



Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti

Half-Hour for Haiti Action Alert: Invest in Justice for Haiti's Earthquake Victims June 23, 2010



Be Part of the Solution for Haiti: Make a Difference in Half an Hour a Week

Take Action: Invest in Justice for Haiti's Earthquake Victims

Increased Generosity to Meet Expanding Needs: Donate Now!

Many of our supporters have responded to Haiti's earthquake by writing letters, calling their representatives, donating generously both their time and their money, and offering emotional support.

Nicole Phillips, a long-time IJDH collaborator, quit her law firm job to volunteer for us full time and we have five more lawyers planning to do the same in September. Chris Eves and Samantha Diamond, volunteer interns, are spending their summers in Haiti working to develop our technological capacity. Colleen McLaughlin, who heard about IJDH in February, emailed us asking how she could help. By June, she had raised several thousand dollars, donated dozens of hours in development consulting and traveled to Haiti on a delegation working with women's groups to plan collective action to gender-based violence in the camps. Alexa Lehman, introduced to us by Colleen, has volunteered her nights and weekends to help us increase our visibility and use of social media for the next three months. **Read more about our donors and volunteers by following these links.**

We are profoundly grateful for this generosity. It not only has allowed us to increase the legal services we provide to people in great need, it helps us take advantage of unique opportunities to use legal intervention now to make enduring changes that will build a more just Haiti less vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters.

But every day we are faced with even more unmet legal needs: women raped in the displacement camps, families evicted from

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"IJDH and BAI are so much more than just lawyers. Real change is more than lawyers act-ing alone. Real change is find-ing lever-age points and think-ing about sys-tems. Real change is com-mu-nity. Real change is hav-ing the peo-ple involved in the work. Real change is hap-pen-ing at IJDH and BAI."

their tents. Even more important, we see more limited-time opportunities for legal intervention now to make a long-term improvement in the lives of all poor Haitians. We have a system that successfully delivers justice for Haiti's poorest, but we need to hire more lawyers to expand the system to meet the expanded needs and opportunities generated by the earthquake.

In short, we need to double our legal staff this year to meet the challenges of Haiti's earthquake. This week, we are, therefore, asking our supporters to consider doubling their previous financial support to help us reach this goal. We know this is asking a lot, that times are still tough, and that many of our supporters have already contributed to other Haiti causes. But we promise to work harder than ever to make sure our donors' generosity is translated into a more just society for Haiti's poor.

Here's where to start:

1. Invest in justice for Haiti by **donating now.**
2. Help us meet expanded needs by **nominating IJDH to receive funding from Working Assets.** It just takes a few minutes, and we make it easy for you by giving you all the information you will need right here:
 1. Organization Name: Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti
 2. Organization Website: IJDH.org
 3. Development Director's First/Last Name: Blaine/Bookey
 4. Development Director's E-mail: development@ijdh.org
 5. Development Director's Phone: 617-652-0876
 6. Organization Issue Area: Economic & Social Justice
3. Multiply your gift by **voting for IJDH to win funds from Chase Community Giving** on Facebook.

Learn more about what IJDH has accomplished for human rights in Haiti since January's devastating earthquake by reading our Summer Newsletter. We can't wait to hear from you!

U.S. Social Forum

Looking Towards a Better US Foreign Policy

This year, IJDH will bring its fight for human rights in Haiti to the U.S. Social Forum (USSF) in Detroit, Michigan (June 22-26). The BAI's Mario Joseph, Av., will be a featured speaker on two panel discussions at the USSF:

1. **Local resistance, global strategies: Connecting the struggles in the Americas** Thursday, June 24, 2010, 10am-12pm, Cobo Hall, W2-62
2. **The Battle for Haiti: Reconstruction or Recolonization?** Thursday, June 24, 2010, 3:30-5:30pm, Cobo Hall, D3-23.

Nicole Phillips, Esq. will also represent IJDH at the USSF, bringing her expertise on the right to housing in Haiti and relating her current efforts against unlawful forced evictions from internally displaced persons camps in Haiti.

If you are in the area, we hope to see you in Detroit. Please join us at the panel discussions on Thursday, June 24!

– Colleen McLaughlin, IJD
Volunteer and Supporter



KOFAVIV, pictured here, organized a large demonstration and day of activities at the BAI on Haitian Mother's Day, May 30, 2010.

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For more information about the Half-Hour For Haiti program, the Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti (IJDH) or human rights in Haiti, see our web-site, <http://ijdh.org>. To receive the Action Alerts (about 2 per month) and other correspondence, [subscribe here](#). To keep us fighting on the front lines for justice in Haiti, donate [here](#).