

DISASTER STRIKES.
DONATIONS POUR IN.
WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MONEY?
DOES IT GET TO THE PEOPLE WHO
URGENTLY NEED IT?

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

SmartResponse.org

AN INITIATIVE OF

DISASTER
ACCOUNTABILITY
PROJECT

"PREPAREDNESS IS ALL ABOUT PLANNING FOR THINGS
YOU REALLY HOPE WILL NOT HAPPEN."

WE ARE THE ANSWER.

IMPROVING AID IMPACT AND OVERSIGHT



BOARD of DIRECTORS

BEN SMILOWITZ

Executive Director

BRYAN CAREY

President

Partner, Conn Maciel Carey PLLC

SONDRA LINTELMANN-DELLARIPA

Vice President

Principal Consultant, Harvest Development

GARY CLUEIT

Treasurer

Managing Director, Ectora LLC

DR. ANKUSH BANSAL

Secretary

Physician

BOB DAWSON

Board Member

Retired, Credit Risk Management Executive

TOM DEVINE

Chair, Advisory Board

Legal Director, Government

Accountability Project

MANY THANKS

Photographs by NADAV NEUHAUS

Designed by WEI STYER

SAMPLES OF REPORTS, MEDIA
COVERAGE, AND INTERVIEW CLIPS
CAN BE FOUND AT
DISASTERACCOUNTABILITY.ORG

OR BY CONTACTING
BEN SMILOWITZ, AT
BEN@DISASTERACCOUNTABILITY.ORG
OR 202-556-3023



WHO WE ARE

Disaster Accountability Project (DAP) serves as the lone independent watchdog of disaster relief and humanitarian aid since 2007. Our work has resulted *in the release of millions of dollars of donations to survivors, instead of being “stuck” in bureaucratic red tape.*

From the Founder, Ben Smilowitz, a manager of American Red Cross Client Service Centers in Coastal Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina:

“What happened after Katrina was completely preventable.

Disaster Accountability Project’s independent oversight is critical in ensuring agencies and organizations get it right and services reach those who need it most. The data we are collecting and sharing will help ensure billions of dollars are more effectively raised and spent to prepare for and respond to disasters around the world. Our work has a huge impact.”

SmartResponse.org is a one-of-a-kind platform that allows the public to know, in real-time, how relief organizations collect and use funds in response to disasters, and enables donors to make smarter choices about donating so that their gifts can go directly to where they are needed most – to the forces “in action” already on the ground.

THE MISSION

To save lives and reduce suffering after disasters by maximizing the impact of preparedness, response, and relief through citizen oversight and engagement, policy research, advocacy, and public education.

THE VISION

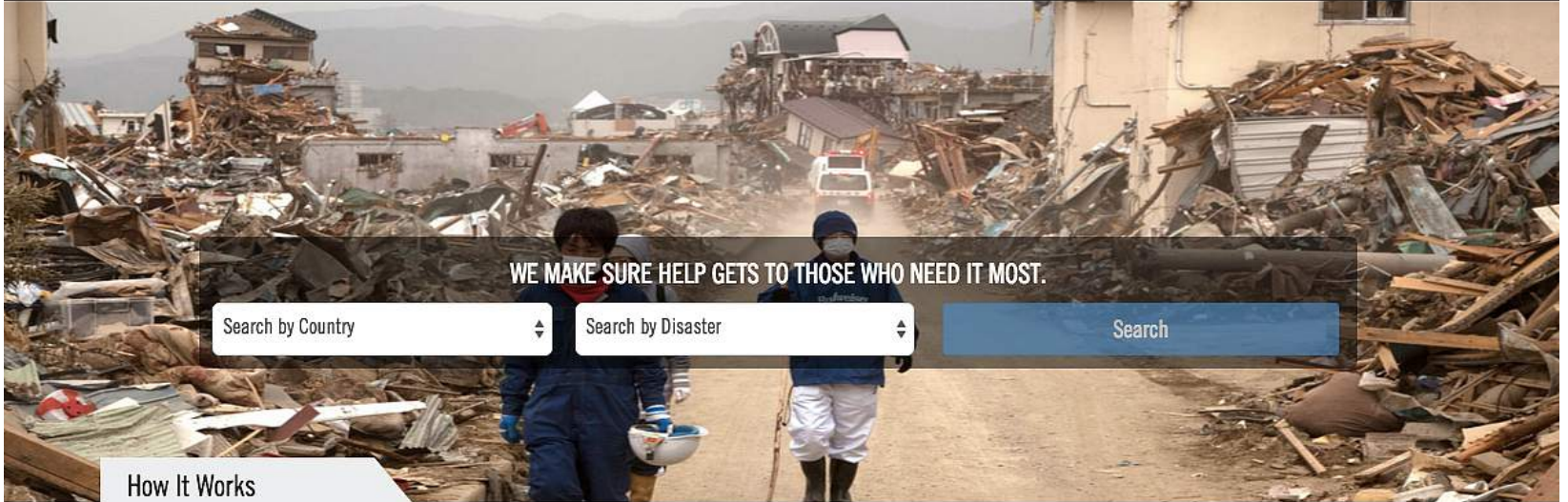
To engage people to implement lessons learned and improve the effectiveness of disaster relief.

