



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Organization Mobilizing Volunteers for Haiti Disaster Response

Forward Edge International (FEI), a Vancouver, WA based international relief and development organization, is responding to the earthquake in Haiti with medical volunteers and long-term recovery efforts.

FEI is organizing a volunteer team of medical professionals to travel to Haiti in the coming days to offer medical aid, supporting the current aid workers already on the ground.

Long-term disaster recovery and reconstruction plans are also in the works, with two of FEI's staff members flying to Haiti January 27 to assess the situation and solidify the logistical infrastructure needed to coordinate incoming volunteers in the coming months.

FEI is collecting funds at www.forwardedge.org to help with this response effort. A matching gift is currently being offered by one generous partner, giving FEI donors an opportunity to double the impact of their gift.

Because the devastating effects of a disaster do not go away in a matter of weeks or months, FEI specializes in Phase II disaster response work, long after first responders have left. FEI's mission is offering a timely and compassionate response to those least able to help themselves in the wake of disasters—the children, the poor, the elderly and the disabled.

FEI helped thousands of disaster victims return to their homes in Nicaragua (Hurricane Felix), Texas (Hurricane Ike), New Orleans (Hurricane Katrina) and Washington State (Northwest flooding) in 2007 and 2008.

FEI responded immediately with volunteers and funding when Hurricane Katrina ravaged the U.S. Gulf Coast in 2005. With the help of a million dollar matching grant, FEI was able to help hundreds repair their homes and rebuild their lives. And FEI is still sending teams of volunteers to help those living in the New Orleans area who have still not been able to return home.

FEI alleviates suffering through disaster-response work, health care projects and programs for vulnerable children by mobilizing hundreds of volunteers each year. Since 1983, more than 12,000 volunteers have served with Forward Edge, worldwide.

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