



Wednesday, January 20th 2009.

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Dear all,

In response to the devastated state of survivors of the January 12th Haiti earthquake, the Haitian-American Chamber of Commerce of Florida (HACCOF), in partnership with member organizations such as Food Express (a food transfer company), 12Tel (a telecommunication company) and Haiti Messenger (a delivery logistics company in Haiti), is undertaking the leveraging of donated funds in order to accomplish our **HACCOF Haiti Aid & Reconstruction Initiative (HHARI)**, which consists of the following 3 phases:

Phase 1

- Transfer of Haiti cellular minutes so that people in Haiti can keep communicating with loved ones and friends in Haiti as well as abroad – this service will be provided by 12Tel.
- Food transfer to the survivors of the quake. Food Express still has food banks that have not been affected by the quake, will be providing this service.
- Delivery of food and critical items such as medicine in a timely manner. Haiti Messenger will be providing these services.

HACCOF's partnership with these 3 member businesses will also address the issue of much needed aid not reaching a portion of the survivors in a timely fashion as we have seen reported on CNN. These are organizations that have the experience, expertise and know-how to reach much needed areas of the country as they've been doing for years.



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Phase 2

This phase of HHARI will consist of creating a fund that will help alleviate the already precarious level of poverty in Haiti. HACCOF along with its partner organizations in Haiti will create Clean-Up Task Forces in the most critical areas so that those living in these areas get more of an incentive to start cleaning their neighborhoods of debris, after the government has authorized to do so. Members of these Task Forces will receive a daily stipend for these services. This initiative will not only help alleviate poverty and consequently reduce the level of criminal activities, but will also help foster a sense of “community belongingness” and of civic responsibility – characteristics that will be much needed in the reconstruction phase.

Phase 3

The last phase of HHARI will consist of aiding small businesses rebuild in Haiti, as they represent the lifelines of all Haitian communities. HACCOF along with its partner organizations in the US and Haiti will create a fund that will help those businesses in critical areas rebuild. This in turn will also help reduce criminal activity, create jobs and foster the possibility of creating several business incubators in Port-au-Prince and its surrounding affected areas.

Haitian people are very strong-willed and resilient – and despite the level of devastation, suffering and a minority of people abusing of the situation, there is one certainty: their will to help one another through this crisis and to rebuild even stronger than before is there. Let us support this will for those who perished, for the survivors that are left with scarring memories and for Haiti as a whole.



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HACCOF is a 501c(6) organization, which means that all donations made to us are tax deductible. Furthermore, the US House of Representatives just passed the Haiti Tax Relief Bill which makes all donations in 2010 deductible for 2009.

If sending a check, please make all checks payable to HACCOF at our mailing address listed below. Or please visit our website at www.hacconf.com and click on the "**HACCOF Haiti Aid & Reconstruction Initiative**" link to make a donation via PayPal. For those who would like to make a deposit or wire transfer funds into our Citibank Haiti Fund, please refer to the following instructions:

NAME OF ACCOUNT: Haitian American Chamber of Commerce of Florida, Inc
ACCT #: 9117142050

ACCT Type: Checking

ABA: 266086554

SWIFT: CITIUS33

ROUTING #:266086554

BRANCH #: 517

BRANCH ADDRESS: 10800 Biscayne Blvd. Ste 100, Miami FL 33161

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact François Guillaume, Jr. at 305-733-9066 or fguillaume@hacconf.com.

We thank you all in advance for your cooperation in this initiative.

François Guillaume Jr., MPA
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Haitian-American Chamber of Commerce of Florida

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