THE PROGRAMS

SmartResponse.org



Login Subscribe



How It Works



SEARCH BY COUNTRY OR DISASTER

When disasters strike, monetary donations (sent to the right groups) can provide immediate relief and support long-term recovery.



SEARCH BY ORGANIZATION

We collect and share current data about both civil society and international organizations to help donors make informed decisions and achieve the greatest impact.



DONATE & STAY INFORMED

Incentivize transparency and support the most transparent organizations that have the greatest capacity to deliver services.

This ground-breaking initiative will culminate in **an online interactive platform that will collect and share real-time data** concerning local and international nonprofits and civil society organizations responding to disasters around the world.

Data will include metrics such as **number of staff on the ground**, history of activities in each location, and services offered by each organization.

Projected to Launch in 2016.

OFFERING PUBLIC DATA WILL

- ✓ Inform donors in making better choices
- ✓ Empower disaster survivors and their communities
- ✓ Improve relief coordination in real-time
- ✓ Incentivize relief transparency

“Do we want honesty and a more effective relief effort? Or do we want groups to amass just huge sums of money and not spend half of it?”

— DAP on the one-year anniversary of the Haiti Earthquake, 1/11/2011



“Ultimately, if there are still needs on the ground, which there are, it’s fair to expect organizations with a lot of cash still sitting in the bank to step up to the plate, hopefully with the same urgency as their Sandy fundraising appeals.”

— DAP after Hurricane Sandy, 1/22/2013



“Watch out for organizations that promise immediate, lifesaving aid but don’t have a history of operating in the country where they’re hoping to work...”

Los Angeles Times

— DAP after the Nepal Earthquake, 4/26/2015

“Do some homework and look to see which organizations actually have the capacity to respond and then fund them.”

— Ben Smilowitz on The O’Reilly Factor, discussing accountability and transparency of relief organizations after Hurricane Sandy.

