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**From:** Anthony R. Tersigni, Ed.D., FACHE  
President and CEO

**Date:** January 25, 2010

**Subject:** Haiti Relief Update

With the assistance of associates from across our System, Seton Institute, the international outreach arm of Ascension Health, has been supporting relief efforts for the people of Haiti following the January 12 earthquake. So far, Seton Institute has received \$200,000 in donations and pledges from Ascension Health associates.

That money has been used to provide medical supplies to those in need and help keep the Daughters of Charity clinics operating in Port Au Prince, the Haitian capital. Because of the difficulties with direct communication in Haiti, Seton's efforts have focused on getting needed supplies to Daughters of Charity in the Dominican Republic, Haiti's neighbor to the east. Those Sisters have established a presence at the border and on an ongoing basis they are shuttling medical supplies and medicines provided by Seton Institute to the Sisters in Haiti. The institute was able to acquire those supplies at wholesale costs. The retail value of medicines provided so far by Seton is roughly \$2 million.

Information is coming back to us through the relief workers. We know that the Daughters of Charity house in Port Au Prince was destroyed and the Sisters have been sleeping in tents. And we received the sad news that one of the Sisters, Sister Brigitte Pierre, perished in the rubble of the earthquake. However, the three Daughters of Charity clinics, though damaged, are functioning and providing services to the sick and injured.

Daughters of Charity provinces are mobilizing to help. Assistance teams of Sisters who are nurses are being organized. They will rotate to assist in Haiti for three-month periods. The first team, composed of four Sisters from Albany, NY, and Great Britain, is in Port Au Prince and will be augmented by another 10 Sisters from around the world in early February.

Obviously, help is still needed. If you have contributed, thank you. You can see that your donation is being put to good use. If you have not yet contributed to this effort, or even if you have, please consider giving to help with ongoing needs of the people of Haiti. And let us continue to pray for all those who are suffering because of this tragedy.

Late last week President Obama signed legislation that allows taxpayers to deduct their charitable contributions toward Haiti relief from their 2009 tax returns. Cash donations to charities for the Haitian relief effort given after January 11 and before March 1 of this year may be treated as if the contribution were made on December 31 of last year so the contribution can be deducted from 2009 income. The measure applies to monetary donations, not goods or services.

Donations to Seton Institute may be made online by going to [www.setoninstitute.org](http://www.setoninstitute.org) or by check made payable to Seton Institute and mailed to: Seton Institute, P.O. Box 140182, St. Louis, Mo., 63114, Attn: Haiti Earthquake Relief.

Thank you, again, for your support of Seton Institute. These efforts are making a real difference. We will continue to keep you updated.