

US Nonprofit All Hands Volunteers Launches Response Team After Deadly Ecuador Earthquake

The Leading Global Disaster Relief Organization Powered By Volunteers Is In Ecuador Assessing The Damage And Is Ready to Help

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April 19, 2016 – Mattapoissett, MA – [All Hands Volunteers](#), the leading disaster relief organization powered by volunteers, is on the ground in Ecuador and has officially launched its Ecuador Earthquake Response.

Erik Dyson, CEO of All Hands Volunteers stated, “The sole purpose of this program is to assist the people of Ecuador in the wake of this massive devastation. We are committed to lending our hands to this effort and those of volunteers from around the world who have dropped everything to help. Our model is to provide the training and logistical coordination needed to turn those good intentions into positive outcomes for those who need it most.”

The 7.8 magnitude quake occurred in the early evening of April 16, destroying

roads, bridges and power supplies to the regions surrounding the Esmeraldas province. As of Monday night, the death toll stands at 350, but with communications down in some remote regions, there are fears this figure will continue to rise as relief teams reach the more isolated communities over the next few days.

As a state of emergency was swiftly declared across 6 provinces, All Hands Volunteers immediately engaged its local assets on the ground and mobilized its assessment team.



“We are currently assessing data and live reports to guide our assistance effort,” said All Hands’ International Response Manager, Gary Pitts. “Our immediate priorities revolve around reaching the communities most in need, with primary targets including villages in the Esmeraldas and Manabi provinces.”

Since its inception following the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami in 2004, All Hands Volunteers has responded to 64 disasters worldwide, engaging 35,000 volunteers and donating over 175,000 days; including Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines and last year’s devastating earthquakes in Nepal. Philanthropic leaders say the organization is known for being nimble, collaborative, and professional in its response to the immediate and long term needs of those suffering in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

More Information:

Support All Hands Volunteers’ efforts in Ecuador by [making a donation at www.hands.org/donate](http://www.hands.org/donate)

For more about All Hands Volunteers, visit www.hands.org

Interviews available upon request.

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