

## EARTHQUAKE DEVASTATES HAITI, REVIVES 2010 TRAUMA

A 7.2-magnitude earthquake struck Haiti on August 14, killing more than 2,200 people and injuring 12,000 others. More than 650,000 Haitians are in need of humanitarian assistance. At least 137,000 homes, along with schools, churches, markets, bridges and other infrastructure are damaged or destroyed.

But the numbers fail to capture the full picture.

"I lost four members of my family," says Rourld, a 32-year-old man from Les Cayes. "Their home collapsed onto them. It's so hard already, and we're planning their funerals. It's unbearable.

The disaster reawakened trauma from the 2010 earthquake, which claimed more than 200,000 lives.

"With each aftershock, people are traumatized all over again," Rourld continues. We ask ourselves if this time we will be the ones who don't make it through. If anyone can help, people really need it."

### Rehabilitation needs

The 2010 earthquake exposed opportunities to improve Haiti's disaster preparedness plans and health care systems, most noticeably the need for rehabilitation specialists. Over the last decade, Humanity & Inclusion has been working with local communities to develop inclusive emergency plans and build rehabilitation capacity among Haitian professionals.

A nurse, Guetchly-Nise decided to shift careers after the 2010 earthquake. She became a rehabilitation technician through a two-year training with Humanity & Inclusion, funded by USAID.

"There were a lot of healthcare professionals, including nurses, in the country," Guetchly-Nise recalls. "But the rehabilitation sector was only just starting to develop."

After the August 14 earthquake, Guetchly-Nise and six other physical therapy specialists attended a special training for treating earthquake-related injuries. They are helping patients heal at the only rehabilitation center in Les Cayes, as well as local hospitals.

"A lot of children were hurt in the earthquake," says Dr. Donald



Oscar, who fractured his leg in the August earthquake in Haiti, receives care from a physical therapist trained by Humanity & Inclusion at a hospital in Les Cayes.

Amazan, who is working in a pediatric medical tent at one of the hospitals. "People were traumatized, so they didn't come to the hospital right away, and now when they arrive, the wounds are very infected and in serious condition."

Delayed arrival continues to be one of the greatest problems in the hospitals where Humanity & Inclusion and its partners are working. In just a few days time in August, Dr. Amazan says there were four amputations among pediatric patients.

"We try to avoid it at all costs, but the situation is serious and we had to amputate to save their lives," he explains.

### Delivering aid by sea and plane

Humanity & Inclusion, in partnership with AQUADEV, operates the only maritime transport for humanitarian aid in southwest Haiti. With quake-damaged roads and bridges inaccessible, 30 partner organizations are relying on Humanity & Inclusion's logistics team to deliver aid by sea. Since the disaster, the 10-boat fleet has transported rehabilitation equipment and mobility aids such as crutches, walkers and wheelchairs to hospitals.

With funding from European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Humanity & Inclusion also airlifted more than 16 tons of

humanitarian supplies from its emergency depot in Dubai to Haiti. The cargo included mobility aids, water cans and purification tablets, as well as hygiene kits.

Humanity & Inclusion first opened an office in the Caribbean country in 2008.

**DONATE TODAY**

Help emergency aid reach injured Haitians

[www.hi-us.org/help\\_haiti](http://www.hi-us.org/help_haiti)

## Amid crisis, actions resume in Afghanistan



Ali, 9, is fitted with an artificial leg at Humanity & Inclusion's rehabilitation center in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

With the withdrawal of U.S. troops and a regime change in Afghanistan, humanitarian needs are immense.

Devastated by decades of conflict and contaminated by explosive remnants of war, 80% of the adult population lives with a disability.

Following a few days of interruption in August, Humanity & Inclusion—working in Afghanistan since 1987—has steadily resumed its activities in the Herat, Kandahar, Kunduz and Nimroz provinces.

Safety of the 260-person Afghan staff, as well as inclusion of women both on staff and in the communities

we serve, remains a top priority.

"The access of women and people with disabilities to the services provided by our team is an essential condition for the organization to continue operating," says Gilles Nouziès, Head of Humanity & Inclusion's Asia Programs.

Patient visits to Humanity & Inclusion's rehabilitation center and prosthetics workshop in Kandahar continue to rise. Opened in 1996, the center is the only facility of its kind in southern Afghanistan, with some patients traveling hundreds of miles for care.

In the first few weeks following the Taliban's

government takeover, the rehabilitation center served 400 patients, distributed 200 walking aids and fitted 50 people with artificial limbs and braces.

"These numbers represent a 50% increase over previous months," explains Julio C. Ortiz-Arguedas, Humanity & Inclusion's Country Director in Afghanistan.

In 2020, with donor support: Direct aid reached 160,000 Afghans through rehabilitation, training of physical therapists, psychosocial support, mine risk education, disability rights advocacy, and Covid-19 prevention.

