

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

Penny Harvest[®] a program of Common Cents[®]

March 2010

Dear Penny Harvest Coach:

As you know, at Common Cents we believe that adults are not the only ones called to serve. To help you and your students respond to the earthquake in Haiti, we created the Global Relief Fund: Haiti Recover and Rebuild and invited all roundtables across the country to participate. That means that alongside your student leaders, Penny Harvesters in New York City, Colorado, Seattle and Ohio, have contributed to the fund and will be a part of deciding how to use it.

By downloading The Action Guide (TAG) for your student leaders, you are giving them the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of many Haitians affected by the horrific earthquake that struck in January. The stories and activities are designed to give your students more background on the earthquake while teaching them about all of the issues that arise when a disaster strikes. After learning about disaster relief, they'll be asked to think about the most pressing needs facing Haitians today. Then, they'll be introduced to several organizations that we've partnered with who are helping in the recovery, rebuilding and relocation efforts. Finally, your students will be given the chance to debate how much of the National Penny Harvest Global Relief Fund each organization should receive. Finally, they will go online to log their vote and will be able to watch the results change day-to-day.

This guide is geared towards 3rd to 8th grade students, but can be easily adapted for students who are younger or older — the three basic steps included here can work for all ages. This guide is designed for students to use collaboratively or in groups. Your role as the coach is to help your students leaders stay on-task, facilitate discussions that arise from the activities, and maximize the teachable moments.

We recommend doing the lesson in one or two meetings of approximately 30-45 minutes. You should have students work in groups of 2 or 3 and share thoughts and feelings aloud. To prepare, you'll need the following materials: pen or pencil, paper, a computer with internet access, and of course, copies of The Action Guide (stapled or bound together).

Good luck and we wish you the best.

Sincerely,

The Penny Harvest

Penny Harvest[®]

a program of **Common Cents[®]**

The Action Guide



THE ACTION GUIDE FOR STUDENT LEADERS
Haiti Rebuild and Recovery

NOTE TO PENNY HARVEST LEADERS

March 2010

Dear Penny Harvest Leaders:

Welcome to the first-ever National Penny Harvest Roundtable. Students just like you across the country have pledged to support the people of Haiti and are reading this same letter to find out how.

It's not going to be easy. You have some big decisions ahead of you.

As you know, a huge earthquake struck Haiti on January 12, 2010. Many families were left without shelter, food, water and other basic needs. The Haitian government lost many of its important buildings. The news reports on television and in the newspaper were scary and showed how bad the damages were.



As a member of the National Penny Harvest Roundtable, your challenge will be to learn how a disaster like the earthquake in Haiti can hurt communities. Then, you'll use this new information to make a difference by deciding which issues in Haiti you care most about and voting on which organization to vote for in the National Penny Harvest Roundtable.

Are you ready?

Making a difference only takes 3 steps? All you have to do is think B.I.G.

1. **Become an Expert**
2. **Investigate who cares**
3. **Get involved and Take Action**

Now that you know helping Haiti is as simple as thinking B.I.G., you can get started.

Read the following two stories. They will help you understand what happened when the earthquake hit and how families are coping:

Sebastian's Story *

Sebastian, age 12 and his sisters found themselves running to their mother for comfort when the ground shook. By the end of the earthquake their home had fallen to ground. Sebastian and his family as well other people in his community spent the next few nights outside. This area soon turned into a camp for those nearby who lost their homes. These days Sebastian spends his time helping his mother with chores and sometimes plays

NOTE TO LEADERS CONTINUED...

soccer with other kids. Sebastian and his family are making it on very little, he has one meal a day (which is not enough) and sleeps on the cold ground next to his family. Sebastian shares that food, a tent and water would help his family for now until people are able to rebuild the community they lived in.

**You can visit blogs.oxfamamerica.org to read more about Sebastian.*

Magdalena and Rodolphe's Story*

Magdalena and her brother Rodolphe, age 9, had just finished eating when they felt the floor spinning. Their mother reached out for them but the roof started to fall in. Afraid, Magdalena ducked under their table. Rodolphe was able to get out the house and look for help. When Rodolphe came back with help his sister and mother were buried under rubble from their house. His father had also arrived from work to help get Magdalena and their mother out. Once freed, Magdalena and her mother had to get stitches. Luckily there were nurses working out of a soccer field because the hospital was destroyed. Their family lost everything when the earthquake hit. Rodolphe and Magdalena can no longer go to school because the earthquake also destroyed their school. These days their family spends their time trying get the basics like water, food, and soap.

