

Action for Health in the Americas

March 2, 2010

c/o Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

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Dear Friend of AHA and EPES,

As you know, Chile was devastated by a major earthquake early Saturday morning. We've been lucky to hear from EPES (Educación Popular en Salud) co-founder Karen Anderson, who is currently living and working in Santiago for the ELCA Global Mission in partnership with EPES. The EPES Santiago team is accounted for, but the situation in Concepción, where another EPES team is located and which is much closer to the earthquake's epicenter, is more chaotic. EPES is working with its partners to try to get to Concepción to offer support and to determine next steps. We ask you to please keep all those that have been affected by this disaster in your thoughts and prayers.

While the true impact of the earthquake is yet to be fully realized, we do know that EPES will play a major role in helping the communities it works in to recover and rebuild, in addition to continuing the health, education and other support services it provides on a regular basis. With that in mind, we ask that you consider donating to support this work and ensure that EPES itself can survive this tragedy and provide much needed support to the poorest communities of Chile. Checks can be made out to AHA and mailed to:

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In Canada, you can donate online at http://tidescanada.org/funds/health/canadians-for-popular-education-in-health-epes-fund/. Or you can send a cheque made out to Tides Canada Foundation, Suite 680, 220 Cambie Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 2M9. Please indicate on the cheque that it is for the Canadians for Popular Education in Health fund.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of and commitment to health and dignity in Chile and in the world. If you wish, AHA will be sure to communicate any new information as we hear from Karen and the EPES team.

With sincerest thanks for your solidarity,

Christina Mills, MD, FRCPC AHA Board President

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Promoting Health, Hope and Healing