



From Survival to Thriving Communities

Two years ago Haiti experienced the worst natural disaster in its history. Hospitals and schools collapsed, bridges fell and homes crumbled.

As the dust began to settle, international organizations like CARE provided life-saving food, water, medical care and shelter. Within weeks it became evident that this disaster was not only massive but incredibly complex.

With severe vulnerabilities plaguing the country prior to the quake – including extreme poverty, poor infrastructure, and unsafe building standards – the results of the earthquake were catastrophic, and the response incredibly challenging.

As 2010 progressed and new risks emerged, CARE remained in life-saving mode. Hurricane Tomas brought flooding and high winds. Housing reconstruction progressed slowly due to land and property issues and excessive rubble. As the year drew to a close, the first cases of cholera appeared and spread countrywide. CARE quickly and efficiently shifted its resources to address these new emergencies and challenges.

CARE's life-saving efforts continued into 2011, but work also began on longer-term, sustainable solutions. More than 2,500 transitional shelters were built, allowing thousands to move out of make-shift camps. More than 1,600 latrines were constructed and rehabilitated. Nearly two million people were reached with cholera prevention and hygiene messaging. CARE also began training community members, health workers and mothers on reproductive health, and prevention and counseling related to sexual and gender-based violence.

As we move into 2012, CARE is empowering women and their families to move beyond survival, and build thriving communities. The road ahead will not be short – building back sustainably takes time. But thanks to the support of our donors, CARE will be there for women, girls, boys and men affected by the earthquake in Haiti.

Building Back Sustainably

Following the quake there were an estimated 1.5 million people living in camps in and around Port-au-Prince alone. Today, about 550,000 remain there. While this is a dramatic drop, this situation remains one of the toughest challenges of recovery.

In May 2011, CARE completed its transitional shelter project, providing over 2,500 robust shelter solutions for families whose homes were destroyed. CARE is now addressing long-term needs through its *Neighborhoods of Return* program, which will support 5,000 families in southwest Carrefour as they move from camps into thriving neighborhoods.

The project includes retrofitting homes that were damaged and helping men and women to rebuild their houses by offering training on safe building practices and skilled labour practices.

CARE is therefore empowering community members to take control of their recovery by outlining and prioritizing the needs of the community, and building an action plan to meet those needs. CARE's shelter program is working to empower entire neighbourhoods, along with individual families.



Women's health, well-being and empowerment

Nearly 495,000 children under the age of five and nearly 200,000 pregnant and new mothers ¹were affected by the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. CARE makes women and girls a top priority in all we do, and we take their specific needs into consideration throughout our efforts following a disaster.

When the earthquake turned the community of Santo, Léogâne into a tent city of almost 10,000 people, CARE began distributing safe-delivery kits and supplies for pregnant mothers and newborns. CARE also offered counseling for women who had experienced gender-based violence and raised awareness in the community to help prevent further violence.

¹ Office of the Special Envoy for Haiti

More recently, CARE built the Santo health centre. CARE staff and nurses from a nearby hospital offer education on sexual and reproductive health and group informational sessions for men and women on the prevention of gender-based violence.

Maude Joseph, a 36-year-old mother of eight, visits this centre regularly. “My husband participated in numerous sessions organized by CARE’s staff,” she says. “He is now aware of the risk I run by multiple pregnancies and has decided to protect me by using condoms.”

“Even when CARE staff is not here, women from Santo who were trained by CARE are inside sharing their knowledge with their peers,” says Willio Sainvilus Latagnac, president of the Santo community association. “The community made this space their own and women have their own area where they can discuss their problems, find solutions together, and regain strength.”



Saving for the Future

Like so many places in Haiti, natural beauty and deep poverty collide in Tiawa. Perched atop a mountain in Léogâne, Tiawa affords an extraordinary view of the surrounding area. Unfortunately, much of that vista is scarred by destruction as Léogâne was the area hardest hit by the quake.

CARE’s five-year program to support the rebuilding effort includes economic opportunities that empower Haitians as they move out of camps. In the fall, CARE launched the first Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) in Tiawa. VSLAs are self-managed savings groups.

Members borrow money from the savings fund to pay household expenses and start small businesses. The loans are repaid with interest which is then shared among the group members.

