

Dear Family and Friends of Santos FC:

As you all know by now, Haiti, my native country, was struck by an earthquake this past Tuesday. The epicenter of the earthquake was Port-au-Prince, the capital, and the surrounding suburbs. The capital resembles a war zone, with devastation everywhere. Reports are that those who survived the earthquake are dying in large numbers, and clean water, food, and medical supplies are desperately needed. Bear in mind that even before the quake, life was a desperate struggle.

Personally, I lost my mother's sister, my aunt/godmother, during the earthquake. Her name was Marie-Andre Toussaint. She was cooking at the time the earthquake struck, collapsing her home. She was trapped in the rubble and, although she was eventually pulled out, she died of her injuries.

The good news is I have heard about some family members, particularly from my mother's side of the family. However, I have not heard much from other family members and friends who resided in the suburbs of the capital. Some of those we have yet to hear from lived in the Delmas/Petionville areas, just a few miles outside downtown Port-au-Prince. Delmas was the last place I lived as a boy before coming to America. As you can imagine, not knowing their whereabouts and status is troubling.

Many of you have asked how you can help. I recommend that monetary donations be made to **Partners in Health** (its sister organization in Haiti is called Zanmi Lasante). Its website is **pih.org**. This charitable organization has a proven track record of doing great work in Haiti. It has been on the island for almost twenty-five years, and has established hospitals and clinics throughout the country. Any donation to PIH is tax-deductible. Please go to their website and you can make your contribution immediately.

Thank you for the show of concern, support, prayers, and love.

Sincerely,

Coach Jean

P.S Here is some additional information on Jean's family.

"I heard from my grandpa, dad's pop, and he's doing well, though not sleeping under his roof because of the unknown of what may happen, even though he is outside of the capital. So, he and his family are sleeping in the courtyard at night. "

January 15, 2010