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Guetchly-Nise Alcime provides rehabilitation care to a patient at a hospital in Les Cayes, Haiti.

## Note from the Executive Director



One of the last acts by the United States armed services before leaving Afghanistan was to conduct a drone attack on a residence in Kabul in an effort to prevent a suicide bombing at the airport. Far from accomplishing that goal, the strike instead turned out to be a “tragic error,” killing an innocent aid worker, seven children, and two more adults.

As horrific as that event was, we can draw important lessons that could help prevent future calamities. The United States should stop using explosive weapons in densely populated areas—no matter what else is accomplished, there is no way to prevent harm being done to innocent civilians. In fact, civilians make up the overwhelming majority—more than 90 percent—of casualties when these weapons are used. The long lasting effects of bombings like this also render homes and communities uninhabitable for extended periods.

For the past several years, representatives from dozens of countries have been drafting a political declaration calling for an end to this type of ill-advised carnage and to support survivors. Unfortunately, the United States Government has not only opposed the political declaration itself, but it has urged its allies to oppose and weaken it, as well. Now is the time to change course and fully support an end to this barbaric practice, starting with working constructively to draft and approve the political declaration and with it create a new humanitarian norm.

You can take action. Sign our petition at [www.hi-us.org/stop\\_bombing\\_civilians](http://www.hi-us.org/stop_bombing_civilians).

Jeff Meer  
U.S. Executive Director  
Twitter: @Jeff\_HIUS



I want to help and I have the training, so I feel that it's my duty.

## After 2010 Haiti earthquake, nurse retrains in rehabilitation

Guetchly-Nise Alcime, 35, remembers Haiti's 2010 earthquake well. She was on the fourth floor of a seven-story building in Port-au-Prince when the ground began to shake.

“The whole building was crushed, and I was one of the few people who survived without having a physical or mental disability,” she recalls.

A nurse at the time, it was surviving that disaster, which claimed more than 200,000 lives, and its aftermath that motivated Guetchly-Nise to become a rehabilitation technician.

“Before 2010, physical therapy was not very present in Haiti,” she explains.

“Still, there are very few specialists. I saw that there was a lot of need around me and I was immediately interested in the field.”

After training for two years with Humanity & Inclusion as part of a USAID-funded project, Guetchly-Nise went on to work with various hospitals as well as an amputation rehabilitation center, specializing in phantom pain.

When a 7.2 earthquake hit in August, she knew rehabilitation needs would be immense. She left her husband and their two children in Leogane and traveled south to join six physical therapy specialists from across the country.

Together, they trained with Humanity & Inclusion on emergency rehabilitation techniques for quake-related injuries and are providing care for patients at two hospitals and a rehabilitation center in Les Cayes.

“I'm seeing a lot of fractured arms and legs, and several amputations,” she says.

Despite the difficulty of the work, Guetchly-Nise remains dedicated to her patients. Their progression is easy to see and she enjoys their satisfaction as they heal and recover.

“For them, sometimes it is like magic,” she says.

Over the last decade, awareness of rehabilitation

and its importance has increased in Haiti, but there is room for improvement.

“We need modern rehabilitation centers, more specialists, and a lot of education for the population about the benefits of rehabilitation,” Guetchly-Nise explains.

In the meantime, Guetchly-Nise is eager to assist those in need.

“I'm really happy to be here to respond to the situation,” she says. “I was lucky enough to not have been affected as much as some, but I know what it's like to be in an earthquake. I look at my patients and know it could have easily been me instead.”

## THEN & NOW: 25 YEARS OF MINE ACTION IN LAOS

Humanity & Inclusion launched its weapons clearance operations in Laos in June 1996. 25 years later, donors continue to help carry out mine action in the country, which has the highest level of cluster munition contamination in the world.

Teams implement multiple mine clearance, risk education, victim assistance and advocacy initiatives related to the explosive weapons—many dropped by the U.S. military—left from the Vietnam War.

Villagers, farmers and children are still regularly killed and injured by these weapons.

“The country was contaminated in the late 1960s, and we'll probably still be clearing these weapons a century later,” says Julien Kampeneers, Humanity & Inclusion's mine action manager in Laos.



↑ 2000  
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→ 2014  
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← 2019  
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# PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES SEEKING SAFETY FAR FROM HOME FACE UNIQUE CHALLENGES



© Fernanda Baumhardt / NORCAP/Hi  
Madam Reina, from Venezuela, receives physical therapy at a refugee camp in Colombia.

