

The National Conference of Black Mayors, Inc.

For Details, Contact:

Dora Muhammad
Director of Communications
(404) 765-6444 ext. 104
dmuhammad@ncbm.org

Centennial Towers
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3410
Atlanta, GA 30303
United States

Phone: (404) 765-6444
Fax: (404) 765-6430
Website: www.ncbm.org

Press Release

NCBM Opens Disaster Relief Fund For the People of Haiti

ATLANTA (4/15/08)—The National Conference of Black Mayors has issued a call for donations to its Haitian Disaster Relief Fund as a result of the crippling effects of the soaring food prices in Haiti.

Working in collaboration with the National Leadership Conference of Haitian Mayors, NCBM will channel funds from the Disaster Relief Fund to Haitian mayors on the ground in Haiti, who will purchase rice to distribute directly to the people in need. NCBM is asking for financial donations of all degrees, stressing that no donation is too insignificant.

Six people have died in weeklong riots, looting and protests in Haiti. Although President Rene Preval announced government subsidies would cut the price of rice more than 15 percent, a date has not yet been set for the price cut. Protesters have stormed the presidential palace and the ouster of the Prime Minister Jacques Edouard Alexis has left little comfort to the people struggling to survive, most on \$1.26 a day. Food prices in Haiti are reported to have increased by 150 percent in the past year.

“We need your help to ease the chronic hunger that erupted in anger and frustration in last week’s riots,” said NCBM Executive Director Vanessa Williams. “The Haitian people are crying out for help. The little or much that we are able to sacrifice to help them could well be the difference between life and death in this crisis.”

Donations may be mailed to:

The National Conference of Black Mayors, Inc.
Centennial Towers
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3410
Atlanta, GA 30303

Make all checks made payable to: NCBM Disaster Relief Fund

The National Conference of Black Mayors established a partnership with the National Leadership Conference of Haitian Mayors in 2007 during the 23rd Annual Conference of the World Conference of Mayors, the international arm of NCBM, which was held in Haiti. Since the conference, both organizations have been working collectively to improve the quality of life of the people served by our respective mayoral memberships. Additional partners in this Haiti disaster relief effort are RCH Radio, Bellevue Foundation, Artist Village, CEDIA and Maslag Foundation.

NCBM is a private, nonpolitical, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that currently represents over 647 mayors nationwide, collectively representing more than 38 million people. For over 33 years, NCBM has been a hidden pillar, providing technical and management assistance, articulating national public policy positions of its membership and forging innovative programs and partnerships to address the pressing needs and concerns of our communities. Through its international partnerships, NCBM has an ever-increasing influential presence around the world.

##30##