

HELPING REBUILD AFTER HURRICANE MELISSA

Hurricane Melissa left a trail of destruction in Jamaica. As the island is a popular holiday destination, the news was readily reported in the press and on social media. However, interest in the storm faded just as quickly as it swept across the island. The situation in Jamaica is quite different. Many people are still without water, electricity, and communication, and access roads are often still uncleared. Rural communities, in particular, have seen little of the aid deliveries.

We, Rastafari Nation Switzerland, speak on behalf of the Rastafari community in Jamaica, specifically in Portland, and wish to draw the attention of the Swiss government, the Swiss population, and local companies to the fact that neither the rural population nor the indigenous people have yet benefited from the aid and are urgently in need of further support.

Furthermore, we would like to emphasize that this storm, in its magnitude, was partly caused by our way of life, and we cannot forget it. We must take a stand and find a way to learn how to deal with such situations properly, as many people will continue to suffer from climate change in the future.

As a Rastafari community, we support our brothers and sisters on the ground through direct exchange, but we would like to bring out that Jamaica needs all the help it can get right now, and we urge the government, businesses, and every individual to take action. This is done out of love for our neighbors, but also out of the awareness that we owe this to the people there.

This is our recommendations for a quick and efficient action :

- Collect information about the families and isolated people in need of a quick help and inform Jamaican organizations (Rastafari Global reasoning / Rastafari Melissa disaster mapping)
- Send donation to a trusted and direct contact.
- Raise awareness in your community

Donations can be sent to: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/chartity-hurrican-jamaica>

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