



PROGRESS REPORT FEB 27, 2011

# Chile earthquake:

## 1 YEAR LATER



For several days after the magnitude 8.8 earthquake and tsunami rocked the length of Chile, strong aftershocks threatened the country's faith in recovery. One year later, much work remains.

There has, however, been significant progress. Maybe most importantly, the show of solidarity among local aid organizations, volunteers and government entities has provided many families with hope and a secure foothold on the future. Habitat for Humanity has been part of this comprehensive response.



# HABITAT CHILE'S RESPONSE

Immediately after the earthquake, Habitat Chile began checking in with Habitat partner families in the affected regions. Thankfully, not a single Habitat home suffered damage in the disaster.

Within days of the disaster, Habitat Chile and its partners had organized the distribution of emergency tents for affected families in Talca, near the epicenter of the earthquake.

The next step was to coordinate with other organizations and local governments to organize a more permanent response in the country's hardest hit regions. Habitat has long partnered with Chile's Ministry of Housing, offering technical support to families accessing government subsidies. These local

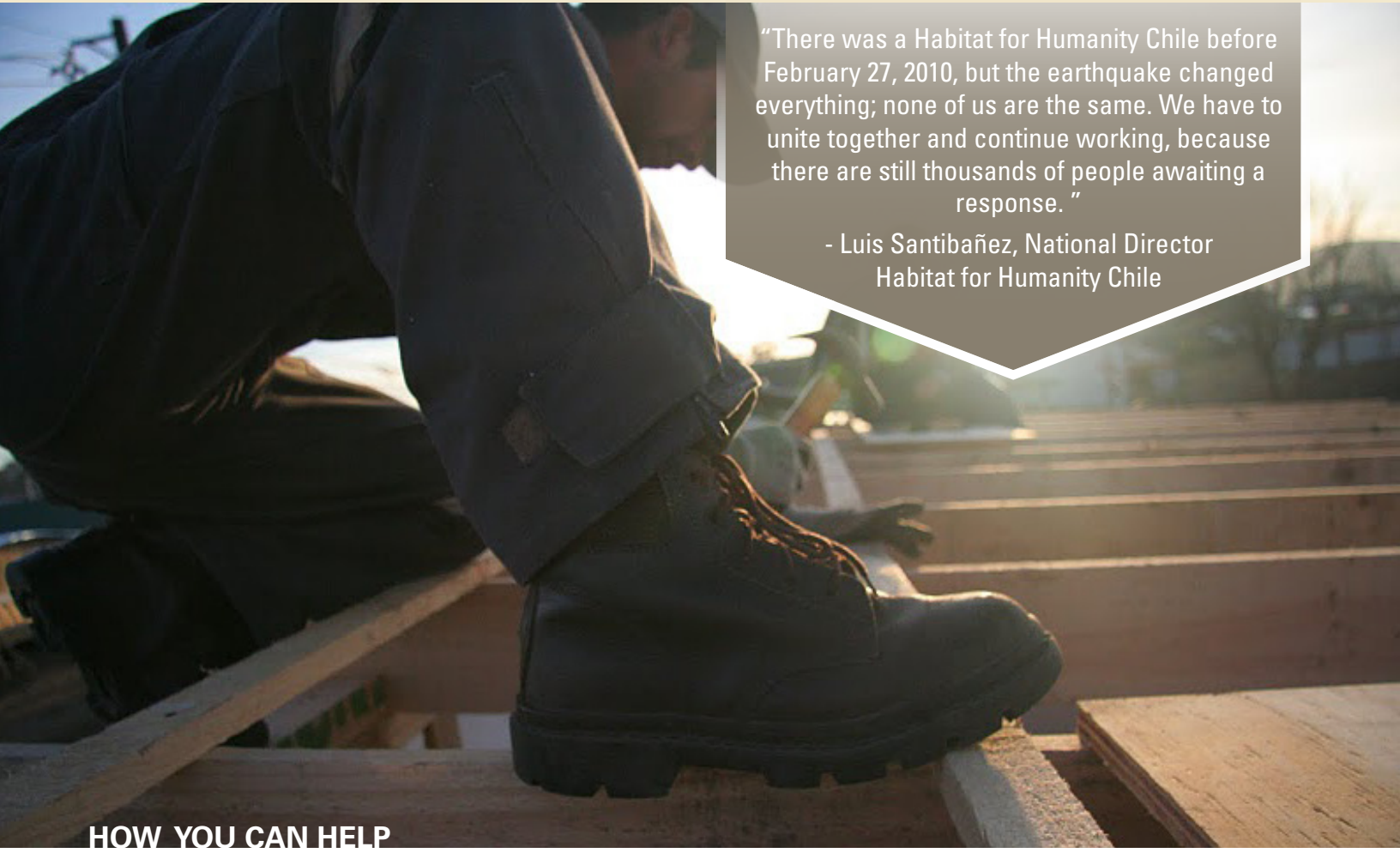
housing committees quickly provided assistance while Habitat Chile assessed affected areas and began to mount a long-term response.