**You can visit www.worldvision.org to read more about Magdalena and Rodolphe*

To prepare for learning more about the issues in Haiti, here's a recap of what happened on January 12:

- An very strong earthquake hit Haiti followed by two aftershocks.
- The center of the earthquake was only 10 miles from Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, many people live here making the area very crowded.
- Buildings were destroyed, including many of people's homes.
- The airport control tower and many roads have been destroyed which has made it hard to get help and emergency and rescue service into Haiti.
- Haiti only had eight hospitals before the earthquake, all were destroyed or damaged.



Now you're ready to learn more and start making tough decisions about how to use the money from the National Penny Harvest Roundtable.

Good luck!

Your friends at the Penny Harvest

STEP 1: BECOME AN EXPERT

When Disaster Strikes!

Whenever and wherever a disaster strikes, there are always the same important issues that have to be addressed. Read through each issue and find out more what people in Haiti need to recover, rebuild and relocate after the earthquake.

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Countries such as Haiti sometimes have difficulty getting clean water to drink and cook with. The earthquake destroyed roads and made it even harder to get clean water to towns across Haiti. Contaminated water is very dangerous and can cause the spread of disease.

Immediate Needs: People will need clean water to drink, cook with and for baths. It's important that Haitians get clean water so they can feed their families and stay healthy.

Future Needs: Haiti needs to rebuild a system to get clean water to all families throughout the country.



SAFE SHELTER AND REBUILDING

Earthquakes destroy buildings by shaking their foundation. In Haiti, the earthquake left thousands of people homeless and not able to go to places like schools, hospitals and stores. The government lost many important buildings too.

Immediate Needs: People need safe, temporary shelter. Temporary housing can be made from materials such as plastic sheeting and tents. Rain season will begin soon and that will make it much harder for families to stay safe and healthy in temporary shelters.

Future Needs: Homes and other buildings for the community such as hospitals, schools need to be built with a strong foundation to stay intact if another earthquake hits.

FOOD AND NUTRITION

Before the earthquake there were some areas in Haiti where people struggled to feed their families. After a disaster getting food can be even harder and many families must limit their meals to one a day like Sebastian.

Immediate Needs: People need to have food to feed their families now. Getting food into Haiti and making sure everyone who needs it, gets enough to eat is very difficult.

Future Needs: People will need training to get jobs so that they can buy food for their family. Organizations will need to work with farmers to grow food for everyone in Haiti.



STEP 1: BECOME AN EXPERT

HEALTH

During earthquakes people can be badly injured or become very sick. Medical supplies break or become lost in all the damage making it harder for doctors or nurses to help. If the sick and injured are not helped quickly they can spread illness to others or get worse.

Immediate Needs: Medical supplies are needed to help people injured and sick. More doctors and nurses are need to volunteer to help people.

Future Needs: Hospitals and health centers need to be rebuilt.



EDUCATION

90% of schools in Port-au-Prince and nearby communities were either damaged or destroyed. Education was already very expensive and many families could not afford to send their children to school. Now, without books and school supplies, thousands of children will not get to go to school and learn.

Immediate Needs: Books and school supplies are needed to host temporary classrooms in communities.

Future Needs: Schools need to be rebuilt and families need help paying for their children to go to school and buying school supplies and books.

RELOCATION AND REFUGEES

Nearly one million people in Haiti have had to relocate. Many have come to live with family in New York City. So far, there are 700 new Haitian students who have entered school in New York City. Many times when a disaster hits a community, families are forced to relocate to a new city or country. Families sometimes have to separate because the parents can no longer support the children because of the loss they suffered during the disaster. For people who relocate, it can be very hard to adjust to a new community especially if you are in a new country.

Immediate Needs: People who leave their home city or country often need to start over because they were not able to save anything from their home. Families coming to the United States need places to live, winter clothes and basic supplies to set up a new life.

Future Needs: These families will also need help finding work and adjusting to the new environment. The schools who take in Haitian students will need extra support to teach them English and provide the materials the students need to learn.



STEP 1: BECOME AN EXPERT

Let's Talk About It

In small groups or with a partner discuss these questions. Write your answers and share with entire group when you are finished.

What did the families in the two stories have in common?

What do people in Haiti need right now?

What do people who have moved from Haiti need in their new homes?

What type of things do you think people in Haiti need to help them in the future?

If you were in charge of rebuilding Haiti what areas from pgs. 5-7 would you focus on? Explain your answer.

STEP 2: INVESTIGATE AND FIND OUT WHO CARES

Who's helping?

Now you're ready for the second step: investigating who cares. Below is a list of organizations that we at the Penny Harvest have partnered with to help Haiti. Look at the short description below and go to [www. Pennyharvest.org /Haiti](http://www.Pennyharvest.org/Haiti) to read their full profile.

Tip: you'll need to read their full profile in order to answer the questions on the following pages. If you want, you can split into groups and each study one organization.

