

New York City's Correction Officers are known for digging down and helping out with just about every charitable, emergency, and community volunteer effort there is. In fact, as a new motto goes, "We put the CO in COMMunity." So no one was surprised by the success of the Department's uniformed officers and civilian staff in an immediate effort to raise relief funds in the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti.

On Monday, February 1, a contingent of staff, accompanied by Correction Commissioner Dora B. Schriro, delivered a "down payment" on the Department's fund-raising campaign, which continues. The first check, presented by Commissioner Schriro in this photo to Megan Sheekey, President of the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City, was for \$15,277. But almost before the ink was dry--with additional DOC contributions, including those made through payroll deduction and even donations made by inmates in the city jails--the total was approaching \$20,000. Meanwhile, total funds contributed to the Mayor's Fund to Benefit NYC, which Mayor Bloomberg designated as the vehicle for local contributions, had topped \$1.1 million.



Seen left to right in the second row in the photo are DOC staff who are playing critical roles in the fund-raising campaign, including: Captain Darren Jackson of George R. Vierno Center; CO Joseph Wong of GRVC; CO Pamela Gaillard-Lawren of GRVC; CO John Wisti, Jr., of Anna M. Cross Center; Deputy Warden Kenneth Williams of GRVC; headquarters Program Specialist Stacey Jenkins-King; CO Emilio Sanchez of AMKC; Deputy Warden Carlton Newton of AMKC; CO Peggy Joseph of Special Operations Division, and CO Daniel Lowe of GRVC.

In the front row from left are Jenny Sharfstein, Managing Director of the Mayor's Fund; Ms. Sheekey of the Mayor's Fund; Commissioner Schriro; Chief of Department Larry Davis and Assistant Commissioner Ari Wax.