap-Haitien for earthquake survivors who had left Port-au-Prince.

■ The **Association Nationale des Chauffeurs (ANC)** and the **Confederation of Haitian Workers (CTH)** are important labor organizations within Haiti. With HERF support, these unions provided much-needed assistance for the families of their members.

responding to the cholera epidemic



With the cholera epidemic at present afflicting so many communities, the lack of medical infrastructure has made the population extremely vulnerable, particularly in the absence of timely treatment and re-hydration. Community organizations are alarmed at the lack of adequate response by the authorities, not only in poor urban neighborhoods but also in rural areas.

HERF has received many appeals from community organizations to help them obtain hydration kits, water purifiers and sanitizers. In response, we have provided assistance to some of the most affected communities; however, the need remains staggering.

The assessment from health experts is that the cholera epidemic will worsen over the coming months. To assist the efforts of community organizations to prevent the spread of the disease, HERF has made the following contributions:

some of the medical supplies sent by HERF in response to the cholera epidemic

150 boxes of IV sets for hydration	masks (high fiber) w/filter inside
20 IV stands	gauze rolls, squares, and tape (to hold IV down)
20 wheelchairs	prep kits to clean area of infection
15 hospital beds	transparent covering (trans dermal)
20 new dirt bikes to transport doctors and other medical workers	IV sets w/ needle sticks for adult and pediatric patients
body bags	drapes and towels for use in clinics
potty chairs	sutures
day chairs	10 boxes of medication for high blood pressure, diabetes, and other general medical needs
antibiotics	water purification capsules
tubing for IV	
IV bags	
IV sticks	
disinfectant	

- A cistern and supply of clean drinking water with water purifiers and sanitizers in the Artibonite, one of the areas of the original cholera outbreak, via the community organization **MAPOUD**.
- A cistern and supply of clean drinking water with water purifiers and sanitizers in one of the neighborhoods of Cite Soleil via the grassroots organization **Fondasyon Kole Zepol Pou Sove Timoun**.
- Water purifiers and sanitizers for a rural community near Les Cayes via **Organisation des Femmes Progressistes des Cayes (The Progressive-Women of Les Cayes)**.
- A supply of water purifiers and sanitizers for a rural community near Carrefour, just south of Port-au-Prince, via **Fann Vanyan (Strong Women)**, a women's peasant farmer organization.
- Water purifiers and sanitizers for a rural community near Cap-Haitien via the **Organisation pour le Developpement et le Progres des Agriculteurs de la 4e Section Sanyago**.
- Three different shipments of IV sets for hydration, antibiotics, water purifiers and other supplies: a) one shipment of a container of medical supplies destined for the work of the **Aristide Foundation**; b) two other shipments sent to Haiti with medical teams.

other health care projects

***HERF has partnered with** and facilitated medical teams from the United States going to Haiti to treat victims of the earthquake. All medical personnel paid for their own travel and living expenses, while HERF funds were used to purchase and transport medical and other needed supplies used by the teams in Haiti. Many of these supplies were provided to HERF as in-kind donations.*



■ From the moment the earthquake hit, we supported the travel of teams of nurses and doctors to the Port-au-Prince area. In less than a month, we helped send eleven medical teams from across the United States, connecting them with some of the most affected communities not receiving any attention from the big nongovernmental organizations. Now, this number has risen to

over fifty. These medical teams have brought with them hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of medicines and medical supplies – including IV’s for use in treating victims of the recent cholera epidemic.

■ We sent a truckload of medical supplies to the **Aristide Foundation For Democracy**, which was a center for medical relief work in the Port-au-Prince area. Thousands of people sought refuge in the Foundation right after the earthquake, and – with your support – the organizers there were able to provide food, water and medical care for those in need. HERF funds enabled the Aristide Foundation to set up and maintain a mobile health clinic that served thousands of patients in the first months after the earthquake.

■ HERF sponsored a team of doctors to open a day clinic in Bel Air. They treated people who could not find a place in the lines for medical attention at the General Hospital. HERF also bought and distributed fresh drinking water in Bel Air.

Soulaje Lespri Moun (Relief For the Spirit)

Project of the Aristide Foundation

Imagine the psychological trauma faced by survivors of the earthquake. Family and friends lost, homes destroyed, entire communities displaced.

Soulaje Lespri Moun is a lay mental health worker project of the **Aristide Foundation**. Young Haitian college students have been trained to work with children and families in the refugee camps. These mental health workers meet on a regular basis with families in the camps, helping survivors talk about the losses they have suffered and helping them heal.