Samina, just 7 years old, was born in a Pakistani camp for displaced people where her parents have lived for nine years. Mohammed Ali Raja, 26, fled Syria to Lebanon in 2017. Shohelur, a young boy, escaped Myanmar with his family to live in Bangladesh. Hakim, in his 30s, lives in northern Uganda, having fled South Sudan. Nyaduo, 17, lives in Ethiopia's Nguenyiel refugee community, having also left South Sudan. And in Colombia, Madame Reina, pictured above, escaped Venezuela's ongoing economic crisis.

Their stories are vastly different, yet they are bound to 80 million people who are also displaced from their homes. According to the UN Refugee Agency, that number has doubled over the last decade, skyrocketing in the last few years alone.

Each also lives with a disability, or the effects of older age. Samina cannot walk or use her hands. A rocket attack left Mohammed with a paralyzing spinal cord injury, and doctors had to amputate his left leg. Shohelur lives with Cerebral Palsy. Hakim had Malaria as a teenager, and then experienced a stroke, leaving half of his body weak. Nyaduo cannot move her lower limbs. And Madame Reina needs rehabilitation as her body ages.

Approximately 15% of the globally displaced live with a disability. These neighbors are often at higher risk of violence, exploitation and abuse, and face



© Tili Meyer / HI  
Nyaduo, 17, lives in Ethiopia's Nguenyiel refugee community. Her family left South Sudan.

barriers to basic services, education and employment. Having left behind their homes and belongings, many displaced people engage with organizations like Humanity & Inclusion to access health care, food, water, shelter and other necessities.

"They have no savings and often no social protection, which limits their ability to cope with a sudden and unexpected loss of income," observes Sarah Hermon-Duc, emergency specialist for Humanity & Inclusion. "The Covid-19 crisis has deeply deteriorated their living conditions. It will have long-term consequences for them and threatens their food security."

Displacement can last for years. For example, the Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya opened in 1992, and has grown akin to a small city. Home to 160,000 people, it is one of the world's largest refugee camps, with people from Sudan, Uganda,



© Tom Nicholson / HI  
Mohammed Ali Raja, 26, fled to Lebanon in 2017 after he was injured in a rocket attack on his hometown in Syria.

**DID YOU KNOW...**

**MORE THAN 2/3 OF ALL REFUGEES COME FROM JUST FIVE COUNTRIES?**

- Syria: 6.6 million
- Venezuela: 3.7 million
- Afghanistan: 2.7 million
- South Sudan: 2.3 million
- Myanmar: 1 million

Eritrea, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Humanity & Inclusion works alongside people living in the camp and nearby host communities. Teams provide physical rehabilitation care and assistive devices such as wheelchairs and crutches, and improve the living conditions of refugees. They help ensure equal access to services, raising awareness of discrimination and building the capacity of staff to assess and meet needs.

With donor support, mobility aids and inclusive education materials are provided to children like Samina and Shohelur. Women and aging adults like Nyaduo and Madame Reina participate in regular physical therapy sessions. And people like Hakim and Mohammed are fitted for braces and artificial limbs. Thank you!

**Margaret Nguhi**  
Country Manager, Kenya



I like the idea of a Kenyan woman representing HI ... and coordinating the humanitarian response in my own country.

Having grown up in Nairobi, where I was constantly confronted with suffering, I decided to become a nurse. I wanted to work with communities. I couldn't get over the huge gap between the medical staff and the patients who needed care. I felt a strong desire to provide people with information and to empower them to be actors in their own lives.

I decided to do public health in South Sudan. Then, I returned to Kenya and worked in the Kakuma refugee camp. Now, I'm the country manager overseeing the work of our 70-person team.

I remember this woman with disabilities I met when I was managing a maternal health project in Nairobi. In Kenya, women with disabilities experience a lot of stigma. People think they don't and can't have a sex life and bear children. So, when they get pregnant, they don't go to the clinic. This woman and I talked, and she agreed to go to the health center for pregnancy care; she had a hospital delivery. After that, I asked her to give her testimony to health staff during disability awareness sessions. They realized this woman was like all women, and they changed their attitude toward women with disabilities. It was a small victory—for me, for her, for all of us. It helped her gain confidence, and now she's an advocate for the rights of people with disabilities. She has become an activist.

The people we assist are my motivation. I am not an 'office person.' I'm someone who needs to get out there and who wants to see and experience life. Humanity & Inclusion's approach, which is centered on individuals, on their personal needs, suits me.

## MICRO NEWS



### NEPAL

A new Nepali sign language mobile app called "Mero Sanket" launched in September to help Deaf children communicate and read. The free app, which can be downloaded from the Google Play Store, was developed as part of the USAID-funded Reading For All project.

### BANGLADESH

A devastating monsoon hit Bangladesh in July, causing severe flooding and landslides in Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar. Working in the camps since 2017, our teams provided rehabilitation care and essential aid to people with disabilities, aging people, women and children.