Konbit Pou Edikasyon

Konbit Pou Edikasyon (KPE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing educational opportunities for children in Haiti. KPE consists of a group of fourteen volunteers from Louisiana, New York, Texas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Washington DC, and Haiti. They work nationally to bring attention to the educational needs of the children they serve.



Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees

Founded in 1992 to respond to the refugee crisis faced by Haitian immigrants in the U.S. and Guantanamo Bay, Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees (HWHR) has provided support to hundreds of families who sought asylum in the US after being persecuted in Haiti.

Clean Water for Haiti

Clean Water for Haiti (CWH) is a volunteer run, faith based missions and humanitarian aid organization started in 2001. As a registered non-profit organization in Canada and the US, CWH works to provide sustainable solutions to the water crisis in Haiti. Through Biosand filter projects CWH is able to provide a simple, effective, and affordable solution to the lack of clean water sources for Haitian families.



Ecole le Bon Samaritain

The mission of Ecole le Bon Samaritain is to provide a K-5 education and a hot meal along with basic healthcare and hygiene to children in Waney, a community in Carrefour, Haiti, where most children are at risk.

STEP 2: INVESTIGATE AND FIND OUT WHO CARES

Ecole le Bon Samaritain

The primary disaster relief area they help: _____.

What does the organization do?

How is the organization help to meet the immediate needs of Haitians?

How is the organization help to meet the long-term needs of Haitians?

How was the organization helping Haiti before the earthquake?

How does this organization give others a chance to volunteer and help with their work?

STEP 2: INVESTIGATE AND FIND OUT WHO CARES

Clean Water for Haiti

The primary disaster relief area they help: _____.

What does the organization do?

How is the organization help to meet the immediate needs of Haitians?

How is the organization help to meet the long-term needs of Haitians?

How was the organization helping Haiti before the earthquake?

How does this organization give others a chance to volunteer and help with their work?

STEP 2: INVESTIGATE AND FIND OUT WHO CARES

Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees

The primary disaster relief area they help: _____.

What does the organization do?

How is the organization help to meet the immediate needs of Haitians?

How is the organization help to meet the long-term needs of Haitians?

How was the organization helping Haiti before the earthquake?

How does this organization give others a chance to volunteer and help with their work?

STEP 2: INVESTIGATE AND FIND OUT WHO CARES

Konbit Pou Edikasyon

The primary disaster relief area they help: _____.

What does the organization do?

How is the organization help to meet the immediate needs of Haitians?

How is the organization help to meet the long-term needs of Haitians?

How was the organization helping Haiti before the earthquake?

How does this organization give others a chance to volunteer and help with their work?

STEP 3: GET INVOLVED AND TAKE ACTION

You've made it to the last step of **Think B.I.G.** Now, that you have investigated what each organization is doing to help, it's time to decide how much each organization should receive from the National Penny Harvest Roundtable Global Relief Fund.

STEPS FOR VOTING:

1. Score each organization.

Use the scorecard on the next page to rate each organization. There are five criteria that you'll use to rate the organizations. Each criteria is worth 20 points total. Your job is to split that 20 points amongst each organization depending on how you think they meet the criteria (for example, you could give each organization 5 points or you could give two organizations 10 points and the other two none).

Here's how:

1. Start with Criteria 1 and decide how many points you want to give to each organization. When you're finished, do the same for Criteria 2-5.
2. For each organization, total all of their points by adding their score for each criteria.

In the end, the organization that has the highest score should be the organization you choose to receive the largest part of the fund.

2. Record your final totals.

For each organization, total the points you gave them for each criteria and record here.

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Konbit Pou Edikasyon | Total Score _____% |
| Clean Water for Haiti | Total Score _____% |
| Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees | Total Score _____% |
| Ecole le Bon Samaritain | Total Score _____% |

Total **100%**

3. Go online and vote.

Go online and vote during the week of April 19-23, 2010. You can only vote once. Go to www.PennyHarvest.org/Haiti.

4. Check the website to watch the results.

All votes will be tallied and the winners will be announced the first week of May.

ORGANIZATION SCORECARD

To use the scorecard, work as a group and make your final decisions together. Start with Criteria 1 and go down, giving each organization the points you think they deserve (remember, you can only award 20 points for each criteria). Then, go on to the next criteria. Finally, total the points for each organization by adding their score for each criteria.

| | Criteria 1: This organization addresses the issue we care about most. | Criteria 2: This organization meets the immediate needs of Haitians. | Criteria 3: This organization will meet the long-term needs of Haitians. | Criteria 4: This organization has a proven ability to help Haitians in Haiti and/or in the United States. | Criteria 5: We can volunteer with this organization on service projects. |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | | |
| Konbit Pou Edikasyon | | | | | |
| Clean Water for Haiti | | | | | |
| Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees | | | | | |
| Ecole le Bon Samaritain | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 20 pts | 20 pts | 20 pts | 20 pts | 20 pts |