



## AmericasRelief Team on the News

*Earthquake crisis in Haiti*

### CBS4 News This Morning with Cynthia Demos and Jim Berry

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#### "Cash Is King" For Haiti Relief, More Help Needed

DORAL (CBS4) —



Rescuers carry a 3-month-old baby found alive following a powerful earthquake that left much of the capital city in ruins Jan. 14, 2010, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

"Our volunteers from America's Relief Team answered more than 260 calls, and so far at least \$15,000 has been pledged to the Neighbor 4 Neighbors: Haiti Relief Fund," said Maristany. "We're looking forward to receiving more help from viewers in tomorrow night's phone bank."

The phone bank provides a reliable way for donors to give safely donate money. As [CBS4's Al Sunshine warned](#), there could unscrupulous people masquerading as relief agencies for Haiti in order to gain your trust and money for their gain.

Money is the preferred form of donation by many reputable agencies, including America's Relief team. This is because the transportation of food and supplies is extremely difficult to coordinate.

"The thing that is needed the most is cash," said Dr. Teo A Babun, Executive Director of America's Relief.

"Cash is king right now because the logistics is the Achilles heel of the whole process and if we don't have funding to ship and transport the aide to Haiti then you might as well not even collect."

Dr. Babun, who appeared on Friday's **CBS4 News This Morning with Cynthia Demos and Jim Berry**, explained how the relief effort is working so far.

"The only way to get aid into Haiti right now is through the Dominican Republic or through Cape Haitian which is a port on the north part, about 200 miles north of Port-au-Prince. Right now, the process it to collect, organize, and prepare so that when the commercial flights can get in, we can make an impact," said Dr. Babun.

The Red Cross estimates between 45,000 and 50,000 dead people on the island, and those who survived are in dire need of clean water, food and medical supplies. If you weren't able to get your call in Thursday's phone bank, you can call Friday starting at 5 p.m. But you can make a secure online donation using your credit card by [CLICKING HERE](#).