



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: We already gave to Episcopal Relief & Development. Didn't that help Haiti?

A: Episcopal Relief & Development does just that: emergency relief and long-term development. They have provided short-term employment, provisional homes, and sanitation systems in addition to other community-focused recovery programs. But only The Episcopal Church can rebuild our churches.

Q: We have so many problems here at home; how can we send our money overseas?

A: Haiti is a diocese of The Episcopal Church just like your diocese; they are here at home. A member of Province II along with such dioceses as New York and Newark, the Diocese of Haiti has over 80,000 members, 97 churches, and 256 Episcopal schools.* And yet its per capita income is about \$480 a year, slightly less than in Zimbabwe.**

Q: Shouldn't we be providing food and shelter instead of building the Cathedral?

A: People turn to the church during times of trouble for practical help as well as spiritual strength. Within days of the quake people flocked to the Cathedral grounds for food, shelter, and a safe place to stay. And in Haiti, many of the services people associate with the government—education, medical care—are provided by the Episcopal Church. By rebuilding the Cathedral, you're helping to rebuild the central pillar of a support system that was once very broad and strong.

Q: The earthquake was a year ago. Why has it taken so long to rebuild?

A: The quake wiped out 70% of Episcopal Church buildings as well as nearly all the government buildings. Many government employees were killed along with nearly all the United Nations aid workers stationed there. During the wait for foreign aid, which has been slow to arrive, Haitians have taken to clearing the rubble by hand. You can watch work being done on the Cathedral site here.

* Source: The Office of the General Convention as of January 2010
Table of Statistics of The Episcopal Church from the 2008 Parochial Reports

** Source: NationMaster.com



Q: Do we know how the money will be spent?

A: Episcopal Relief & Development has funded a Chief Operating Officer for the Diocese of Haiti for the next three years. Under Bishop Duracin's supervision, this person will oversee the financial and operational aspects of the Diocese of Haiti during the rebuilding process, including rebuilding the Cathedral. The position includes management of funds raised in the US, oversight of the rebuilding effort and coordination between Rebuild Our Church and projects funded by ERD.

Q: Is my gift tax deductible in the U.S.?

A: Yes! Just make sure to include your contact information. Here's how:

- Give online at www.episcopalchurch.org/HaitiAppeal and your tax receipt will arrive by email within hours.
- Write a check to "Rebuild Our Church in Haiti" and mail it with your contact information to:

The Episcopal Church Foundation
815 Second Ave.
New York, NY 10017

Be sure to include the name of your church and your diocese!

- Give cash at your parish fundraiser by putting your gift in one of the Rebuild Our Church envelopes provided. Be sure to fill out the contact information on the envelope so we can send a receipt.
- Make a gift of stock by calling Nancy Grizzaffi at the Episcopal Church Foundation at 1-800-697-2858 or e-mailing her at all@episcopalchurch.org.