For Immediate Release
August 27, 2010

Catholic relief agency assisting Pakistani flood victims

Local donations will provide direct aid to survivors and support redevelopment efforts

(SEATTLE) Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic community, is providing direct assistance to survivors of the massive floods that have killed more than 1,600 people and affected up to 20 million people in Pakistan.

CRS has offices in Besham and Swat, along with three other offices in the country.

CRS has organized shipments of humanitarian aid to Balochistan, where the flooding struck earlier. The aid packages include water purification tablets, soap, cookware, jerry cans and more. In the areas of Kohistan and Shangla, CRS is providing emergency shelter kits and hygiene supplies. In several areas including Swat, CRS is also planning cash-for-work projects, paying people affected by the disaster to build irrigation channels, pathways and retaining walls.

ATTENTION MEDIA: PLEASE POST ON YOUR WEBSITE

Those interested in donating to assist victims of the flood can visit www.crs.org or call 1-800-736-3467 (specify Pakistan flood relief). Donations also may be mailed locally to: Catholic Relief Services, Archdiocese of Seattle, 710 9th Ave, Seattle WA 98104.

CRS maintains strict standards of efficiency, accountability and transparency. Last year, more than 94 percent of revenues spent by the agency went directly to programs that benefit the poor overseas.

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