

TO: Girl Scouts – North Carolina Coastal Pines’ Adult and Girl Members, Girl Scout Families
FROM: Rusine Mitchell Sinclair, CEO
DATE: February 2, 2010
RE: Haiti Earthquake Relief Efforts

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the people of Haiti, their friends and families, as they manage the aftermath of the catastrophic earthquake of January 12. Much of Haiti is in ruins, and the loss of life and suffering has been heartbreaking.

Given the devastating events in Haiti, the Executive Committee unanimously adopted, and the Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) National Board has ratified, the following:

THAT the Executive Committee of Girl Scouts of the USA’s National Board of Directors, on the National Board’s behalf, adopts a special rule of order to allow girl members to engage in activities, which may include the direct solicitation of money, from January 14 through September 8, 2010, to support emergency relief for the January 12 earthquake disaster in Haiti. Monies raised shall be contributed only to organizations on the approved list of agencies [listed below]; additions to the list shall be approved by the National President and CEO of Girl Scouts of the USA.

While the GSUSA decision now makes it possible for our girls to raise much needed funds for relief efforts in Haiti, please be reminded of additional council guidelines regarding Girl Scout adult and girl fundraising activities:

- ***Monies raised can be contributed only to agencies on the GSUSA approved list.*** (See below for list.)
- ***Girls may not solicit or accept relief funds while participating in Girl Scout cookie sale program activities, including cookie booth and door-to-door sales (ex: collection jars), as well as e-mail and telephone correspondence.*** *Safety-Wise*, Chapter 6, Standard 32 states that, “Selling Girl Scout Cookies is not a fund-raising activity.” Combining the money earning activities of cookie sales with fund-raising could well result in confusion for purchasers/potential donors, and errors in tracking and accounting for funds received.
- ***Do not accept donations of cash.***
- ***All donations solicited for approved Haitian relief organizations must be in the form of checks made out to the recipient organization by the donor. Checks must not be made out to Girl Scouts – North Carolina Coastal Pines.***
- ***Troops or individual Girl Scout members are responsible for ensuring that all donations are delivered promptly and directly to the recipient organization. No donations will be received, receipted or delivered by Girl Scouts – North Carolina Coastal Pines.***
- ***All members must adhere to any applicable United Way agreements which prohibit supplemental fund-raising during certain times of the year (often referred to as a “blackout period”).*** Where these apply, restrictions will be posted on the applicable county page of our Web site.
- ***Troops/groups are encouraged to provide support through 1) participation in service projects being conducted by approved organizations, or 2) donations to approved organizations from their troop/group treasuries, rather than engaging in direct solicitation of funds.*** Girl Scout members have always had the ability to contribute in these ways to organizations they consider worthwhile (*Safety-Wise*, Chapter 6, Standard 33).
- ***Remember the importance of providing educational opportunities for girls:***
World Thinking Day, February 22, reminds all Girl Scouts that we are part of a global community. The theme of World Thinking Day this year is "ending extreme poverty and hunger." The tragic events in Haiti can clearly serve as a way to educate our girls about these issues in Haiti and throughout the world. For more information, explore the [World Thinking Day Web site](#), or download a copy of the [World Thinking Day 2010 Resource Guide](#).

GIRL SCOUTS – NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL PINES

HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORTS GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA APPROVED LIST OF AGENCIES

- The American Red Cross
The American Red Cross is accepting donations through its [International Response Fund](#).
- Pan American Development Foundation
The foundation is encouraging people to donate through its [Web site](#).
- UNICEF
UNICEF requests donations for relief for children in Haiti [via their Haiti Earthquake Fund](#). You can also call 1-800-4UNICEF.
- Oxfam
You can donate online at [Oxfam America](#).
- Save The Children
Save the Children has launched an emergency relief effort for Haiti, [Donate to Save the Children](#).
- Mercy Corps
[Donate online](#), call 1-888-256-1900 or send checks to: Mercy Corps Haiti Earthquake Fund, Dept NR, PO Box 2669, Portland, OR 97208
- Doctors Without Borders
Doctors Without Borders has set up clinics to treat people in Haiti. Donate to [Doctors Without Borders](#).
- The UN World Food Programme
The UN World Food Programme is gathering all available resources to deliver food to the recently homeless and impoverished in Haiti. Donations can be made through www.wfp.org/donate/haiti.
- CARE
CARE is deploying emergency team members to Port-au-Prince to assist in recovery efforts. It's focusing its efforts on rescuing children who may still be trapped in schools that collapsed. [Donate to CARE](#)
- The International Rescue Committee
The International Rescue Committee is deploying an emergency response team to Haiti. Donate to the [IRC Haiti Crisis Fund](#).
- World Vision
World Vision has more 370 staff members in the Haiti. [Donate to World Vision](#).
- United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
This fund is used for emergencies like the earthquake in Haiti. [Donate online](#).