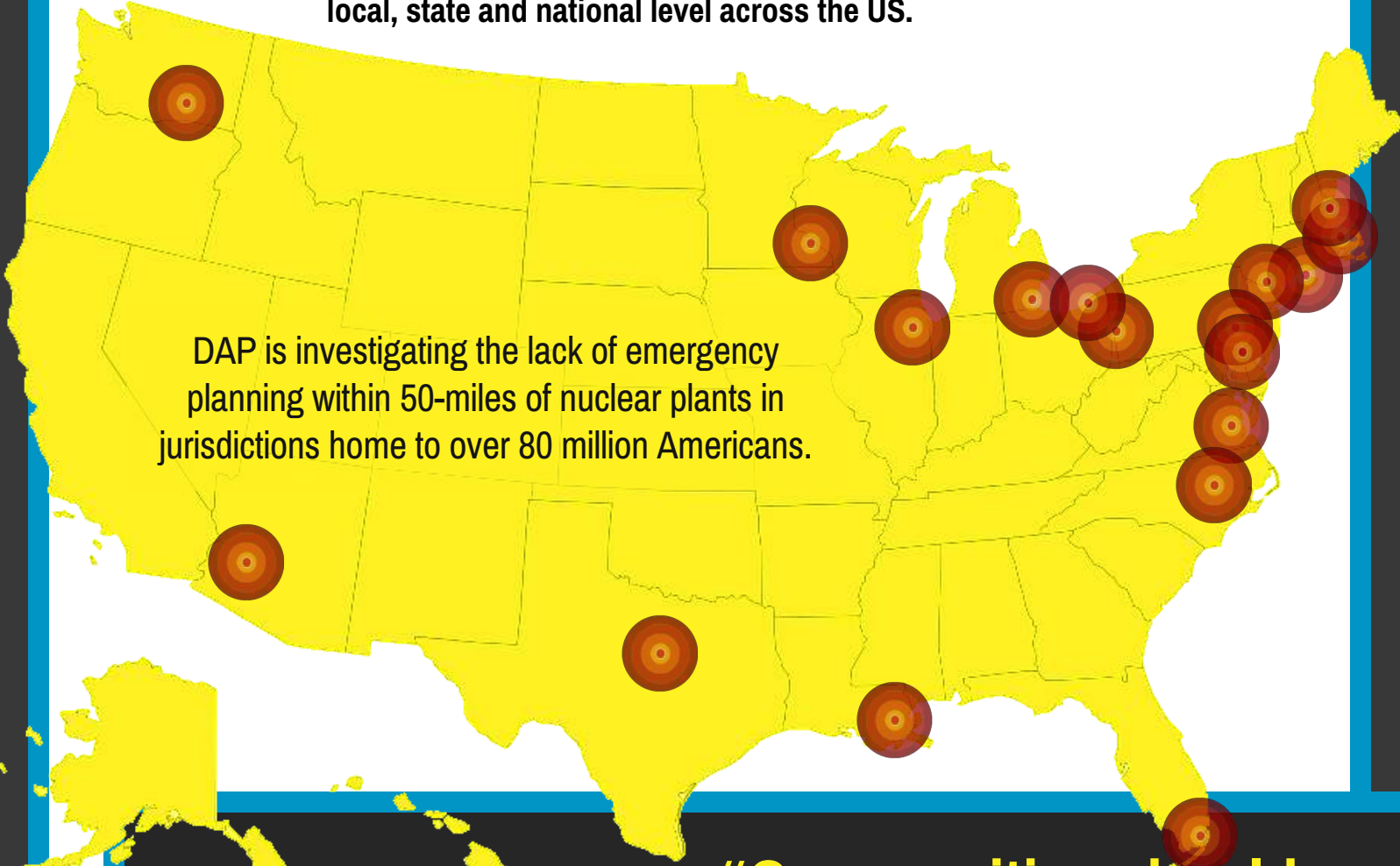


THE PROGRAMS

Investigations and Policy

Since 2007, DAP's in-depth investigative reports resulted in

- ✓ The release of \$4 million raised in disaster relief donations to New York Superstorm Sandy survivors who lost their homes.
- ✓ Improved transparency of over \$1 billion of relief donations raised after disasters worldwide.
- ✓ Improved emergency planning by numerous jurisdictions on a local, state and national level across the US.



DAP is investigating the lack of emergency planning within 50-miles of nuclear plants in jurisdictions home to over 80 million Americans.

“Communities should demand this planning if Washington won’t.”

— DAP, after releasing reports on the lack of emergency planning within 50 miles of US nuclear power plants.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



“Groups need to be called out on inaccurate and misrepresentative appeals. **It’s too late after an organization has raised \$10, \$20, \$30 million... and that money may never end up in Nepal.**”

— DAP after the Nepal Earthquake, 4/26/2015 *Los Angeles Times*

WHY NOW?

