

# Haiti calls for help



U.S. State Department photo

A young boy receives assistance from an American Red Cross relief worker in the earthquake aftermath.

**By Abigail Neet**  
News Editor

It has been on the news constantly for the last week.

On Jan. 12 Haiti was hit with a 7.0 earthquake, nearly destroying the small country.

Death counts are being estimated at up to 200,000.

Putting \$5 towards a country where most of its citizens have been going without food and water for the past three days is something most people can do.

Pack a lunch and resist buying one for \$5.

Companies such as Honda are making donations to help relief efforts in Haiti. Honda has made a \$300,000 donation as well as water pumps and generators.

It can be difficult to determine which organization to donate to with

so many available and not knowing which ones actually are sending relief directly to Haiti and what percentage of the money is going to the effort.

The FBI issued a press release on Jan. 13 warning Internet users to be aware of scams in the wake of the earthquake. The press release encouraged people to be skeptical of e-mails and individuals requesting money.

The release also suggested verifying the legitimacy of non-profit organizations existence through other resources than links in an e-mail. Another thing suggested is to make donations directly to known organization's rather than outside sources claiming to donate to other organizations.

One good resource to help with this is [charitynavigator.org](http://charitynavigator.org)

This site rates charity and non-profit organizations in a variety of ways using a star rating system.

Charity Navigator rates charities based on two broad areas of financial health, organizational efficiency and organizational capacity. Charity Navigator also includes tips ranging from what questions to ask before donating to how to donate your car and other non-cash items.

One easy way to give is by doing something most college students love, texting! You can text "Haiti" to 90999 and donate \$10 to the American Red Cross.

Another way to help is by donating through Mercy Corps, which is located in Portland, through a fund started at Clackamas. You can access this fund at [mercycorps.org/fundraising/studentshelp Haiti](http://mercycorps.org/fundraising/studentshelp Haiti).

For those who are worried about sending money and not knowing exactly who is receiving it you can purchase items to send at <https://store.causecast.org/huffingtonpost>.

## Make history and cast your crucial vote



**By Abigail Neet**

This story was complete last week, and then I saw the ad on the front page of the *Sunday Oregonian* and became even angrier about their reinforcement of their endorsement on Measures 66 and 67. The front page features a leaflet urging voters to vote "no" on the measures.

The *Clackamas Print's* editorial staff took the opposite stance, endorsing a "yes" vote, although we never had a leaflet.

The *Oregonian* claims it is the wrong time to raise taxes and claims the government is pitting businesses against schools.

Is raising corporate taxes really as harmful as they would have us think?

No! Increasing the corporate minimum tax from \$10 to \$150 is reasonable, and it's very doubtful this would ruin people's lives as they would have us think.

According to *Oregonians Against Job Killing Taxes* the corporate minimum tax will eliminate 40,000 full-time-equivalent Oregon jobs. Apparently, increasing the tax from \$10 to \$150 is enough to have to fire people! Without that \$140, it is a wonder how the businesses will survive at all.

Today, the Associated Student Government will sponsor a debate about Measures 66 and 67 at noon in the Community Center. After the debate Courtney Wilton, vice president of College Services, will answer questions about what the results of the measures will mean for the college.

An open forum will be held Thursday, Jan. 21 in the Community Center for students to voice their opinions about 66

and 67.

The money from these measures is money the schools already counting on. These measures will not increase the school budget or by any means things better, according to Truesdell, president of Clackamas Community College.

However if these measures not pass, this will have an impact on the school.

Truesdell explained it will have to be determined exactly the cuts will be from, but the areas that likely will be affected are service hours and core services. The college would continue to capitalize on efficiencies and continue to seek grants to be able to service the students.

Truesdell said the college in the process of identifying consequences if one or both measures fail.

The measures failing to pass only affect community colleges but K-12 education will be affected as well. If 66 and 67 pass, K-12 schools will also be affected by budget cuts that could reduce classes and programs being offered.

"The prediction is saying the outcome is determined by who turns out to vote," Truesdell said.

There are some who agree that the way to deal with this money is by taxing the rich.

"I don't think it is right the rich; they went to college and achieved the American dream and shouldn't be punished for it," said Clackamas student Courtney Pratt. Pratt said he might vote "yes" to increase the corporate minimum tax.

Basically, if you agree supporting education and improving the quality of life in our state, then vote "yes" on Measures 66 and 67. Do not forget or procrastinate about this issue because Oregon needs your votes. Things will be different if these do not pass.

Classes are filling up fast enough as it is; imagine the overcrowded classrooms if more sections were cut and the measures do not pass.

Let's not make that date. Your vote matters and the date is approaching quickly.



U.S. State Department photo

Despite overwhelming numbers, the American Red Cross is able to treat this young girl's injuries.

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