Habitat Chile's long-term disaster recovery effort, "Nueven Ñeque para Chile" (Physical and Spiritual Strength for Chile), aims to provide a path to recovery for 10,000 families. The goal:

- Build 1,000 new, core houses.
- Repair 4,000 damaged homes.
- Serve 5,000 families with construction assistance through technical support and training.

There is still much ground to cover, but with the capacity Habitat Chile has built in the past year, Habitat plans to more than double its efforts in the upcoming year. And efforts will continue as long as families remain in need of housing assistance.

While the disaster may not dominate international headlines anymore, it remains front page news for many families who are still living as if it were the day after the earthquake.



"There was a Habitat for Humanity Chile before February 27, 2010, but the earthquake changed everything; none of us are the same. We have to unite together and continue working, because there are still thousands of people awaiting a response."

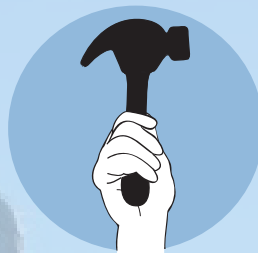
- Luis Santibañez, National Director  
Habitat for Humanity Chile

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Go to [habitat.org/disaster/active\\_programs/chile\\_earthquake.aspx](http://habitat.org/disaster/active_programs/chile_earthquake.aspx). Learn how you can help.

To learn more about Habitat Chile's response visit [habitatlatino.org](http://habitatlatino.org) or [www.hphchile.cl](http://www.hphchile.cl)

# VOLUNTEERS: FAITH IN ACTION



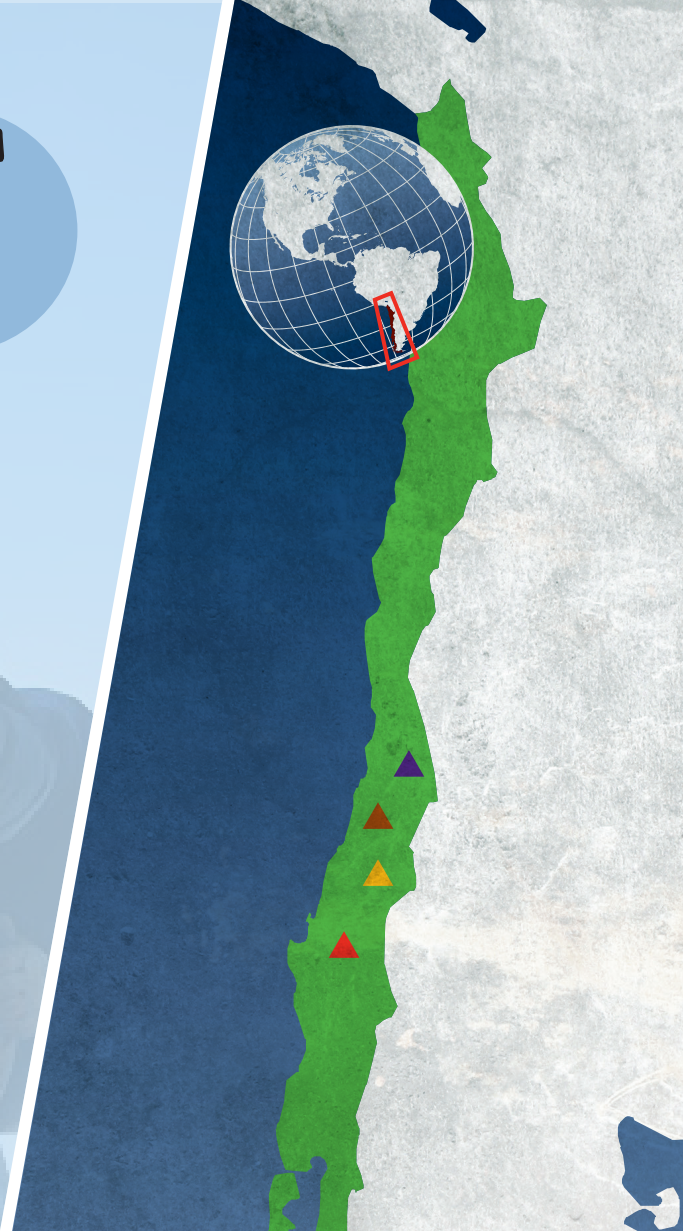
Self-empowerment and volunteer involvement have been cornerstones of Habitat mission from its beginnings nearly 35 years ago. In Chile, where Habitat served more than 6,300 families in the seven years prior to the earthquake, local volunteers were the first to mobilize in supporting recovery efforts.

