

# The

# PORTLIGHT

## View

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**The Reeve Foundation Grant will facilitate Portlight's swift response to tropical weather events during the current hurricane season, but we need your help, too! With the grant and your donations, we will:**

- Pack/prepare for deployment 2 shipping containers with medical equipment & accessibility materials.
- Purchase a mobile kitchen & prepare it for immediate deployment at first landfall. This will allow us to feed up to 500 people per day.
- Purchase foodstuffs & supplies.

Please donate @  
[www.portlight.org](http://www.portlight.org)

## Reeve Foundation Awards Quality of Life Grant to Portlight for Disaster Relief

The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation has awarded a Quality of Life Grant in the amount of \$21,500.00 to Portlight Strategies, Inc. The grant will fund a ready-to-deploy container specifically outfitted to serve the immediate needs of people with disabilities in the aftermath of hurricanes and other domestic natural disasters.

The container will be staged at Portlight's suburban Atlanta warehouse. Contents will include two-week supplies of food and water, essential medical supplies and durable medical equipment, a kitchen, accessible tents, etc.

Conceived by the late Dana Reeve in 1999, the Quality of Life program awards grants twice yearly to organizations that help people living with disabilities become more fully integrated members of society. To date, nearly 1,600 grants have been awarded totaling almost \$13 million.

This grant – the largest Quality of Life Grant of the current cycle – continues a long partnership between the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation and Portlight Strategies

and recognizes the importance of Portlight's national sponsor, Weather Underground, Inc.

In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Portlight received a \$15,000 Reeve Foundation grant to support relief efforts for people with disabilities along the Gulf Coast. After the earthquake in Haiti, Portlight received a \$10,000 Reeve Foundation grant to support efforts on behalf of people with disabilities there.

"People with disabilities are often the people most severely affected by natural disasters - and are often overlooked by large relief agencies," said Paul Timmons, Jr., Portlight Strategies, Inc., Board Chair. "This grant will assure our ability to effectively serve those needs. We appreciate this continued show of faith from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation."

Portlight also responded to the needs of people with disabilities, as well as other underserved populations along the Texas Gulf Coast, following the impact of Hurricane Ike in 2008. This response

was made possible by the support of Weather Underground, Inc., and hundreds of weather enthusiasts from the [www.wunderground.com](http://www.wunderground.com) community.

"With the tropics primed to bring us what could be an unusually severe Atlantic hurricane season this year," said Jeff Masters, PhD, Director of Meteorology for Weather Underground, "the timing of the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation's award to Portlight couldn't be better."

"The Quality of Life program recognizes and supports organizations that assist individuals living with paralysis, their families and caregivers in ways that more immediately provide them with increased independence, well being, and improved access," said Peter T. Wilderotter, president and CEO of the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation. "In this case, Portlight has demonstrated its leadership in responding to the specific needs of people with disabilities in the aftermath of natural disasters. We are proud of our continued partnership."

## Final Report: Portlight in Haiti

In the months since January 12, 2010, when a devastating magnitude 7.0 earthquake rocked Haiti, your generous donations to Portlight helped to accomplish so much. As a small, grassroots group unencumbered by the bureaucratic red-tape of the large non-profit organizations, we were able to make important connections and utilize every dollar of your donations to work quickly and effectively on behalf of those both historically and newly disabled. We were also able to reach survivors in need of help in the most remote areas, which are so often overlooked in the aftermath of a disaster.

As our Haiti operations wind down, we'd like to recap our activities and accomplishments there:

