



**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:**

Jacqueline L. Mayo  
Communications Manager  
(216) 265-3303/(216) 857-7151

*Cleveland Airport System partners with  
MedWish International to take donations for Haiti relief*

*Cleveland, February 3, 2010* – The earthquake in Port-au-Prince, Haiti has left nearly 3 million people without food, water or medical supplies. That's why the Cleveland Airport System (CAS) is partnering with MedWish International, a not-for-profit local organization that provides needy countries with medical supplies, to collect a variety of medical supplies to be sent to Haiti to aid those in dire need.

"We are asking the citizens of Cleveland, medical community, and businesses alike to help us collect as many medical supplies as we can to help those in Haiti," said Airport Director Ricky Smith. "The need is so great and we want to lend a hand and here's our chance. The airport is open and ready to accept your donations."

MedWish International has already started delivering donated supplies to Haiti; however, more supplies are needed daily. Beginning Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> through Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m., anyone wanting to donate before their flight, can drop off donations at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. Donation bins will be placed conveniently at the north, center and south ends of the ticketing level and on baggage claim at the Welcome Center.

"We have been overwhelmed by the amount of supplies that have been donated to MedWish International by the generous communities in Northeast Ohio," said MedWish International Executive Director Tish Dahlby. "We are now in need of financial support to help transport these desperately needed supplies to Haiti. MedWish International intends to be present in Haiti and continues to send relief as needed and will stay on to help rebuild the hospitals there as well. Any donation made to the organization is much appreciated."

-more-

## ***Page 2/Haiti relief***

The following is a list of needed items:

- antibiotic ointment (Neosporin and other brands)
- bandages
- rolled gauze
- white medical tape
- ace bandages
- hydrogen peroxide
- alcohol pads
- iodine (wipes/bottles)
- cotton swabs and balls
- masks
- gloves
- Infant Formula (powered preferred)
- Nutritional Supplements (e.g., Ensure)

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, all donations will be delivered to the MedWish International warehouse here in Cleveland where they will be sorted and sent to Haiti. For more information on MedWish International, visit their web site at [www.medwish.org](http://www.medwish.org).

### About MedWish International

MedWish International is a non-profit organization committed to the recovery and recycling of donated medical supplies. These life-saving supplies are made available to those providing medical care in developing countries throughout the world. Globally, the MedWish International program improves the quality of medical care available to the underserved around the world; locally, we are effectively reducing the amount of solid waste deposited in landfills. MedWish International also serves as a resource for local health-care professionals and charitable organizations interested in global health.

- 30 -

*Cleveland Hopkins International Airport is Ohio's Premier Air Service Gateway offering over 260 daily departures to 80 nonstop destinations including 6 international markets.*