



Alix Desulme, Ed.D.
Mayor

March 14, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

I am writing to you with a sense of urgency and hope as the Mayor of North Miami, FL, a city that is home to the largest Haitian American population in the United States. Our community is profoundly connected to the unfolding situation in Haiti, and I feel compelled to share our concerns and aspirations with you. The ties that bind us to our homeland are strong, and the pain of our brothers and sisters in Haiti is deeply felt in our streets and homes.

Considering the recent resignation of the Prime Minister, we know the situation in our beloved homeland is dire and demands a leadership that truly represents the hopes and dreams of the Haitian people. The complexities of the current political climate in Haiti require a thoughtful approach driven by compassion for humanity.

As one of only two Haitian American Mayors in the United States, I strongly urge the Biden administration to engage in meaningful dialogue with Haitian elected officials in Florida, particularly in Miami. Our city is deeply concerned about the potential influx of migrants that could strain our already crumbling infrastructure. In recent months, conditions in Haiti have significantly deteriorated due to rampant gang violence and escalating civil unrest.

The situation demands urgent federal support to ensure the well-being of both our current residents and incoming migrants. It is imperative that the administration recognizes the unique challenges we face and provides the necessary assistance to uphold the stability and prosperity of our community. Meeting with us would be a crucial step in addressing these issues and fostering a collaborative approach to finding effective solutions.

I strongly urge and plead with your administration to engage with Haitian American elected officials for meaningful discussions proactively. Our unique insights and firsthand experiences are crucial in shaping U.S. policies toward Haiti. By actively including our voices in the dialogue, we can collaborate more effectively to devise strategies that are both compassionate and effective in addressing the challenges faced by Haiti and its diaspora.

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden

Office of the Mayor and Council

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I am committed to supporting my Haitian brothers and sisters, both locally and abroad. We stand ready to collaborate with your administration to find sustainable solutions that honor the resilience and aspirations of the Haitian people.

Thank you for considering our views. I look forward to engaging in conversation with your administration to bring positive change to Haiti and strengthen the bonds between our nations.

With deepest respect and urgency,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alix Desulme".

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C Anthony Blinken, Secretary, United States Department of State

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