



THREE-MONTH UPDATE: MAY 27, 2010

REBUILDING CHILE

LEVANTANDO A CHILE



On Feb. 27, 2010, a magnitude-8.8 earthquake struck off the coast of Chile. For several weeks, aftershocks as strong as magnitude-6.0 continued to shake the country. By the time the earth stopped moving, 2 million Chileans had been affected and 500,000 houses were seriously damaged.

Within days, Habitat for Humanity began helping to restore hope and homes. Learn how you can support Habitat's long-term efforts to partner with 10,000 Chilean families working to rebuild.

DIEGO APOLO BUENAÑO

IN CHILE NOW

THE NEED

As with most natural disasters, the earthquake in Chile most affected those who could least afford it, leaving low-income families who lost their homes particularly vulnerable as winter begins in the Southern Hemisphere.

The earthquake seriously damaged more than 500,000 houses; 200,000 became uninhabitable. The city of Curepto, southwest of Chile's capital, Santiago, was especially hard-hit. The earthquake destroyed 70 percent of the local housing stock—more than 1,550 homes.

On Feb. 27, José and Blanca Aguilar watched

as decades of work crumbled to the ground. José, 82, and his wife, Blanca, 78, had raised 10 children in their simple Curepto home since 1963.

"The door wouldn't open. We just heard noises, and the walls were falling," José said. "I hugged my wife and expected the worst, until my son broke down the door and was able to save us. If he hadn't, I would not be here to tell you this."

THE RESPONSE

After the earthquake, the Aguilars spent days sheltered in a tent, lying on a ground quickly growing colder with the approaching winter. Within a month, however, Habitat for Humanity Chile helped the couple begin construction on a new home.

Donors contributed funds for Habitat Chile's quick response. Local volunteers came from Talca, a city about an hour and a half from Curepto, to build alongside the Aguilars. One volunteer, José Francisco, said, "We would work 24 hours a day, if it were possible, to rebuild Curepto one house at a time."

Today, the Aguilars are already living in their new home.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Go to [habitat.org/disaster/active_programs/chile_earthquake.aspx](https://www.habitat.org/disaster/active_programs/chile_earthquake.aspx). Learn how you can help.

The cover titles are in English and Spanish, the language of most of the people of Chile.



HABITAT AT WORK

Habitat for Humanity's initial response is being called "Physical and Spiritual Force for Chile" – "Newen Ñeque for Chile" in Mapuche, the indigenous language of Chile. This response will focus on the country's most ravaged regions.

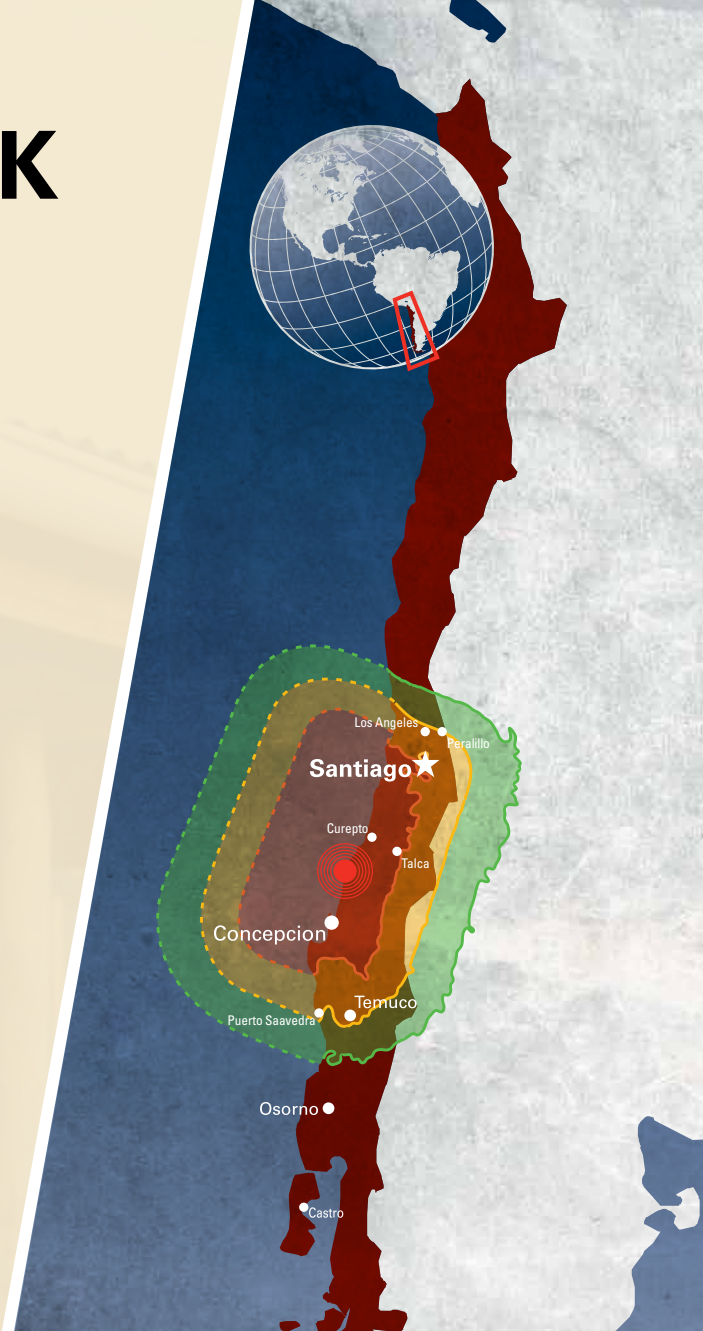
HABITAT'S GOAL:

