



Charleston's Iconic City Market Reaches Out To Haiti's Survivors

Friday, January 29th, 2010 - The Charleston City Market and its Merchants are mobilizing to create a "City Market for Haiti" donation drive for the earthquake victims of Haiti.

The City Market has a direct connection to the people of Haiti, having housed refugees from Cape Francois, Sainte Domingue (Haiti) in 1793 in the Market Hall section between Meeting and Church Streets while the City Market was still under construction. There are currently merchants operating in the City Market who are native Haitians and have family members who are suffering through this catastrophe.

Today through Sunday, February 14th, the Market's vendors will be selling attractive t-shirts at their tables in exchange for a \$10 donation. The City Market is partnering with the American Red Cross Lowcountry Chapter for this endeavor. 100% of all donations raised from the City Market for Haiti t-shirts will go directly to the American Red Cross Lowcountry Chapter and will benefit victims of the earthquake disaster in Haiti.

To complete our donation drive, we are also conducting an online auction of over 20 high quality artworks, with all proceeds benefiting Water Missions International. In addition, we'll also be hosting an art show at Island Gallery on Sullivans Island, Saturday February 6th, from 6pm-10pm. Island Gallery will donate twenty percent of the proceeds from the event to Water Missions International.

Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. said, *"The residents of Charleston know full well the value of a helping hand. I am always filled with pride when our citizens find a way to reach out to others in need. I commend the efforts of the City Market to assist Haiti and urge all to support this effort. These are our neighbors and their needs are great."*

The public is invited to participate by visiting the City Market to purchase t-shirts or going online to www.thecharlestoncitymarket.com. On the website, you'll find all the auctions items listed and links to eBay for submitting private bids.

For more information, please use the contact information below:

William Lee Gilliard III

Assistant General Manager

City Market Preservation Trust, LLC

Main (843) 937-0920, Cell (843) 830-5473, Website: www.thecharlestoncitymarket.com