- ⇒ Secured warehouse space in Atlanta and Charleston to facilitate management, transport and delivery of critical goods and supplies
- ⇒ Connected with over a dozen groups in Haiti with whom we were able to coordinate our outreach to people with disabilities
- ⇒ Opened numerous pipelines for delivery of donated durable medical equipment to our warehouses
- ⇒ Resumed shipment of DME and clinical supplies into Haiti
- ⇒ Identified two locations at which we were able to congregate people with disabilities in order to provide a safe, efficient location for the delivery of services
- ⇒ Secured the services of several on scene coordinators who identified locations of people with disabilities and facilitated their transport to our service locations
- ⇒ Secured a \$10,000 grant from the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, as well as raised over \$20,000 from our network of supporters
- ⇒ Mobilized the leadership of the US disability community to come to the aid of their Haitian brothers and sisters
- ⇒ Provided direct financial assistance to those on the ground facilitating the work there
- ⇒ Secured a truck for use by those working with us in Haiti
- ⇒ Secured the services of a Creole speaking Haitian native who coordinated all our efforts there
- ⇒ Provided for the transport of 4 water filtration systems to Haiti, one of which was at our disposal to serve the needs of people with disabilities
- ⇒ Secured the donations of well over \$500,000 worth of durable medical equipment and clinical supplies
- ⇒ Secured a cost effective US trucking network to facilitate the distribution of supplies
- ⇒ Facilitated air transport into Haiti of several medical service providers
- ⇒ Created a social media network to facilitate communication with all our stakeholders
- ⇒ Connected with the Southern Command in Charleston to facilitate transport of goods aboard Air Force C17's
- ⇒ Provided DME and other much needed medical supplies to the clinic at Universite Quisqueya (our staging area), which is still serving 300-500 patients per day
- ⇒ With the help of the Liberty Schooner, completed "The Haitian Food Voyage", shipping 10,000 pounds of rice to Haiti. Donors of \$50 or more had their names embroidered on a flag that was given to Quisqueya's administration and will remain there as a symbol of our partnership and your kindness and generosity
- ⇒ Under the auspices of Brad Pitt and his Make it Right Foundation, shipped 10 pallets of DME, 30 pallets of water, 7,000 pounds of rice, and numerous pallets of medical supplies which were then distributed by volunteers with Make it Right and several other organizations
- ⇒ Facilitated the transport of numerous shipments of supplies, including tents for temporary shelter, and building supplies and equipment for repairs to several facilities, including Universite Quisqueya and Notre Dame orphanage
- ⇒ Provided DME, including crutches, walkers, canes, braces and hospital beds; clinical and medical supplies; foodstuffs and water to the following organizations and Haitian governmental departments:

**Dr. Amy Nguyen and ACTS World Relief**  
**Bons Maritan**  
**Catholic Relief Services**  
**Healing Hands for Haiti**  
**Dispensaire de la Providence**  
**L'ecole D'handicape de St. Vincent**  
**Hopital de Canapé Vert**  
**The International Institute of Sport**  
**Sacred Heart Hospital**  
**St. Nicholas Hospital**  
**L'Arche Communauté**

**Fondation Bethsai-De**  
**Hopital de la Communauté Hatienne**  
**Quisqueya Christian School**  
**Haitian Health Foundation Jeremie**  
**Baptist Haiti Mission**  
**Double Harvest Hospital Croix des Bouquets**  
**Hopital Sacre Couer Milot**  
**FSIL Nursing School & Hospital**  
**Love a Child**  
**ACEPJFD**

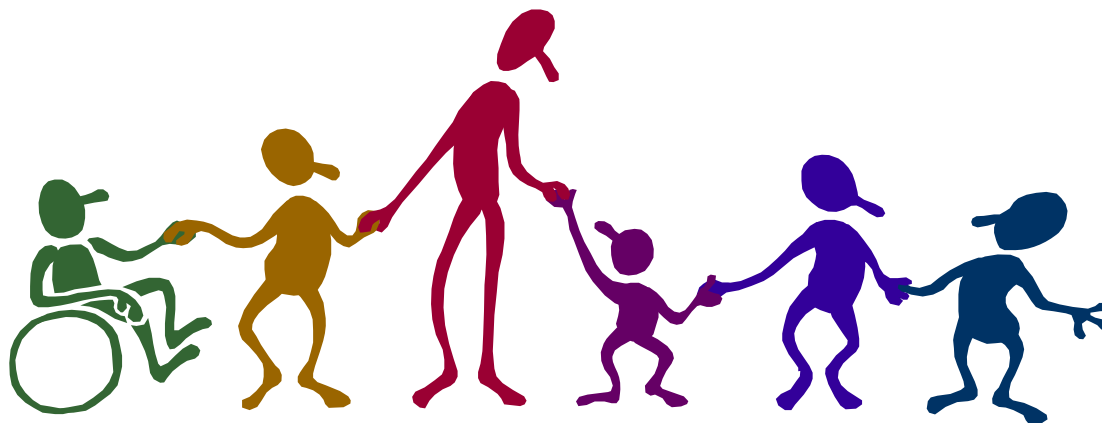
**Dr. Michel Pean , Haiti Secretary of State for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities**