1. THE WORLD IS EXPERIENCING **LARGER** AND **MORE DANGEROUS** HUMANITARIAN DISASTERS.
2. **BILLIONS** OF DONOR DOLLARS AREN'T GETTING TO WHERE THEY ARE **NEEDED MOST**.
3. PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING AND DYING **NEEDLESSLY** AS A RESULT.



“We still have people who waited for months and jumped through hoops and they are getting NOTHING.”

— BEN SMILOWITZ, Founder and Executive Director, Disaster Accountability Project
advocating for NY Survivors after Superstorm Sandy.



**WE NEED A SYSTEM TO
REDUCE HUMAN SUFFERING AND MAKE
DISASTER RELIEF WORK **THE WAY IT SHOULD.****

10/23/13 *The Wall Street Journal*: Under Pressure, Red Cross commits another \$6 Million to Relief Efforts

7/11/11 FOX NEWS: HAITI 1 YEAR LATER: TRACKING DONOR DOLLARS

The Clarion-Ledger
6/2/08

HURRICANES: DID KATRINA TEACH US ANY LESSONS?

4/24/15 WAMC Northeast Public Radio: Watchdog Group Says Evacuation Planning Around Indian Point Is Bare Bones

5/8/09 HOUNS
COURIER, STA
EDITORIAL:
LET'S GET
GOING ON
THESE PLAN

CTVNEWS : 4/28/15

DON'T DONATE BLIND:

How to ensure your money reaches Nepal

1/9/11 MIAMI HERALD : CRITICS QUESTION FUNDS RAISED FOR HAITI

ProPublica : 8/15/14

Red Cross
Reverses Stance on
Sandy Spending
"Trade Secrets"

7/13/2010
CHRONICLE OF PHILANTHROPY

HUNDREDS of MILLIONS in Haiti Donations Still Unspent

DISASTER ACCOUNTABILITY AFTER TORNADOES

4/29/14 KSDK (ST. LOUIS)

9/21/15 REUTERS: EXCLUSIVE

Exclusive - Global charities accused of "misleading" public on Nepal quake aid

5/6/09 Daily Iberian (LA): Don't miss Project's findings

5/5/09 The Associated Press: Report warns of gaps in Louisiana emergency plans

WHERE DID THE MONEY GO FOR HURRICANE SANDY VICTIMS

DONATIONS FOR SANDY VICTIMS MAY NOT BE GOING ENTIRELY TO VICTIMS AND RECOVERY, SAYS WATCHDOG

THE O'REILLY FACTOR : 1/24/13

ABC 13 Norfolk: Watchdog Group Criticizes Hampton Roads Nuclear Disaster Plan

1/11/13 NY Daily News

RESPOND.

SINCE 2007, BENEFACTORS OF DAP AND SMARTRESPONSE.ORG HAVE INCLUDED:

- The Logos Fund of the Luzerne Foundation
\$160,000
- Individual supporters
over \$120,000
- Echoing Green
\$60,000
- The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
\$35,000

CURRENT STATUS :

For 2016, DAP's budget showcases this need:

SmartResponse Programming:	\$188,810
Support Services for Programs:	\$98,850
Additional Investigations:	\$72,440
Total	\$360,100

DISASTER ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT IS
A 501(C)3 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
AND DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

