

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER FAMILY LINKING, Bulletin #9
HAITI
JANUARY 21, 2010

People seeking news about their loved ones can register the name of the sought persons directly on the ICRC Family Links website at:

<http://www.icrc.org/familylinks>

- The information given on this website is not confidential and can be viewed by anyone.
- The majority of postings on the FamilyLinks website are from people who are searching for loved ones.
- ICRC has set up a tracing office in Port-au-Prince. They are actively registering people on the Family Links website and helping families to make international phone calls to their loved ones.
- If any evacuated persons affected by the disaster come to your chapter for assistance, please help them register on the Family Links website.
- **Chapter caseworkers should contact International Family Tracing Services staff regarding any registrations for unaccompanied minors or separated children.**

Instructions for using the FamilyLinks website

- First search The List. Try various spellings of the name.
- If your relative is not on the list, click on "Register Your Relative"
- Family members should search The List regularly to see if their loved one has registered.
- If there are multiple search results, multiple people may be seeking the same individual and could have extra information.

Inquiries regarding US Citizens living or traveling in Haiti

- Inquiries concerning U.S. Citizens abroad should be referred to the U.S. Department of State, Office of Overseas Citizens services, at 1-888-407-4747 or 202-647-5225
- The Department of State has received a high volume of calls concerning the welfare of US citizens in Haiti. Inquiries for US citizens can also be sent to Haiti-earthquake@state.gov with the following information:
 - Full name, date of birth, and passport info (if known) of the persons in Haiti you are trying to contact
 - Their contact info in Haiti – telephone numbers, email addresses, hotel name and address (if known)
 - Inquirer's name and contact information and relationship to the person in Haiti
 - Any special or emergency circumstances

Referral information for US Citizens in Haiti

- U.S. citizens are urged to contact the Embassy via email at ACSPaP@state.gov to request assistance. U.S. citizens in Haiti can call the Embassy's Consular Task Force at 509-2229-8942, 509-2229-8089, 509-2229-8322, or 509-2229-8672.

For additional information on International Disaster Family Linking

- Voice of America has expanded daily Creole Service programming in Haiti from 1.5 hours daily to 5 hours. They have established a special call in number for people to leave messages for their loved ones that will be broadcast in Haiti. 202.205.9942, extension 42
- Google has launched a "Person Finder" tool to allow people from all nationalities and locations to find and share information. <http://haiticrisis.appspot.com/> .
- CNN is compiling a list of resources for families seeking loved ones. <http://www.ireport.com/ir-topic-stories.jsa?topicId=381628>

- American Red Cross Chapters should contact Elena Grover, Tracing Caseworker, at GroverE@usa.redcross.org or 202-303-5216. **Members of the public should not be directed to contact NHQ.**