

UPDATE #7

Co-op black bean splits:

Are bagged - 4 of those large cups to a bag and paired with the rice/soy/dehydrated veggie food packs donated by Kids Against Hunger and Feed My Starving children.



This picture was taken today – 4/26/10. The black bean splits will be paired either with food packets or bags of rice or bulgar (Type of wheat)... they will be handed out tomorrow. Monday, Wed and Fri - bagging; Tuesday, Thurs and Sat - distribution.

For Haiti With Love



UPDATE #6

The Haiti relief efforts continue.

A \$2000.00 discount was given to the [Solt Haiti Kobonal Mission](#), who purchased:

- 22,000 pounds of black beans
- 22,000 pounds of small reds

Product will be shipped from Pigeon, Mi the first week of April.

UPDATE #5

The Haiti relief efforts continue.

A \$2000.00 discount was given to the [ELIM Christian Services](#), who purchased:

· 42,000 pounds of small reds

Product will be shipped from Pigeon, Mi sometime next week.

UPDATE #4

Doug Ressler with Operation Blessing took this video last Monday 2/15/10.

Just a teaser more to come.

<http://sharing.theflip.com/session/2be2266474a36ec32b3ac3462610951d/video/10845339>.

Our donation made it happen. The beans made it to Cap-Haitien, Haiti: actually Port Labadee (10 miles from Cap-Haitien), and were off-loaded from the royal Caribbean Cruise Ship *Navigator of the Sea* and then transported by armed convoy to Cap-Haitien. What an adventure; an Indiana Jones real life drama. I'll tell you more about it later. I am happy to say that almost all of the first load of beans made it to safe haven in Cap-Haitien. (4 bags) None of Operation Blessings guys got hurt. Check out Doug's new little buddy; his name is Junior. He lives in one of the orphanages that Doug visited between Cap-Haitien and Milot (pronounced me-lo).







UPDATE #3

Contributions to the Haiti Relief project continue to exceed our expectations. The first 42,000 pounds of black beans will ship Friday 2/5/10. I'm glad to say Operation Blessing will pick up another 42,000 pounds of black beans next Wednesday 2/10/10.

Another 42,000 pounds of small reds will be donated to The Global Aid Network. These will ship 2/19/10.

The Global Aid Network is a Christian humanitarian organization which sponsors mission trips and provides aid to impoverished countries around the world. The group has worked in Haiti extensively prior to the earthquake. Currently Global Aid Network (GAIN) is operating in 4 separate IDP camps with populations of app. 6000 each. Estimates are these camps will soon hold up to 10,000 people each. In addition, more than 2000 people have been treated at the medical clinic at Chambrun.

Since the Haiti disaster recovery has started GAIN, our partners have been able to achieve the following:

- Over 2,000,000 meals distributed
- 7,000 water filters distributed – each filter cleans app. 200 gallons of water per day
- 5 medical teams in country with app. 5,000 patients treated
- App. 48,000 people being fed daily

Global Aid Network purchased 42,000 pounds of Light Red Kidneys and black beans. This shipped on Tuesday 2/2/10. The beans will be delivered to the Global Aid Network Distribution Center where volunteers will repackage the beans into smaller bags to make them ready for distribution upon arrival in country. The beans will be loaded into boxes, placed on pallets and based on the need, either flown in by Air or sent in by Ocean Vessel.

126,000 pounds will be sent to Haiti through your contributions. This will serve at least 504,000 meals.

The Co-op has agreed to match any employees donation to this project.

Correction to previous update: Product will be loaded in a Royal Caribbean Cruise ship.

UPDATE #2

To date, Co-op Beans are scheduled to ship by the 1st half of February.

Operation Blessing will transport the beans to Compassion Alliance located in Miami, FL. Compassion Alliance has partnered with Carnival Cruise Ship Lines. Carnival is making 4 trips a week to Haiti. With each trip 150 to 175 pallets of inventory is stowed in the hull. Compassion Alliance receives the product in Labadi, Haiti, where they are trucked 20 miles to Port-au-Prince. Operation Blessing will then distribute the product to their camps and to other organizations.

Operation Blessing is preparing to send 11 containers of medical supplies valued over 100 million dollars to Haiti. The medical supplies will be delivered to the Dominican Republic. Armed security will ensure the product arrives to Port-au-Prince.

UPDATE #1

Co-op Organizes Relief Effort for Haiti

The devastating 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck on Jan 12 near Port-au-Prince, Haiti's Capital City generated the current crisis in Haiti. The death toll is still unknown, corpses still litter the streets day's after the earthquake struck the impoverished island nation of Haiti. We have seen the images the destruction caused. This is possibly the worst natural disaster since the Indonesian Tsunami.

Wednesday Jan 13 we contacted Operation Blessing to see how the Co-op could help. Operation Blessing and the Co-op have worked together for several years, providing different varieties of dry beans for their relief efforts.

Steve O'Grady Operation Blessing manager promptly returned our call to help. During our conversation, Steve indicated Operation Blessing has been working with several different organizations that mainly cater to the orphanages. These organizations have specialist air ride trucks that can raise 18" off the ground. These orphanages are located in rural areas where this specialist equipment is required to get the supplies into the hands of people who need them.

Arrangements have been made to provide 43,000# of black beans package in the Co-op 100# poly bags. Operation Blessing will send a 45' Ocean container to the Pigeon Colored Bean Plant,

where it will be loaded & then taken to the Operation Blessing Virginia warehouse. Additional medical supplies will be loaded on the trailer along with the beans. With Operation Blessing's network all ready established in Haiti, this would assist in the required logistical challenges of coordinating the distribution of the beans.

It seems at times we live in a world, where we as individuals can do little to make a difference. However, as a community working together, we have become lifesavers for hungry people across the globe. We have seen the generosity of our community in the past:

- Hurricane Mitch Relief
- Tsunami – Relief
- Zimbabwe – relief

For every \$1.00 donated, this will buy 10 pounds of black beans.

- 10# of black beans can provide 40 meals.

Donations for the relief in Haiti can be made to the Cooperative Elevator Company C/O Operating Blessing.

Beans, rice, maize and cooking oil are among the most important food items for the poor and middle income. A typical meal for Haitians consists of beans, rice, tomato sauce and purified water.

WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

As updates are available, we will provide regular status reports with photographs of those receiving the nourishment in Haiti.

Please follow this story, in the Coop Scoop and local papers, as it unfolds from the heart of Michigan to the hungry of Haiti.

In Haiti Food & water was a luxury even before the earthquake. Now it is a matter of life & death, especially for the children who can't fend for themselves.

Questions can be directed to:

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