On a recent trip to Haiti, a HERF board member met with these mental health workers. Here are a few quotes which, taken together, sum up the beauty and significance of this effort:

“People think that they need food and that is true. They think that they need to have a place to live and that is true. But people need things for their heart. They need things for their mind. They need things for their spirit. These are important too.”

“I think it is something I would never be able to explain. How hard it is to talk to people, how hard it is to open up, how hard it is to hear the stories, while thinking of your own. But we are doing that and it seems to help people.”

“It was not easy to help. Many people we talk to, both children and adults, have lost their whole families. The only family they have are the health workers. We are just like the family. We teach other people what we have learned.”

“In the beginning, it was not easy. We would ask what people needed and they were silent. They wouldn't say anything. We would explain to them why it is important to talk, why it is good to say how you feel, why we have to talk to each other. Afterwards, they said, ‘It is important that you come again.’”

HERF is honored to support this initiative.

education

HERF has supported educators as they struggle to sustain students and their families in the aftermath of the quake. Even as they faced the tragedy of the earthquake, parents wanted their children – and other children who had lost their parents -- to be able to continue their education. HERF funds have supported community-run schools both in and outside of the camps.



SOPUDEP

Since its inception in 2002, the SOPUDEP school has served the poorest children in the Petionville community, on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince. The school was severely damaged during the earthquake, and a number of students and staff were killed. In spite of these losses, the leadership of SOPUDEP kept the school running and reached out to aid the families of their students and residents of surrounding communities.

HERF provided funds for a generator for SOPUDEP, which allowed the school to maintain its critical work as a center for relief. We have provided ongoing support for the school, and its administrators, who have been able to provide aid to ravaged communities near the school. For example, SOPUDEP has sustained the people of Morne Lazare, a poor community in Port-au-Prince that has been all but ignored by relief efforts.

Mobile Schools – Aristide Foundation for Democracy

HERF provided the bulk of funding for the Aristide Foundation’s mobile schools. This project gave employment to 102 high school and college graduates who served as teachers, and also helped build shelters in four refugee camps in order to hold classes. Children were able to attend classes even while living under desperate conditions in the refugee camps. This was a source of pride and hope for the children and their families. Here is what Marjory, a 28-year-old mother, said about this project:

“At the school my daughter learns to count, to say the alphabet and also she learns hygiene. When I come to walk her back after class she sings to me the songs they sing in the school. Her favorite song is ‘Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes.’ Now she knows all the parts of her body and the days of the week, and months of the year. She is very clever and is learning everything very quickly. The teachers at the school are caring and love each of the children. They know what are the strengths of each child and they try to help each child. Going to school helps children forget about the earthquake for a short time....”

As schools slowly reopened, the Aristide Foundation began an after-school program so as not to conflict with school. The after-school activities included arts and crafts, song and dance, and theater. HERF provided the funding for this project.

Mobile Schools in Nazon, Fontamara and Tapage

The Aristide Foundation had never planned on maintaining these mobile schools on a permanent basis. However, the success of the project inspired three of the school directors to keep schools running in Nazon (central Port-au-Prince), Fontamara (Carrefour), and Tapage (La Plaine). With support from a HERF grant, these three schools were able to purchase and distribute school supplies in November, offering hundreds of children a day of celebration in the midst of such a tragic period in their lives. We are continuing to fund these schools.

Ecole Primaire Excelsior du FOPAD

HERF has supported this primary school of 300 students in Port-au-Prince. Our funds have helped the schools stay open and to provide meals for its students and for about 250 elders in the community.



women's organizing

Women's organizations have played a pivotal role in building and maintaining the movement for democracy in Haiti. Women head 70% of families in Haiti, and are at the center of every community. We have funded a series of women's groups that are in the forefront of the grassroots relief effort and the movement to build women's economic self-sufficiency.

- We have funded the micro-credit project of **FASA/SOPUDEP**. This coalition of seven women's organizations has helped women sell produce, peanut butter, jam, shoes, fries, soap, vegetables, juice and other items. Profits go into a cooperative fund. Loans at low interest allow the women to grow their business. In the future, they hope to buy a small truck and set up a community store.
- With assistance from HERF, the **Aristide Foundation for Democracy** launched a women's micro-lending project with a small loan fund. The women received further training, after which five-month loans were made, with early repayment allowing them to pay less interest. Here is an excerpt from the Aristide Foundation's report on this project.



