



New Relief Phase: Dismantling The Wreckage World Concern Relief Director Leaves Seattle Today For Haiti

Feb. 26, 2010 8:45 am

One of the leaders of Haiti's earthquake response returns to Port Au Prince today after one week in the US, checking in at 11am at the American Airlines counter at SeaTac airport.

Seattle-based World Concern's disaster relief director, Merry Fitzpatrick, will help launch a new phase of the recovery in Haiti: putting hundreds of people to work dismantling the rubble of fallen buildings by hand.



"We are clearing enough land so that people have enough space to live," Merry says.

This four-month phase of clearing rubble will begin by employing as many as 200 people, then expand to 2,000 people. It will focus on areas that are inaccessible to heavy equipment.

What has become clear is that there is too much rubble to move.

"If you lined up dump trucks with rubble, end to end, it would stretch from Haiti to Moscow," Merry says. "'Build around the rubble' is the new key phrase. We don't have a choice."

After space is cleared in the rubble, the construction of \$800 homes will begin. They will have metal roofs, with walls made of concrete, including salvaged material. These homes will last for several years, providing security from theft, as well as protection from weather and safety from additional earthquakes.

For more information and to donate, visit www.worldconcern.org or call 1-866-530-5433 (LIFE)

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With the help of donors, World Concern has reached more than 70,000 people with critical supplies of food. Additionally, the organization has given thousands of families water, shelter and other urgent supplies.

World Concern's pages on Flickr and YouTube. These pages are linked through the Haiti page on the main World Concern website, www.worldconcern.org.

Seattle-based World Concern, part of CRISTA Ministries, has worked in Haiti for more than 30 years and currently provides hope to 125,000 people. Our staff of more than 100 in Haiti help lift people out of poverty through activities including microfinance, agriculture, disaster response and small business development. World Concern works with the poor in 24 countries, with the goal of transforming the lives of those we touch, leading them on a path to self-sustainability.

Worldwide, World Concern offers life, opportunity and hope to more than six million people.

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