The Tiawa VSLA groups grew out of a gender-based violence counseling and support group CARE launched after the earthquake. After helping women survivors cope with the aftermath of gender-based violence, CARE is helping them take the next step by offering a VSLA program as a way to help the women weave their own economic safety nets. CARE’s objective is to empower women, and therefore their families, to gain autonomy.

Thank you – You made a life-saving difference

In addition to CARE's work empowering communities to rebuild, helping women and girls to be healthy and secure and working alongside families towards a brighter future, CARE has also provided vital support in the areas of water, sanitation, hygiene, education and children's self-esteem.

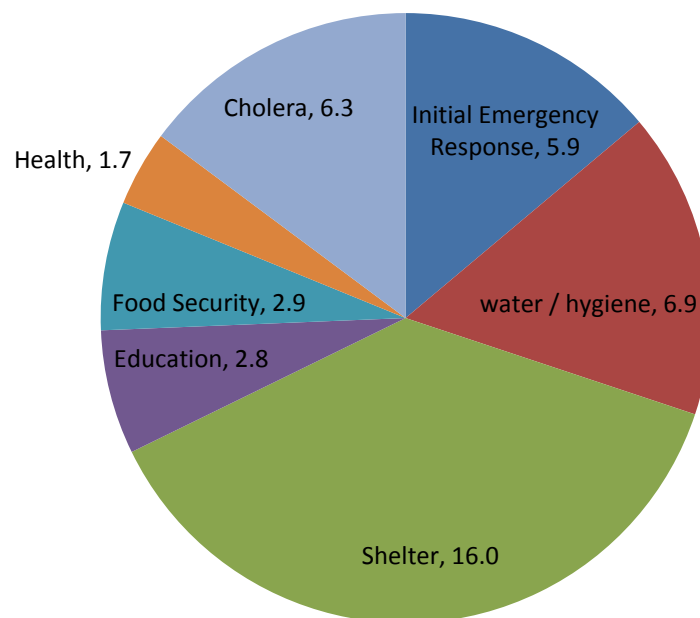
Much like CARE's other work in Haiti, these projects are moving towards long-term, sustainable solutions that will have a positive impact on earthquake survivors for years to come. Thanks to the support of our donors, CARE will phase out its emergency response programming to focus mainly on education and economic development programs that work alongside women, girls and their families - with Haitians leading the way towards recovery.



- In the aftermath of the earthquake, CARE reached more than **290,000 people** with food, clean water, temporary shelter and other services.
- CARE provided and chlorinated **1.1 million cubic meters of water**, serving more than a half million people.
- CARE built and rehabilitated **2,500 latrines and showers**.
- CARE reached **62,000 people** with activities to combat gender-based violence and face-to-face promotion of reproductive health. This was done with the help of 20 community committees.
- CARE supported the formation of **10 committees** in Lèogane and Carrefour to combat gender-based violence through night surveillance, documenting rape, referring survivors to police stations and health facilities, and supporting prosecution of perpetrators.
- CARE distributed **40,000 school and recreation kits**.
- CARE provided psycho-support outreach to **2,200 parents**. These counseling sessions equipped them with the skills to help their children work through the trauma of the earthquake.
- CARE reached more than **1.8 million people** in its cholera prevention and hygiene promotion. This included outreach through in-country radio partnerships. More than 260,000 people were reached with face-to-face hygiene promotion.
- CARE helped Haitians still living in camps prepare and cope with the 2011 hurricane season, including distribution of **20,000 emergency shelter reinforcement kits**.
- CARE delivered **2,550 transitional shelters** to house roughly 13,400 people and helped 500 families repair their rural homes.

Of the over \$61 million raised for Haiti, nearly 70 per cent has been spent over the past two years with the remaining funds to be used over the next three years to reinforce recovery and reconstruction and to continue to empower women, girls, boys and men affected by the 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

Total spent: \$42.4 million



CARE's Haiti emergency response is monitored by a special advisory committee of senior managers and experts from CARE member countries that provide major funding. Each member has skills in a particular area (emergency response, program quality, finance, shelter, etc.). The committee meets regularly and visits Haiti twice a year to monitor progress, ensure goals are met, review expenditure reports, and review areas where additional support or improvements are needed. CARE's operations and financials are also regularly reviewed by external auditors. All figures through October 2011 and rounded to the nearest 100,000.