



CLWR Appeal for Haiti surpasses \$1 million

The Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) Appeal for Haiti has now raised just over \$1 million. Launched on January 13, one day after a devastating 7.0 earthquake rocked Port-au-Prince and the surrounding area, the appeal has received an outpouring of support from across the country. Donations have been received from individuals, congregations, church groups, schools and Faith Life branches.

CLWR has been working with other members of Canadian Churches in Action (CCA) to apply for additional matching funds being provided by the Manitoba government and Canadian federal government. To date, an additional \$89,000 has been granted to CCA from the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation. A further \$1.9 million has been requested from the Canadian International Development Agency. A decision on that application is expected on February 26.

CLWR and CCA will be supporting the work of the ACT Alliance in Haiti. Several ACT members have been on the ground in Haiti providing immediate emergency relief including the Lutheran World Federation (LWF).

The proposal submitted to CIDA seeks government matching dollars to provide materials for temporary and transitional shelter including tool kits, kitchen kits, hygiene kits, tarps, rope, and metal roof sheeting. The project will also provide safe, reliable drinking water and sanitation services and help families improve their health and physical security as they cope with the disaster and begin rebuilding their lives.

CCA is in the early stages of formulating a proposal for long term recovery that will focus on the need for permanent housing. It is hoped that government matching funds will be eventually made available for this type of work. Collectively, the Haiti appeals of CCA member churches and agencies have received \$15 million.



A make shift tent city occupies a golf course in Port-au-Prince. Photo: J. Ernst/LWR/ACT Alliance.

You can continue to follow updates on Haiti at www.clwr.org. Donations to the appeal are still being accepted. You can donate on the CLWR website, by calling 1.800.661.2597, by mailing a cheque payable to CLWR to 302-393 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 3H6 or through your congregation.

CLWR says farewell to Erling Nielsen

The staff of Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) gathered on February 18 to celebrate the career achievements of Erling Nielsen. After serving just over 19 years as CLWR's Director of Finance, Erling will retire following next week's meeting of the Board of Directors.

In praising Erling's work, CLWR executive Director Robert Granke highlighted his commitment and dedication to the church and its agencies. In 1979, after already having worked in Denmark, Greenland and Africa, Erling joined Lutheran World Service – India as its first Financial Advisor. Two years later, he moved on to Geneva to become the Secretary of Finance and Administration at the Lutheran World Federation (LWF). Then, in 1987, he returned to India to serve as Director of the LWF Department for World Service program in that country. In 1991, he left India to join CLWR.

Please join us in wishing Erling a long and enjoyable retirement.



CLWR Finance Director Erling Nielsen shares a laugh with Latin America program manager Wendy Kroeker at his retirement celebration. Photo: CLWR.

CLWR welcomes a new team member

CLWR is pleased to announce the appointment of Lyn Stienstra to the position of Director of Finance. Lyn brings to CLWR an extensive background of experience working with for-profit and not-for profit organizations as well as experience working with all three levels of government. Most recently she served as the Chief Financial Officer of the Winnipeg Folk Festival.

Lyn, who holds a CMA designation, will begin her duties with CLWR on March 18.

Lenten resources available on website

A series of Lenten bulletin inserts is now available on the CLWR website. The series highlights various aspects of CLWR's work..

The downloadable files can be found at www.clwr.org/Resources/print.cfm

CLWR News Briefs are produced by Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR). CLWR reports stories for the benefit and interest of its readers. News stories do not necessarily reflect CLWR policy or positions.

Donations can be made in the following ways:

- Through your local LCC or ELCIC congregation
- At www.clwr.org
- Toll free at 1.800.661.2597 (CLWR) OR in the Winnipeg area 204.694.5602
- By cheque or money order to:
Canadian Lutheran World Relief
302-393 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3B 3H6

Do you have a story to share? Send it to blorch@clwr.mb.ca, including your name and phone number.

To unsubscribe, reply to this email with "Unsubscribe Weekly Briefs" in the subject heading.