



## hope for haiti

by Ryan Hutchison

There are still hundreds; maybe thousands of people buried under the rubble of collapsed buildings. Millions of people who went to bed in their homes one night went to bed homeless the next. In Haiti right now, there is unimaginable suffering on par with the aftermath of the 2004 Thailand tsunami and Hurricane Katrina. Thousands of people are lined up in the ends of the streets, crying, and with no home. Some are very sick, and many have lost family members and friends. Behind them, piles of stones that were once buildings and twisted heaps of metal that were once cars dot the sidewalk, and the stench from the dead is strong and sickening.

This may sound like a scene from a post-apocalyptic horror movie, but it is an appalling reality, and it is happening as I write this. On January 14, 2010, a devastating earthquake which measured a 7.2 on the Richter scale shook Haiti, claiming thousands of lives and displacing millions more. Buildings, which were standing tall the day before, were reduced to a little more than piles of rubble. Even the capital building was not immune. The Red Cross estimates that at least 100,000 people lost their lives in this horrifying disaster, 250,000 were injured, and over a million people were left homeless. "It's tragic and unfortunate for all the lives torn apart, the buildings destroyed, and we all pray that everything will work out well." says seniors DJ Devries, Brett Riker, and Ronnie Shoemaker. Many buildings collapsed in the quake and



people are still trapped. Since there is little food, shelter, and clean water, the living conditions are shocking.

You may think there is no way to help these poor people, "It's really sad and I wish I could help" says Danielle Frey, a freshman, however there are several ways to help the earthquake victims. The easiest way to help is texting "Haiti" to 90999. This donates \$10 to relief, which is added to your phone bill at the end of the month. You can send the text as many times as you want. You can donate money through their websites and give supplies and give supplies through the Second Mile Club's upcoming supply drive. These items are extremely valuable for relief workers and victims to use. Lastly, there

are local churches and community groups that are sending volunteers and aid to Haiti, and doctors are being sent down to administer much-needed medical aid. There is a list of charitable organizations on the Internet that are sending aid to Haiti and there are also local organizations and churches collecting money and supplies as well. When asked about how he planned on helping, senior Alex Berger said, "I am going to donate some money to help them out". Missionaries and relief workers need your help rebuilding and appreciate any help they can get. In an effort to provide relief to the Haitian people, The Second Mile Club will be collecting items listed in the sidebar to give to volunteers and victims through the Red Cross and local charities.

by Jessica Marascio

The following organizations are always accepting donations, and are especially in need due to the earthquake in Haiti that has affected millions.

•UNICEFF: this organization deals with supplying clean water and fresh food, medical supplies, and sanitation items. They also aim to protect orphaned children from exploitation or harm.

•uniceffusa.org

•Save the Children: this group focuses on children in need and your donations will go toward providing hygiene and nutritional items.

•savethechildren.org

•Mercy Corps: seeks to reduce poverty and oppression

•1-800-256-1900

•YeLe Haiti: founded by famous singer and songwriter Wyclef Jean who was born in Haiti, this organization creates projects to improve education, health, and community development.

•yele.org

•The Humane Society of the United States of the United States: your donations will help rescue animals in distress as a result of the earthquake.

•310-258-8276

Other ways to help:

•Buy the "Hope for Haiti Now" album (\$7.99 on itunes.com) that features 20 songs by famous artists such as Alicia Keys, Taylor Swift, Rihanna, Bono, Bruce Springsteen, and many more.

•Text "HAITI" to 90999 to directly donate \$10 to the Red Cross relief efforts. Your donations will show up on your regular cell phone bill.

Want to Help? Donate money through the organizations listed, as well as the following supplies.

### Suggested Donations for Relief Help in Haiti:

- Powdered Milk
- Children's Vitamins
- Children's Tylenol
- Ibuprofen
- Over-the-counter cough and cold medicine
- Face Masks
- Antibiotic Ointment
- Aspirin
- Chlorine Tablets
- Gauze/First Aid Kits
- Sleeping Bags
- Flashlights
- Battery packs
- Tuna pouches
- Trail Mix
- Breakfast Bars
- Ziplock Bags
- Heavy Duty Gloves
- Tarps
- Tents

My friend is raising money for Haiti by asking others to show their t-shirt collections via video response to his own video. For every shirt that he sees, he is donating \$0.15 to a charity dedicated to relief.  
-Alex Piazza, Senior



"I immediately began to pray for the victims."  
-Mrs. Lavenburg Librarian



"As Americans, I think we should help those who are less fortunate and cannot compensate for such a loss."  
-Josh Koerber, Senior

