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Lott Carey Continues to Provide Relief for Tsunami Victims

The Somalian Government says their help has made a significant impact.

(January 13, 2006- Washington, D.C.) It has been a year since the tsunami killed more than a 100,000 people and destroyed economies across the south eastern region of the world. Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, a premier African American global missions and relief agency, is continuing to help provide humanitarian assistance and relief for survivors of the tsunami. The mission is leading a collaboration that includes funding from the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. in a 30-month engagement that will aid the most devastated areas of the African continent.

Since the natural disaster, Lott Carey has created several programs to help rebuild Africa's seafood industry. "Before the tsunami hit, East Africa had one of the best seafood economies in the world. Lott Carey wanted to make a difference and the only way we could do that was to help rebuild that economy," said Rev. J. Michael Sanders, president of Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. The African Tsunami Relief program provided specific assistance to 321 families as well as 264 individuals in Bandar Bayla, Somalia. Lott Carey not only provided food and necessities for these people, but also purchased and

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distributed fishing equipment. The mission purchased 11 boats, 200 lobster traps, 15 glass fiber shark fishing launches/outboard motors, 30 shark nets, 50 plastic nets, 27 lobster gears, 15 boat anchors and 60 net marker buoys for fishermen in the region.

Lott Carey is also preparing to fund a boat and motor repair shop to train young men for employment and ensure self-sustainability of the fishing industry. The mission has spent more than \$30,000 to help restore the fishing industry in the Bandar Bayla district of Somalia.

Because of the success Lott Carey has had in Africa it plans to spend another 30 months helping restore the economy. "Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention has made an immense impact on our economy in the last year. They are making remarkable strides in helping us rebuild after this horrible disaster," said Abshir Abdi Tangi, mayor of Hafun, Somalia.

Lott Carey is also expanding its psycho-social intervention program for children and families in the Puntland region. The program will serve those impacted by multiple experiences of trauma in recent years. Lott Carey will spend more than \$38,000 to help continue the psycho-social intervention here. Lastly, the mission is purchasing and installing a generator to enable an electric distribution system to flourish in the Hafun region of Somalia. This project will cost \$48,000 to complete. The total investment that Lott Carey and partners have made to date is \$116,000. The mission plans on investing more than \$600,000.

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The National Baptist Convention has committed an additional \$200,000.

Lott Carey has formed a unique partnership with several churches and non-profit groups in order to accomplish much of its goals. The All African Conference of Churches (AACC), Fellowship of Christian Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA), the National Baptist Convention, USA and the UNA a consortium of Italian non-governmental organizations are working with Lott Carey to provide relief to the citizens of Africa.

Lott Carey is continuing to accept donations for the African Tsunami Relief. If you are interested in contributing to the relief fund, you can send a contribution to: Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, 220 I Street NE, Suite 220, Washington, D.C. 20002. For additional information or to make a donation, please call 202.543.3200.

Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention is the premier global mission's agency of African American Baptist heritage. Their international mission is to cultivate ministry, education, and health programs around the world. Since it was founded in 1897, Lott Carey has grown to a network of missions partnerships in 20 countries throughout six regions of the world. Last year, Lott Carey raised over \$3 million dollars for mission support around the world.

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