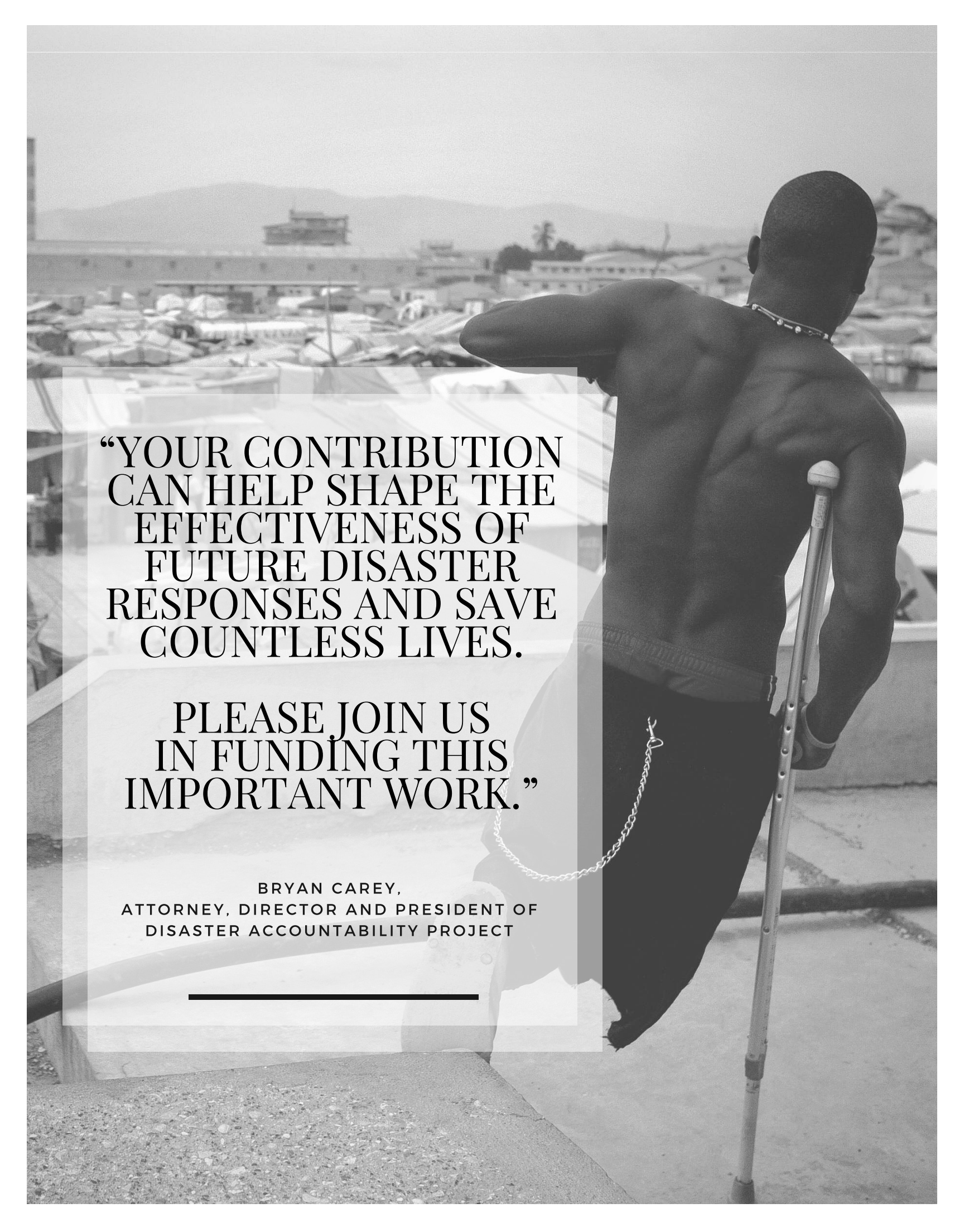
SmartResponse.org



TO DONATE, PLEASE VISIT
DISASTERACCOUNTABILITY.ORG/DONATE
OR CONTACT BEN SMILOWITZ AT
BEN@DISASTERACCOUNTABILITY.ORG
OR 202-556-3023

HUNDREDS OF RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS.
DOZENS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.
BILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

YET WHEN DISASTER STRIKES,
THOSE WHO NEED HELP THE MOST AREN'T GETTING IT.
WE'RE CHANGING THAT.



**“YOUR CONTRIBUTION
CAN HELP SHAPE THE
EFFECTIVENESS OF
FUTURE DISASTER
RESPONSES AND SAVE
COUNTLESS LIVES.**

**PLEASE JOIN US
IN FUNDING THIS
IMPORTANT WORK.”**

**BRYAN CAREY,
ATTORNEY, DIRECTOR AND PRESIDENT OF
DISASTER ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT**
