



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**International Crisis Aid is one of the first Aid Organizations in Leogane, Haiti**

*Rescues 85 orphans sleeping on grass  
Leads Food & Water Distributions  
In partnership with U.S. Marines and Canadian Navy*

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**SAINT LOUIS, Missouri (January 25, 2010)**—International Crisis Aid (ICA)—a Saint Louis based international relief organization—has been in **Leogane, Haiti** rescuing 85 orphans and distributing thousands of meals to those in need.

Leogane, Haiti is a town of 200,000 people, located 18 miles down the coast from Port au Prince. More than 3,200 died, 10,000 were injured and 20,000 were left homeless after the earthquakes. When ICA arrived as the first organization responding to this city, they found sheer devastation and estimated more than 90% of the town was destroyed.

ICA began the distribution of aid almost immediately. ICA first responded to the need for food and water at the orphanage where a compound including a school, church and orphanage lay in rubble. The 85 orphans had been sleeping on the grass, under thin sheets, and their food would have lasted just two more days.

ICA President Pat Bradley said, “As we walked in, we found the kids singing Bible songs. It was music to my ears! At the same time, it was the worst destruction I’ve ever seen. Everything is completely leveled. No one had been to help them yet. No one would have found this place. Most of the children are very young—around three to ten years old. These are children who were orphaned before the earthquakes and now, the little they did have is also gone.”

ICA was able to secure enough food, water, powdered milk and blankets from the US Marines to last several weeks at the orphanage. The Canadian Navy has provided security, debris clean-up and assisted with distributions.

The US Marines have also provided several helicopters full of food and other relief materials to ICA who has already distributed it on the ground.

On Sunday, January 24, ICA delivered 100% of the aid the US Marines flew in on 12 military helicopters. This included 15,840 meals and 4,403 gallons of water. The Marine Major emailed ICA President Pat Bradley saying, “Pat, thanks for helping us. You guys were amazing and moved far more supplies.”

On Monday, January 25, ICA secured building supplies to build a temporary shelter at the orphanage. The Canadian Navy sent men over to begin assembly. Major Marine Trevor Hall sent Pat an e-mail this afternoon stating, "We have a large shipment coming in tomorrow...30 pallets of food, 3 pallets of water, and 16 pallets of various HA items. We have a second landing zone open and it will also receive 48 pallets of supplies tomorrow... The next 7 days will be like this". This group of Marines have chosen to distribute all aid through ICA and have noted how impressed they were with ICA's ability to distribute quickly, effectively, and securely.

ICA's long-term plans include rebuilding the orphanage, school and church on the compound. If funding allows it, the goal is to enlarge the compound to allow for more orphans to have a home. ICA will also continue coordination of large food distributions until resources run out.

ICA is asking churches, schools, businesses and communities to consider taking up a monetary collection or hosting a fundraising project for their efforts in Haiti. All donations made for this cause will be designated and are 100% tax deductible.

Individuals, churches or companies interested in partnering with International Crisis Aid are encouraged to contact the agency at 1-888-740-7779 or by email at [info@crisisaid.org](mailto:info@crisisaid.org).

#### **About International Crisis Aid (ICA)**

ICA is an international relief and development organization based in St. Louis, MO. Our mission is to assist in sustaining life, bring encouragement to those suffering and collaborate with other relief organizations in bringing necessary foods, materials and medicines to people in times of crisis, particularly where life and death situations exist. To accomplish this vision we will continue to target our efforts in "no-go zones" where other organizations cannot or will not go. Our programs and services have reached out to children and families in need from Cambodia, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, North Korea, Indonesia, Sudan and soon, the U.S. These programs include feeding, medical, orphanages, disaster relief, girls' schools, community development, rescuing girls from sex-trafficking, water projects, etc. For more information, please visit [www.crisisaid.org](http://www.crisisaid.org)

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