

Samaritan's Purse rushing to help victims of Ecuador's catastrophic deadly earthquake

Specially trained/equipped Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) on its way

CALGARY, AB, April 18, 2016 – Samaritan's Purse is sending specially trained staff and emergency supplies in response to a 7.8-magnitude earthquake Saturday in Ecuador that killed at least 350 people, injured more than 1,500, and destroyed homes and other buildings, bridges, and other infrastructure.

Samaritan's Purse and its ministry partners are assessing the damage caused by the quake centered 27 kilometers southeast of the coastal town of Muisne, and 170 kilometers from the capital of Quito. It is reportedly the most significant earthquake to strike the Latin American nation since 1987 when a 7.2-magnitude quake killed 1,000.

The Christian international relief organization has deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team—including two experienced participants from Canada—from our international headquarters in North Carolina. The response will focus on immediate life-saving interventions including medical care, emergency water, emergency shelter, and likely more.

"We are asking Canadians to support us through their donations and prayer as we hurry to help Ecuador's struggling earthquake victims," said Fred Weiss, Executive Director of Samaritan's Purse Canada. "They desperately need the help of every Canadian right now."

Donations Needed: Canadians can donate to Samaritan's Purse disaster relief work in Ecuador and around the world donate by calling 1-800-663-6500 or visiting SamaritansPurse.ca

About Samaritan's Purse Canada

Samaritan's Purse is a Christian relief and development organization that takes its name from Jesus Christ's biblical story of the Good Samaritan. Like that Good Samaritan, who found a beaten man and helped restore him, we aid victims of war, disease, disaster, poverty, famine, and persecution. Besides disaster relief, our work includes collecting and distributing gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, and providing vocational skills and agricultural supplies and training to families in the developing world. Learn more at SamaritansPurse.ca

Media Inquiries:

Frank King
Communications Manager
Samaritan's Purse Canada
1-800-663-6500 (work) or 403-990-0161 (mobile)
fking@samaritan.ca