



Gracious Gifts

Since the January 12 earthquake in Haiti, Lutheran World Relief has witnessed a phenomenal outpouring of compassion, even from communities across the world who are in dire need of help themselves.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

—James 1:17

LWR had a shipment of quilts and kits worth \$1 million planned to depart to Sierra Leone, one of the world's poorest countries. Following the devastating Haiti earthquake and the mounting needs there, LWR contacted its partner, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone (ELCSL) and asked to reduce this shipment, sending half now and half when our stock of quilts and kits is replenished.

"Other organizations in similar situations might have expressed reservations about such a request," says Trevor Knoblich, LWR's Program Coordinator for Material Resources. "Instead the ELCSL responded with tremendous compassion and gratitude."

In a note to LWR, the Bishop of the ELCSL said the request from LWR "creates an opportunity and fulfills for us a burning desire to give a helping hand to the people of Haiti in this, their hour of greatest need."

Thanks to the ELCSL's generosity, LWR was able to redirect more than 30,000 quilts and 6,500 health kits to Haiti.



Lutheran World Relief is a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), individuals and parish groups in international relief, development, advocacy and social responsibility.



You can also help LWR's relief efforts in Haiti on your mobile phone! Just text LWR to 40579 (use this number in place of a phone number), and a \$10 donation will be added to your cell phone bill.



Lutheran World Relief is working with partners on the ground to ensure that the people of Haiti get immediate access to water, food, sanitation and shelter. LWR is also committed to the long-term recovery of the people of Haiti.

As a part of LWR's response, we are sending quilts and health kits to Haiti. During times of emergency, quilts provide warmth, comfort, and even shelter. And when the difference between good health and disease is a bar of soap, a health kit is truly life-saving. In the recovery stages, school kits can provide valuable tools to help children get back on track.

Our recent shipment to Haiti depleted our stock of health kits, and there is an urgent need for more. And we continue to need quilts and school kits. Will you help us fulfill the need for these items? We want to bring relief and comfort to the people of Haiti, but we also need to continue to fulfill requests from around the world.

As we continue to work with partners on the ground in Haiti and elsewhere in the world to set up shipments, we are appealing to you, our faithful supporters, for help. Your generosity has allowed us to respond quickly to this disaster. Help make it possible for us to continue this life-saving ministry with quilts and health kits.

If you already donate quilts and kits, thank you! We ask that you continue to send as many as you can. For quilt and kit-making instructions, drop-off site and shipping information, or to learn about other ways to help, please visit lwr.org/Haiti or call **800.LWR.LWR.2**.

