Most of the hospitals in Port-au-Prince were destroyed, and those that were still intact had lost electricity. Thus, local medical personnel whom survived went out into the streets to assist where they could.

Existing Haitian Housing

 Destruction to Housing

 Emergency Housing

 Temporary Housing ($193 Million)

 Permanent Housing

1. Search and Rescue
2. Strategic Planning
3. Treatment and Survival
4. Relocation and Rehabilitation
5. Early Recovery

Four months following the earthquake, more than 1,750 families were moved from emergency camps to temporary relocation sites that were meant to provide better services. Numerous temporary shelters, designed by various organizations and architects, were constructed and set up for the IDP families.

Search and Rescue

Housing Phases

Steps of Government/Aid Agencies in Recovery Process

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)
World Food Programme (WFP)
International Financial Institutions (IFIs)
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
United Nations (UN)
Red Cross
National Military

Steps of Community in Recovery Process

President Rene Preval appealed for international assistance and a conference was held to present global donors with Haiti's action plan for recovery.

Outside assistance in search and rescue was delayed due to the collapse of the airport and the United Nations building.

Due to the collapse of the airport during the earthquake, local Haitians conducted the first two days of search and rescue until outside aid could fly in to Port-au-Prince.

After the disaster, Haitians gathered in public parks and open spaces to find relief. Some families left the city to stay with host families or find shelter in schools or churches.

Aid agencies usually leave after temporary camps are set up, and the majority of the reconstruction of Haitian homes is left to the Haitians to do themselves. Unfortunately, this leads to the permanence of temporary shelters that are added on to in poor structural ways that lead to their increased vulnerability in future disasters.