- **1,000 NEW EARTHQUAKE-RESISTANT CORE HOUSES.**
These houses have solid foundations, thermal insulation and earthquake-resistant features. The two-bedroom, one-bathroom houses are built with the help of Habitat-trained masons, volunteers and partner families. Each home can be expanded over time. The first 36 core houses are already under way: 20 in Curepto and 16 throughout Los Angeles and Puerto Saavedra.
- **4,000 DAMAGED HOMES REPAIRED.**
Repair projects will vary with need, and will include installing new roofs, façades, doors and windows. Habitat will also create "materials banks" and "tools banks" in many communities to help facilitate progress. Partner families, neighbors and volunteers will work together on repairs. Habitat Chile has already selected 23 families for its initial home-repair project in Peralillo.
- **5,000 FAMILIES SERVED THROUGH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CONSTRUCTION TRAINING.**
Creating a Habitat Resource Center will provide construction training and technical assistance to families and community partners. Habitat uses resource centers in many countries, offering a focus for community building, driving reconstruction work and developing local leadership.

WHY YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NEEDED

Habitat can never go it alone. With nearly \$18 million needed to fund Habitat's rebuilding efforts, your support is vital to helping reach 10,000 Chilean families in need of new housing.

- Each of the 1,000 core houses will cost an estimated US\$5,000.
- Each of the 4,000 home repairs will cost an estimated US\$3,000.
- Technical assistance and training will cost about US\$12,000 for each 100 families.



ESTIMATED SHAKING INTENSITY

Moderate Strong Very strong

ESTIMATED POPULATION AFFECTED

Moderate: 2,786,000 Strong: 960,000 Very strong: 9,075,000

Source: USGS



HOW YOU CAN HELP

PRAY for the people of Chile as they rebuild their lives, and pray for Habitat for Humanity's efforts to help.

CONTRIBUTE to Habitat for Humanity's long-term response in Chile. You can support Habitat's work financially by:

- Giving online through an [English-language donation page](#) or a [Spanish-language donation page](#) on [habitat.org](#).
- Giving through the mail. Make checks payable to "Habitat for Humanity International" and include "Chile Earthquake" in the memo line. Mail checks to Habitat for Humanity International, 121 Habitat St., Americus, GA, 31709. A receipt will be sent to the name and address listed on the check.
- Texting "CHILE" to 25383 to make a \$10 donation to Habitat's rebuilding efforts in Chile. (For donors from the United States and Canada.)
- Becoming a partner with Habitat for Humanity and taking your financial support to the next level. To learn how to become a partner as an individual, community, corporation, foundation, church, synagogue or mosque, e-mail ddrr@hphchile.cl.

TELL OTHERS to get involved in rebuilding Chile. Raise awareness and encourage others to donate. Download Web and e-mail banners—in English or Spanish—to post on your website, blog, social media site or e-mail: <http://www.habitat.org/banners/chilebanners.aspx>.

STAY INFORMED and keep your friends and family informed, too. Updated information on Habitat's work in Chile is available on [habitat.org](#) at habitat.org/disaster/active_programs/chile_earthquake.aspx. You can also learn more by visiting Habitat Chile's website: www.hphchile.cl.

PREPARE TO VOLUNTEER when Habitat Chile is ready to use international volunteers. Habitat Chile is primarily using local volunteers right now, but opportunities for international

DISASTER RESPONSE

Habitat for Humanity International's Disaster Response program has more than a decade's experience developing innovative housing models to generate sustainable interventions for people vulnerable to, or affected by, disasters or conflicts. To date, more than 50,000 families around the world have been served through various Habitat initiatives in disaster response. Outside Chile, Habitat's most recent disaster response goal is to serve 50,000 families affected by the earthquake in Haiti, an initiative that will continue as recovery efforts take place in Chile.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY CHILE

Habitat for Humanity has been at work in Chile since 2002, having created more than 6,300 housing solutions with low-income partner families. These solutions include new home construction, major rehabilitations, repairs and special building programs with indigenous communities and with families and children living in extremely vulnerable situations. A post-quake assessment revealed that 100 percent of the houses already built by Habitat Chile survived the earthquake undamaged. Learn more about Habitat's work in Chile at [habitat.org](#) and [hphchile.cl](#).

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INTERNATIONAL LATIN AMERICA/CARIBBEAN AREA OFFICE

In San Jose, Costa Rica, Habitat for Humanity's area office provides services to national offices throughout South and Central America and the Caribbean region. The area office strengthens grassroots efforts after disasters. The area office makes sure Habitat's work involves, and celebrates, the people of its region. Learn more online at [habitat.org/lac](#).

volunteer teams will soon be made available through Habitat's Global Village program: habitat.org/gv. You can also subscribe to the e-newsletter and volunteer notification list that comes from Habitat's Latin America and Caribbean area office: http://www.habitat.org/lac_eng/lyris_subscription_form.aspx.