“The 20 women who received loans sell their goods at the markets of Croix-des-Bouquets, Croix-de-Missions, Croix Brossals (the main market in downtown Port-au-Prince), Tabarre and Cite Soleil. They have set up a series of small businesses with these loans: selling cooked food by the plate (*manje kuit*), selling raw food (*manje kri*), fried snacks (*mange fritay*), as well as selling charcoal (*marchand charbon*) and clothing (*marchand vetman*). A couple of the women in the group, who live in La Plaine and

have access to land, borrowed money to plant fast-growing food stuffs which they plan to harvest and sell. Of the 20 women who received loans, 17 are the sole providers for their families.”

- **The Women of Camp Mesiane**, one of the internal refugee camps dotting Port-au-Prince, received funding for food, water and medical supplies, as well as for activities to commemorate International Women's Day on March 8th. They led a women's march through the refugee camp, highlighting the concerns of women. These same women also protested at a Red Cross headquarters near the camp, successfully demanding relief.

women's organizing

■ We have supported a women's organizing project in Les Cayes, an area hit by the earthquake but ignored by most relief efforts. Many survivors have ended up in Les Cayes, needing water, food and medicine. With the support of HERF, **L'Organisation des Femmes Progressistes des Cayes (The Progressive Women of Les Cayes)** has been there to provide emergency relief.

■ HERF is also funding an agricultural development project of The Progressive Women of Les Cayes. This funding helped the women buy motorized plows, a water pump and a grain mill for the community. HERF has also funded a micro-credit program, a component of this project.

■ We have provided funds to support the work of **Oganizasyon FanmVanyan (Organization of Strong Women)**. OFAV has established a women's cooperative to support retail sales for market women. They also run a micro-credit program for market women, and have spearheaded literacy drives among women in the Port-au-Prince area.

■ **Favilek (Fanm Viktim Leve Kanpe — Women Victims Get Up Stand Up)** has been organizing and supporting women victims of sexual/political violence since 1993, after the first coup against President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Since the earthquake, HERF has provided funds for food and water for Favilek members, as well as their families and communities. We have also supported their ongoing work against rape and other forms of violence against women.

■ The women of **Fanm Vodou** have been in the forefront of the defense of religious freedom in Haiti, particularly the right of Haitians to practice their indigenous religion, Vodou. In addition, Fanm Vodou has a long history of working for literacy among women. Since the earthquake, Fanm Vodou has been able, with the aid of HERF, to provide food, water and shelter for their members and their families.

■ Mules for **Fanm Vanyan (Strong Women)** is a project of an organization of women farmers in a rural community of 20,000 people near Carrefour, just outside of Port-au-Prince. HERF provided the funds to repair and rebuild a mill to process corn and millet, and to purchase an irrigation pump since the lack of water limits food production. But what the women wanted most were mules. Why? For years, these women have had to travel seven hours on foot with heavy baskets on their heads to get to the nearest market.

HERF has already provided ten mules, which the women are sharing. With your help, we hope to increase our funding for this project and provide mules for many more women in Fanm Vanyan over the coming months.

local food production and processing

Haiti has become increasingly dependent on the import of traditional food staples grown in the Dominican Republic, as well as subsidized rice from the US, instead of those produced locally. But there is a growing movement among peasant farmers to turn this process around. There can be no real development in Haiti without the revitalization of agriculture.

HERF has provided funds to peasant associations and women's organizations for micro-credit and other cooperative small business ventures, especially those involving food production and processing of locally grown crops for local consumption.

Mange Lakay Selavi (Haitian Food for Haitian Lives) Project of the Aristide Foundation

The January 12 earthquake brought the already urgent need for investment and prioritizing of local food production in Haiti into intense focus. HERF is now funding an exciting agricultural project developed by **The Aristide Foundation for Democracy** in cooperation with **Men Ansanm (Hands Together)**, and an association of 150 farmers in La Plaine, in the Port-au-Prince area.



This region was once a productive agricultural area, but has been rapidly urbanizing. Since the quake, even larger numbers of people have moved there. This project meets a critical need – not only to produce food that can directly supply local markets and support families growing food, but also to increase the amount of productive land.

Using the Mandalla agricultural structure (formed by nine concentric circles in which cultivation areas are set up around a circular reservoir), farmers are creating an integrated agricultural system on the grounds of UniFA (University of the Aristide Foundation). In addition to feeding their own families, farmers will be selling fish and agricultural products in local markets.

