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## Local businesses respond to Haiti

DIANA LOUISE CARTER • STAFF WRITER • JANUARY 22, 2010

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At some point today, a private plane owned by Constellation Brands was expected to return to Rochester from its mission of mercy for Haiti.



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Constellation's offer to fly local doctors and more than two tons of donated supplies to the Dominican Republic, from which they were taken by helicopter into Haiti, is just one example of the way businesses are responding to earthquake-ravaged Haiti.

Some companies, like Wegmans, offered themselves as a conduit for donations. The Rochester based grocery chain had collected nearly \$715,000 by midnight Thursday and decided to extend its collections program — money will go to the American Red Cross's Haiti funds — through Feb. 6 because the response had been so great.

Since the earthquake, Harris Corp.'s RF Communications division, which makes specialized mobile radios for public safety and military operations, has been giving and loaning equipment to its military, government and foreign customers so they can lend a hand in Haiti faster.

From the Pittsford and Greece dental practitioners who have challenged their colleagues to meet a matching donation, to the Brighton travel agency that took up a collection within its staff, businesses are digging deep to help Haiti, just as thousands of individuals in Rochester area are.

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