

For Immediate Release
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Columbus Hope for Haiti

Columbus leaders, media and Red Cross Unite for Haiti Disaster Relief

Mayor Michael B. Coleman, the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus and members from across Columbus' Media are coming together for a special day-long fundraiser to benefit those in Haiti following last week's devastating earthquake.

"Columbus Hope for Haiti" will be on Thursday, January 21, from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Ohio Historical Society parking lot located just off of I-71, at Exit 111.

"When tragedy strikes, Columbus unites in prayer and support for people in trouble, and there is no doubt that the situation in Haiti demands our attention," said Mayor Michael B. Coleman. "We are urging everyone to take a few moments to stop by and give what they can to help hurry aid to Haiti through our partners at the American Red Cross - it could not be easier than stopping this week at Columbus Hope for Haiti at the Historical Society."

The violent earthquake in Haiti has affected three million people and left thousands homeless. With the support of Columbus and Central Ohio residents, the Red Cross will make a difference. Local TV, Radio, and Print personalities, along with government officials and the American Red Cross, will be on hand to accept cash and check donations all day. Attendees will stay warm and dry in their cars to donate at the drive-through event. Checks should be made payable to *American Red Cross Haiti Relief*.

The American Red Cross is accepting donations now:

1. Call 1-800-HELP NOW or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish).
2. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting www.redcross.org. They can choose to designate their contribution to the International Response Fund or for the Haiti response specifically.
3. Donors can text "Haiti" to 90999 to send a ten dollar donation to the Red Cross. The funds will go to support the Red Cross relief efforts in Haiti.

"Columbus and Central Ohio residents are proving, once again, that when disasters strike they give generously to bring hope to people desperately reaching out for help," commented Michael Carroll, CEO of the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus. "Working with Red Cross societies from around the world, we are now bringing relief to thousands in Haiti and will be there until the recovery is complete."

The events are free and open to the public. Residents are encouraged to stop by any time on January 21 to meet personalities from these TV, radio and print companies: WBNS 10TV, NBC 4, ABC 6, FOX 28, WOSU, CD101, Clear Channel Columbus, Clear Channel Outdoor, Columbus Radio Group, 97.1 The Fan, Radio One, The Columbus Dispatch, alive!, Fronteras, Wilks Broadcasting and ThisWeek Newspapers.