Peasant Farmers in Grand Goave

Grand Goave is one of the areas greatly affected by the earthquake. HERF provided funding to the **Association of Peasant Farmers in Grand Goave/Healthy Haiti** for the building of six silos that store 12 tons of grain, beans and corn. This will ease the problem of erosion and provide more flexibility for the sale of crops. Because of the lack of proper storage, the farmers are forced to sell their corn and beans at harvest time when prices are low. Later they have to buy them back from speculators for consumption and planting when the prices are higher. The silos will give these farmers more economic independence.

Mission Porte Ouverte

This organization, based near Les Cayes, provides environmental training for educators. We provided funds for an educational campaign designed to save an important local lake, reduce erosion and maintain a nursery to save and replant native trees.

COHENOH (Collectif des Haitiens Engages pour une Nouvelle Haiti — Collective of Haitians Engaged for a New Haiti)

HERF provided grants for agricultural tools, seeds (onions, corn, rice, tomatoes) an irrigation pump, and the cost of transporting crops to market to **COHENOH**, a federation of peasant organizations. These were used to increase the production of crops in farming communities near Jacmel, St. Marc and Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite.

MORAPRONA

This peasant farmer organization produces native corn, beans, yams and plantains for the local market. HERF provided funds for seeds, agricultural tools, and irrigation pumps for two peasant farmer communities in the North of Haiti and one in the Artibonite. These funds were provided ahead of the planting season.

human rights

The coup d'etat against *President Aristide and the Lavalas movement launched a terrible period of state-sponsored violence in Haiti. Thousands lost their lives, thousands more were imprisoned, and many other activists were forced to flee Haiti. Since the coup, HERF has funded human rights workers, attorneys and organizations, who document and expose human rights violations and defend victims of repression. This work remains essential if real democracy is to return to Haiti.*

Fondasyon Trant Septanm (September 30th Foundation)



Lovinsky Pierre-Antoine and Fondasyon Trant Septanm speaking out for human rights.

Named to commemorate the date of the first coup against President Aristide in 1991, **Fondasyon Trant Septanm** continues to shine a light on human rights abuses. They have staged a series of demonstrations calling for a full investigation into the case of Lovinsky Pierre-Antoine, a human rights activist and leader of Lavalas who was kidnapped and disappeared in August of 2007. Fondasyon

Trant Septanm has been instrumental in keeping this case alive. After the earthquake, HERF funds helped Fondasyon Trant Septanm provide tents, food and water to communities in Port-au-Prince.

Bureau des Avocats Internationaux (BAI)

BAI has long been in the forefront of the struggle for human rights in Haiti. Along with its U.S.-based partner, **Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti**, BAI has trained a new generation of Haitian lawyers, worked to defend and free political prisoners, and to expose the terrible conditions within Haitian prisons.

In the aftermath of the earthquake, BAI has provided much-needed support for women's organizing efforts against rape and for residents organizing against other inhumane conditions in the survivor camps. We are honored to support this work.

This report gives an overview of what your solidarity has accomplished in 2010. HERF has also funded numerous smaller projects. Our aid goes directly into the hands of Haitians. As an all-volunteer organization, we have no overhead.

We offer solidarity, not charity; we respect the people of Haiti and their right to self-determination. We honor their commitment to lead the rebuilding of their own society.

We appreciate every penny, every dime, every dollar.

Our hearts are with Haiti.

Mail your tax deductible donation by check to:

Haiti Emergency Relief Fund/EBSC

c/o East Bay Sanctuary Covenant
2362 Bancroft Way
Berkeley, CA 94704

EBSC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

For more information about the Haiti Emergency Relief Fund and links to our partner organizations, please visit www.haitiemergencyrelief.org, where you can also donate on-line.

You can contact us at herf1804@hotmail.com or 510-595-4650.