**As we prepare for the hurricane season, we look back with pride, and gratitude to all who supported us, at our work in earthquake-stricken Haiti.**



## 2010 Portlight/Weather Underground Honor Walk & Roll For Disaster Relief



### What:

A nationwide, grassroots event to raise funds for & awareness of our ongoing efforts at home and abroad.

### Why:

Unserved, underserved and forgotten people are depending on us.

### When:

Your choice - and it doesn't have to be just once. You can hold your Honor Walk & Roll as many times as you want!

### Where:

You choose where to walk, run, roll or ride - the park, the mall, the bike trails, the high-school track - it's entirely up to you!

### Business T-Shirt Sponsorship:

Listing on the back of Honor Walk & Roll T-Shirt, plus 2 shirts - \$150.00

**To register, email your intention to participate to**  
**[paul@portlight.org](mailto:paul@portlight.org)**

**Visit [www.portlight.org](http://www.portlight.org) for sponsorship forms, a copy of this flyer for distribution, and more information!**

# PORTLIGHT

STRATEGIES, INC.

Meeting the needs of underserved  
& forgotten people worldwide

2043 Maybank Highway  
Charleston, SC 29412  
(843)817-2651

**Portlight Strategies, Inc.** offers a unique way for you to help people in need help themselves. Since 1997, we have provided medical equipment, such as wheel chairs, walkers, and crutches; ramp construction and minor home modifications; and post disaster relief, free of charge, to people with disabilities and others in need.

These efforts - which all too often are not covered by private insurance, government assistance programs, nor large, bureaucratic organizations - can open the door to new, independent lives for people critically in need of a little help.

Most of the equipment we distribute is donated by institutions, individuals, and families. We never charge recipients, and our budget is raised entirely from individuals and small businesses.

**Portlight Strategies, Inc.** - a 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit organization, created by people with disabilities for the purpose of building personal and community empowerment.

Follow us on the Web!  
[www.portlight.org](http://www.portlight.org)

## DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM



The world's first online weather service, Weather Underground is committed to delivering the most comprehensive, reliable weather information possible, including sophisticated hurricane tracking services. The company's state-of-the-art technology monitors conditions and forecasts for locations across the world. With over 17,000 users contributing local observations from personal weather stations, Weather Underground is able to provide up-to-the-minute weather conditions for the most finely targeted areas through its web site, [www.wunderground.com](http://www.wunderground.com).

## 2010 Honor Walk & Roll: Get Out There!

The weather outside is...gorgeous!! Time to get out there and enjoy it, and what better way than by gathering sponsors and going on an honor walk -- or ride or run - for Portlight.

Weather Underground has once again stepped graciously up to the plate as National Sponsor of our 2010 Honor Walk and Roll. As we enter a new decade, it's going to have a new look and feel.

This year, rather than focus on one specific date, we're spreading the fun throughout the year. We are reach-

ing out to groups and individuals to participate at whatever time and in whatever way works best for them. We're beginning to see that not limiting people to a certain date is opening up the prospect of much broader participation.

Please give some thought as to when, and to what extent, you'd like to participate in the 2010 Portlight/WU Honor Walk. If you're a lone wolf and want to do something on your own, that's great! If you want to make a bigger production of it and involve friends, co-workers, etc., that's great, too!! We've

updated the website ([www.portlight.org](http://www.portlight.org)) with all the documentation you'll need to solicit sponsors.

All funds raised through June 30, 2010, will be earmarked for our relief, rebuilding and shelter efforts in Haiti. After that date, they will be applied to our domestic relief projects. We've worked hard to prepare effective response strategies and are confident that, with your continued support, we can make a difference in the lives of underserved, underserved and forgotten people.

See Page 3 for more info!