# YMCA Haiti Emergency Relief Appeal

By: Nico Gourdet

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### **Massive Earthquake Hits Haiti**

On August 14, 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck just off the coast of Haiti's southern peninsula. To date the death toll has reached 2,189, with 12,200 injured. In addition to the damaged schools, churches, and clinics in the area, it is estimated that 37,300 homes have been destroyed, leaving thousands of families without adequate shelter and food. Local agencies are working around the clock to provide relief.

YMCA d'Haiti operates centers in the affected region in the communities of Les Cayes and Camp-Perrin. The YMCA has leveraged its presence to provide food and basic medical supplies to families. With your support, YMCA d'Haiti can do more.



#### "We are prepared to help!"

Gwenael Apollon, YMCA d'Haiti CEO, shared that "YMCA staff and volunteers are safe. We have already mobilized resources on the ground, but the needs are great. Together, we can support families with food, temporary shelter, medical supplies, and additional relief as needed. We are prepared to help! Thank you for your support."

**YMCA of the USA World Service** supports the response to this crisis in coordination with the YMCA d'Haiti. Financial contributions are the most effective way to aid in their response and recovery efforts.

To donate to this emergency appeal, please visit the **Haiti Emergency Relief Donation page**.

You may also contribute by mail. Checks may be made out to <u>YMCA World Service</u> and mailed to: YMCA of the USA – World Service Attn: Mary Tikalsky 101 N. Wacker Drive, 16th Floor Chicago, IL 60606 Please **write YMCA Haiti in the memo line** of the check

For additional information, please email worldservice@ymca.net or message Mary Tikalsky directly in Link!



## YMCA d'Haiti

With 10 centers and program sites around the country, YMCA d'Haiti is a community based organization that develops youth, teens, and adults through education, sports, leadership, and character-building programs. A heavy focus of the YMCA's education work lies in the areas of youth and adult literacy, youth sports, and afterschool enrichment. Nine local US Ys and YMCA Quebec partner with YMCA d'Haiti. Forming what is known as the YMCA Haiti Coalition of YMCAs, these Ys find ways mutually strengthen each others operations and programs.