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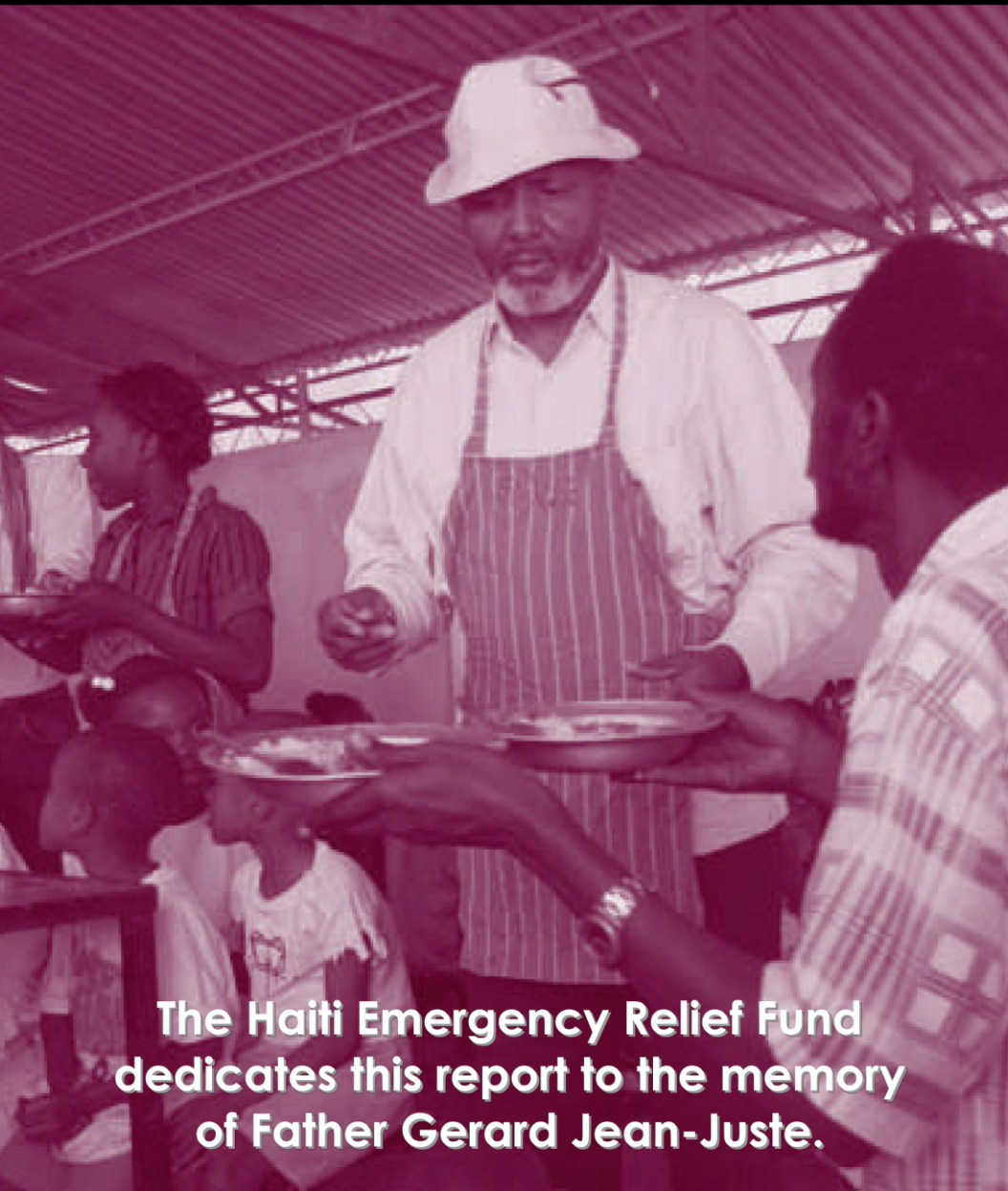
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Written by Robert Roth and edited by Marilyn Langlois for HERF.
Design and layout donated by Nia Imara.

PHOTOS

Inside cover and Page 1: Anonymous
Pages 3, 4, 6, 11, and 12: The Aristide Foundation
Pages 8 and 9: SOPUDEP
Page 14: Nia Imara
Pages 16 and 17: Wadner Pierre



**The Haiti Emergency Relief Fund
dedicates this report to the memory
of Father Gerard Jean-Juste.**

A close friend and compatriot of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, Father Jean-Juste was a tireless fighter for human rights in Haiti and around the world. He died on May 27, 2009 at the age of 63.

Whether feeding thousands of children at his church at St. Claire, speaking on behalf of political prisoners, or advocating for a fair distribution of wealth, Father Gerry was a mighty force. Death threats and imprisonment could not stop his commitment to the poor or halt his work.



In his book, *In the Parish of the Poor*, President Aristide wrote,

“As long as the pastor keeps feeding the peasant's children without helping deliver the peasant from poverty, the peasant will never escape the humiliating fate to which he has been assigned by the corrupt system. When the pastor only feeds the children, he is participating in that corrupt system, allowing it to endure. When the pastor feeds the children and helps organize the peasants, he is refusing the corrupt system, bringing about its end.”

Father Gerard Jean-Juste fed the children and fought for justice. His voice was the voice of Haiti, and it lives on.

Haiti Emergency Relief Fund



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