



NEWS

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*Sharing surplus.
Saving lives.*

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Global Links Coordinating Haiti Medical Relief Effort, Creating
Long-term Response Plan to Address Need for Medical Supplies,
Equipment

www.globallinks.org

Donations Sought to Support Aid Efforts

Pittsburgh-based international relief and development organization Global Links is working with national and international health authorities regarding Haiti to identify critical short-term and long-term needs for medical equipment and supplies in response to the earthquake that ravaged the island nation this week.

The nonprofit organization, which for 20 years has worked with medical institutions locally and nationally to recover surplus medical equipment, surgical equipment and supplies from U.S. hospitals and distributed them to hospitals and clinics in developing countries, is collaborating with the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), and other partners to develop a long-term recovery and assistance program that will be set in motion after more immediate needs for food, water and shelter have been met.

"Our hearts go out to the people of Haiti and their extended families around the world," says Global Links Executive Director Kathleen Hower. "As we receive more information on the magnitude of the destruction, it is clear that it will take a long-term effort by the international community to help Haiti to recover and heal from such devastation. The extensive damage and serious condition that has been documented so far will affect the country for years to come, and we are committed to helping the people of Haiti over the long term."

Relief efforts will likely follow a course similar to work still underway in Cuba, where Global Links continues to provide disaster assistance in the aftermath of hurricanes Ike and Gustav, which devastated the country and caused serious water damage to medical facilities in October 2008.

Individuals interested in supporting Global Links' relief efforts in Haiti can make a donation online at www.globallinks.org or by contacting Global Links at 412.361.3424.

About Global Links:

Global Links is a registered 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization that collaborates with U.S. institutions to recover surplus medical materials before consignment to land-fills and makes them available to hospitals abroad through their ongoing programs. Because poorly planned donations can be worse than no aid at all, each donation is carefully tailored to meet the needs of the recipient institution. Dedicated volunteers help Global Links to maintain high quality standards and low costs. Since its founding in 1989, Global Links has provided more

than \$160 million in critical medical aid to developing nations, including Bolivia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica and Nicaragua.

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