



CHICAGO HAITIAN COALITION LEADS LOCAL RECOVERY EFFORTS FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY 7.2 EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI.

Coalition To Provide Secure Monitoring of Recovery Efforts, Will Lead Centralized Fundraising Activities and Requests Monetary Support For Victims

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CHICAGO - Over the course of the last five days, the country of Haiti has been undergoing massive efforts to recover from an earthquake that devastated the island on the morning of August 14, 2021. Since that time, nearly 2,000 people have either been declared dead or missing. The seismic level of this latest earthquake measured 7.2 on the Richter scale, greater than the 7.0 level earthquake which struck the country in 2010. As a result of this recent event, over 200,000 lives have been lost, injured, or displaced. In addition, early property damage assessments estimate at least 84,000 families whose homes or businesses or both have been destroyed or damaged.

To assist in local response efforts, Chicagoland Haitian American organizations, concerned stakeholders and community leaders have united to form ***The Chicago Coalition of Haitian-American Organizations of the Chicagoland Area*** ("The Coalition"). From lessons learned following the 2010 earthquake and multiple hurricanes, ***The Coalition*** is focused on monitoring the recovery efforts and leading fundraising activities. The critical stages of finding the missing and supporting those in immediate need are of our collective concern.

To ensure donations are delivered securely to reputable organizations on the ground in Haiti who are doing the necessary work, ***The Coalition*** encourages all concerned individuals and organizations to support the recovery efforts by making a monetary donation via a secure and vetted GoFundMe

account, which has been established to receive assistance for this purpose. ALL proceeds will be directed to supporting the immediate and long-term medical and public health needs of those affected by the earthquake.

GoFundMe – [Chicago Coalition for Haiti Relief 2021](#)

Furthermore, this is an opportunity for the Organization of American States (OAS) and the U. S. Government to work with Haitians in the American Diaspora to build a workable “**Marshall Plan**” for Haiti. The economic recovery of Haiti is critical to the future of the countries in the Americas.

The Coalition wants to affirmatively state that we stand in solidarity with the Haitian people who have been through cataclysmic events and our prayer is that each of you stands with us too.

Affiliated Organizations of the Coalition:

- Haitian Congress to Fortify Haiti
- Haitian American Lawyers Association of Illinois (HALA)
- National Haitian American Elected Officials Network (NHAEON)
- Haitian-American Professional Network (HAPN)
- Concerned Haitian Americans of Illinois (CHAI)
- DuSable Heritage Association
- Operation SOS
- Daughters of Haiti
- Haitian American Nurses Association of Illinois
- Haitian American Museum of Chicago
- Midwest Association of Haitian American Women, Inc. – (MAHAW)
- Haitienne, LLC

ABOUT THE COALITION

The Coalition is a voluntary partnership of Haitian American organizations, businesses and professionals working together to build a community voice for advocacy and improve the quality of life for the Haitian American community in Chicago and abroad. The Coalition’s purpose is to champion many different functions such as:

- *Economic development for Haitian Americans in Chicago*
- *Cooperative assistance for underserved Haitian Community members*
- *Awareness and recognition of the Haitian American community as a unified voice serving the Chicagoland area*
- *Collaborative and unified service to Haiti, through various inter organizational resources.*