



2021 Haiti Earthquake

Haitian Red Cross volunteers sift through debris looking for survivors.

In the morning of August 14, 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti, causing widespread destruction to homes, roads, hospitals, and infrastructure.

Immediately following the earthquake, the Haitian Red Cross was on the street supporting search and rescue efforts. Volunteers sifted through rubble of 130,000 damaged or destroyed homes and provided first aid and psychosocial support to thousands.

The epicenter of the earthquake was near the town of Petit Trou de Nippes, some 160 km from the nation's capital. In addition to the challenges of COVID-19, response efforts were complicated as Tropical Depression Grace made landfall in Haiti a mere 48 hours after the earthquake, causing heavy winds and rain which triggered mudslides and flooding to the already affected areas.

Thanks to your generosity, the Canadian Red Cross was able to provide critical equipment and personnel for the operation of an Emergency Field Hospital led by the Finnish Red Cross in the hard-hit town of Les Cayes. In addition, the Canadian Red Cross provided relief items for 500 families including hygiene kits, jerrycans, buckets, tarpaulins, kitchen sets, shelter kits, mosquito nets, and personal protective equipment (PPE).

YOUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS:



5,423 patient visits,
nearly 40 per day



500 families provided
with relief supplies



10 Canadian Red Cross
humanitarian specialists deployed

Childhood joy despite destruction



A mother and young child receive medical attention at the Red Cross Emergency Field Hospital in Les Cayes, Haiti.

In times of conflict or crisis, children can not only have their physical health impacted—but also their mental health.

That's why our teams pay special attention to the needs of children, making sure they are reunited with families and protected from any additional harm in the aftermath of disaster.

After the earthquake, 32 percent of all the patients seen at the Red Cross Emergency Field Hospital were children. Some children are fortunate to arrive with their families to receive treatment, others arrive alone. Without a doubt, these children arrive scared and injured, whether physically or mentally, as they grapple to understand the devastation that has occurred.

Red Cross field hospitals do more than just provide medical care, they also work to support the psychosocial needs of children. This is done through child-friendly spaces where kids are able to just be kids. During the operation, the Psychosocial Support Team conducted activities for over 1,500 children.

As a Red Cross team leader says, "It was delightful to see those same children that were so shy and withdrawn seven weeks ago, now proudly dancing and enjoying the attention."

Thanks to your support, the Canadian Red Cross was able to support children—physically and mentally—after this devastating earthquake.



The Canadian Red Cross wishes to thank our donors, businesses, and organizations for contributing more than \$4.4 million towards our Haiti Earthquake Response Appeal.

The Emergency Field Hospital ended operation on November 30. Where possible, equipment will be handed over to the Haitian Red Cross and local health facilities. The Canadian Red Cross is now working with the Haitian Red Cross on an 18-month recovery project which aims to improve health services and support community members as they rebuild their lives following the earthquake.

Your generosity has allowed us to provide relief items as well as critical health equipment and personnel following this earthquake and will strengthen health services well into the future. Thank you.