**Neighboring countries were also quick to mobilize:** Shortly after the quake, Habitat for Humanity Argentina sent a group of volunteers who are experts in the field to lend a hand across the border. The team, comprised of social workers, architects and disaster response coordinators, helped to assess the physical and social situation of affected families residing in a camp in the O'Higgins region. The results of the visit were used to help Habitat Chile plan its response, which includes a combination of repairs, new core home construction and technical support and training





**International volunteers played an additional role:** Eighty Global Village volunteers from Delta Airlines, along with 15 volunteer interpreters and 20 Habitat Chile staff members joined forces with partner families to help rebuild homes in Chile's Metropolitana region.

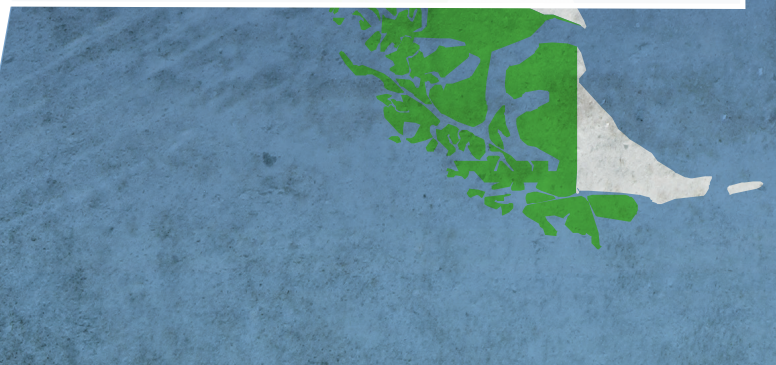
## OPERATION TALCAHUENO

Shortly after the quake, a group of 70 young, Chilean donors from the Catholic University quickly mobilized to support Habitat Chile's project, "10 Permanent Houses for Santa Clara" in Talcahuano. The youth participated in the construction of all 10 houses alongside the affected families, who are now safe and secure in their new homes.



### Rebuild updates:

-  Metropolitana region
  - El Monte: 15 Core houses
  - 100 Families supported with home repair projects
-  O'Higgins region
  - San Vicente: 6 Core houses
  - 150 Families served through technical support and training
-  Bio Bio region
  - Talcahueno: 10 Core houses
  - 250 Families assisted in accessing government housing subsidies
-  Maule region
  - Villa Prat: 3 Core houses
  - Cauquenes: 4 Core houses
  - Curepto: 22 Core houses





# HOW YOU CAN HELP



**LIFT UP PRAYERS.** Join Habitat in praying for its best recovery efforts, while still preparing for new challenges yet unseen. Contribute to the cause. Please help by making a secure online donation today [habitat.org/cd/giving/donate](http://habitat.org/cd/giving/donate)

**GET INVOLVED.** International volunteer opportunities in Chile will be posted on the Global Village page [habitat.org/gv/default.aspx](http://habitat.org/gv/default.aspx)

Local volunteers can contact [voluntarios@hphchile.cl](mailto:voluntarios@hphchile.cl) to learn about new opportunities.

**STAY INFORMED.** Subscribe to Habitat's regional e-newsletter for Latin America and the Caribbean. You can also learn more by visiting <http://www.habitat.org/intl/lac/45.aspx>

## TESTIMONY:

### ARTISAN, POET AND "BRICKLAYER"

Francisca Angulo is a 61 year-old artisan and poet. She lives in El Monte, in Chile's Metropolitana region, where Habitat Chile has completed 15 core houses in partnership with families affected by the quake. Angulo's new house is a permanent unit that can be expanded over time as her financial situation improves. The house sits adjacent to what was left of her previous home, from which she can now begin to salvage viable pieces to use in the future. From the security of this simple, secure home, she can apply for additional government housing subsidies and begin to plan for further improvements.

Angulo, who contributed US\$50 of personal savings to the project, worked each day of construction. International volunteers from Delta Airlines labored alongside her—new friends with whom she says she formed a special bond. "My house now has a new presence, and I am very happy. Thank you. You will always be in my heart."



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