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

More than 400,000 people were displaced by the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano in May. In partnership with Action Against Hunger and with donor support, Humanity & Inclusion delivered more than 34,000 gallons of clean drinking water to communities in need.



# Deepen your engagement through values-driven philanthropy

By Reisa Tomlinson  
Lead Development Officer

Your philanthropy is humbling. Rooted in voluntary action, your commitment to supporting Humanity & Inclusion drives operations and sustains programs that improve the lives, livelihoods, health, and well-being of the people we serve. And for that, we are so grateful.

Today, we wish to challenge you to think deeply about what drives your support. Our intention? To engage beyond what might otherwise feel like a transactional relationship. To reimagine your social impact through the lens of transformative acts.

Our aim is for you to grow in kinship not only with fellow changemakers, but also with the communities we serve. For you to feel proud about our shared action, by activating your engagement in ways that are comfortable to you. Curious as to how? Engage in values-driven philanthropy.

**1.** Advocate for change: support our Ban Landmines campaign: [www.hi-us.org/stand\\_against\\_landmines](http://www.hi-us.org/stand_against_landmines)

**2.** Provide quality feedback about the content we send you, like this very newsletter. We want to know what motivates you to your core.

**3.** Elevate the stories we share beyond your email, mailbox, and social media accounts to amplify the voices of the very people we show up for day-in and out. Want extra copies of our newsletter to share with others? Let us know!

**4.** Donate at work! Ask your employer if they will match your gifts dollar-for-dollar. You can also host a fundraiser, or establish your legacy through a bequest.

**5.** Make a monthly gift or set up quarterly, recurring donations through your donor-advised fund. Transfer a gift of stock or rollover funds from your IRA and claim your tax-deductible benefit.

If you're inspired by what we've shared so far, we invite you to reach out to our team to talk through your options! We

have toolkits for you to use for your fundraisers. We can share situation reports about our emergency responses in countries like Haiti, and information about the many ways in which you can make a difference.

We want you to feel informed when called upon to take action, so you can pour into this work from a place of love and understanding. By supporting holistic approaches that center people, you help foster spaces that support the well-being of communities.


Be the change you wish to see. Maximize your philanthropy for the greater social good!

**We encourage you to reach out to our team at any time. Let's discuss the collective impact we are making!**

**We love to feature our donors!**

**Tell us what motivates you to give.**

 [DonorServices.USA@hi.org](mailto:DonorServices.USA@hi.org)

 (301) 891-2138

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## CHANGEMAKER SPOTLIGHT



Donia, 82, at her home in Karantina, Beirut. She lives alone, and was outside on the balcony during the August 2020 explosions. Humanity & Inclusion's team conducted a physical therapy assessment with her, and Donia received a walker to improve her balance.



## Meet Sam— Small business owner and monthly donor, making him a year-round First Responder

Sam Arnold's first donation was made from a place of intention one year ago. Following the Beirut explosions on August 4, 2020, Sam immediately started researching organizations on the ground and wanted to donate to one that provides direct support to survivors. Without question, a monthly commitment was decided, because "I felt comfortable with the organization," he recalls, and made an informed decision to engage with Humanity & Inclusion.

As a personal training coach at SHAPE Training in Pittsburgh with a rehab background, Sam is aware of the physical and psychological needs of people experiencing trauma. As such, his inspiration is driven by Humanity & Inclusion's longer-term programs providing rehabilitation and psychosocial care to people in 59 countries. Like you, Sam gravitates to support organizations similar to Humanity & Inclusion because he understands how the money is going to be used and that his gift will have a direct impact. Sam believes the best organizations to support are those which are transparent and intentional in educating people about how donations can make a tangible difference.

**When asked about the advice Sam wishes to share with fellow changemakers, Sam says we should remind ourselves that "even the smallest gift makes a difference. Be it a one-time or monthly gift, any amount can make a big difference."**

## YOUR PHILANTHROPY CAN TRANSFORM A FUTURE WE ALL SHARE



### HOW TO SUSTAIN MISSION-DRIVEN PROGRAMS THROUGH YOUR CONTRIBUTION

There are favorable tax rules for people like you who want to donate long-term stock, portions of their retirement funds, or other appreciating assets and securities to support our global neighbors. Make your dollars count by activating the many options you may have to deliver aid, care, and resources to the people who need it most. Humanity & Inclusion is here to be a partner in your philanthropy.

### Give via your donor-advised fund

You can initiate a grant recommendation from your donor-advised fund (DAF) directly to Humanity & Inclusion. Here are three easy ways:

1. Make a one-time gift
2. Create a recurring monthly or quarterly gift
3. Name Humanity & Inclusion a beneficiary of your fund

Contact us or your DAF administrator today.

[www.hi-us.org/ways\\_to\\_give](http://www.hi-us.org/ways_to_give)