

Memorandum



Date: September 13, 2021
To: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners
From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor
Daniella Levine Cava
Subject: Revised: Leave Donations to the Haiti Earthquake Relief Efforts - Directive No. 212120

On Wednesday September 1, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) adopted Resolution No. R-844-21, sponsored by Co-Prime Sponsors Commissioners Kionne L. McGhee and Jean Monestime, and Co-Sponsors Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, directing me to allow County employees to contribute monetary value of accrued holiday and annual leave time to the County's Emergency Disaster Relief Fund for use towards the Haiti Earthquake relief efforts. The resolution further directed the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to evaluate options for the donated funds and provide a recommendation to the Board. Subsequently, as customary, an appeal to County employees went out asking them to consider donating their accrued Annual or Holiday leave to this cause, a process we were able to expedite, as the I waived my veto period, allowing for a quicker outreach and turnaround.

Background on Haiti Earthquake

On August 14, 2021, Haiti was struck by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake, which resulted in widespread destruction. In the immediate aftermath, more than 2,200 people were confirmed dead, with 344 missing, in excess of 12,000 injured and more than 53,000 houses were destroyed, which was further complicated by severe flooding, implications from Tropical Storm Grace.

Recommendation

Because the effect of the devastation caused from this earthquake still lingers and the needs of those affected are significant, I believe it is important to provide contributions where they will have the most impact to those affected by this disaster. Of the various organizations that are positioned to best respond to the relief efforts, **AYITI Community Trust** has been identified to be the recipient of the potential donations. This organization is experienced in responding to disasters of these kind and have the resources and infrastructure to respond on an international scale; a recommendation that the Co-Prime Sponsors are in concurrence on.

I would like to thank our County employees for their generosity in past relief efforts and I have no doubt as to their participation in this endeavor. At such time that those proceeds are in, a status update will be provided to the Board with the total amount collected.

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65, this report will be placed on the next available Board meeting agenda. Should you require any information regarding the donations, please contact Edward Marquez, Deputy Mayor, at 305-375-1451.

- c: Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney
Gerald K. Sanchez, First Assistant County Attorney
Jess M. McCarty, Executive Assistant County Attorney
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
Barbara Gomez, Deputy Director, Finance Department
Arleene Cuellar, Director, Human Resources Department
Melissa Adames, Director, Clerk of the Board

Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners
Page 2

Jennifer Moon, Chief, Policy and Budgetary Affairs
Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator