



CONGREGATION AM ECHOD
2945 Falling Waters Boulevard
Lindenhurst, Illinois 60046

January 18, 2010

Dear Congregants,

At the beginning of each fiscal year the Social Action Committee meets to plan its strategy and focus for the upcoming year. In years past, this focus has been on environmental issues, international Jewish issues and many others. This fiscal year, to keep the focus on directing money towards much needed in-house fundraising, the committee agreed not to ask our congregants for monetary contributions.

We would like to honor our commitment while still recognizing those who need our help and support during this incredibly tumultuous time in Haiti. Although at this time, there are no local organizations collecting clothing for the survivors, we anticipate that this will soon change. If you would like to begin to stockpile clothing in anticipation of the donation window opening, please do so and we will alert you to any new information we receive.

For those interested in donating money to help earthquake victims, we have compiled the following list of charities (both monetary and non-monetary) as a resource:

Monetary Donations (Jewish Charities):

- Zaka US <http://www.zaka.us/BreakingNews.asp>
- IsraAid <http://www.israaid.org.il/>
- URJ <http://urj.org/socialaction/issues/relief/haiti/>

Monetary Donations (General Aid Organizations):

- [International Committee of the Red Cross http://www.icrc.org/](http://www.icrc.org/)
- [Save the Children http://www.savethechildren.org/?WT.mc_id=1109_hp_logo](http://www.savethechildren.org/?WT.mc_id=1109_hp_logo)
- [UNICEF https://secure.unicefusa.org/site/Donation2?df_id=6680&6680.donation=form1](https://secure.unicefusa.org/site/Donation2?df_id=6680&6680.donation=form1)
- [International Medical Corps http://www.imcworldwide.org/Page.aspx?pid=183](http://www.imcworldwide.org/Page.aspx?pid=183)
- [American Red Cross
http://www.redcross.org/portal/site/en/menuitem.1a019a978f421296e81ec89e43181aa0/?vgnextoid=a8712721ea326210VgnVCM10000089f0870aRCRD](http://www.redcross.org/portal/site/en/menuitem.1a019a978f421296e81ec89e43181aa0/?vgnextoid=a8712721ea326210VgnVCM10000089f0870aRCRD)
- [Doctors Without Borders
https://donate.doctorswithoutborders.org/SSLPage.aspx?pid=197&hbc=1&source=ADR1001E1D01](https://donate.doctorswithoutborders.org/SSLPage.aspx?pid=197&hbc=1&source=ADR1001E1D01)

Non-monetary Donations:

- Soles 4 Souls <http://www.soles4souls.org/>
- Gifts in Kind <http://www.giftsinkind.org/>
- Aid Matrix <http://www.aidmatrix.org/haiti.htm>

To research charities before you give

- <http://chicago.bbb.org/article/bbb-advises-watch-haitian-relief-scammers-and-give-wisely-14789>
- <http://chicago.bbb.org/chicago-and-northern-illinois-charity-reports/>

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