



HDF Clinic Patient

April 2010

Volume 8, Issue 1

Haitian Development Fund Newsletter

2010 Wish List

- Funds to Ship Supplies
- Antibiotics
- Basic Dental Supplies
- Recent Pocket PDR

Please consider making a gift for one of these urgent needs.

HDF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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Post-Earthquake Port-au-Prince

It is almost impossible to assemble my thoughts about our nine days in Haiti. I'm pleased to report that after three flight cancellations, we were finally able to reach Port-au-Prince on Saturday, March 6th.

Special thanks to Nick Stojakovick, Outreach Minister from Hope Church, who stepped in at the last minute to help carry medicine and to the Catholic Medical Mission Board which sent two volunteer nurses: Jen Nicholson and Akudo Unanwa. All did a wonderful job.

The streets of Port-au-Prince are lined with tent cities, although to call the housing 'tents' is not accurate. Most people live in rag homes without floors.



Signs of the earthquake are everywhere.

Despite the large presence of non-governmental organizations, we saw little evidence of aid getting through to Cite Soleil slums. We were able to provide antibiotics to an American pastor who was helping to care for 37 orphaned and lost children. They had little water and almost no food. Several were sick. Thanks to a generous gift of antibiotics from the Catholic Medical Mission Board, directed by Dianne Jean-Francois M.D., M.P.H., we were able to help these kids.

At the Sarthe Neighborhood Medical Clinic, we treated 695 patients during our trip. We delivered 11 bags of medicine and supplies with a combined weight of over 600 pounds including lab equipment for the new medical technologist.

Some patients were memorable. Akudo treated a woman with a massive post-operative infection of the abdomen. We saw many orthopedic injuries from the quake. Perhaps the most difficult case was the 14 year old boy with PTSD who has been unable to speak since the earthquake. Everyone is frightened so people live on edge all the time. Food is not easy to find unless you are a government official or gang member. We issued several thousand dollars in recovery grants through the Clinic staff, in amounts ranging from \$25-\$100, to help patients buy food and other necessities.

We also gave all staff members a bonus plus \$50 for the extra work they have undertaken since the earthquake.

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Photo Gallery



Seeing a doctor can be scary for little ones.*



Many Haitians now live in tent cities like this one.



Taking a bath in a tent city.*



Sylver McGriff comforts an orphan. She is a Rutgers University photojournalism student and will join HDF again in June.*



Translator Peter reads a card to a patient. School children in MN & IL made the cards that included a one dollar bill.



HDF Volunteer Akudo Unanwa, RN, treats a child.



Dr. Moise, Dr. DeLand, Akudo Unanwa, Dr. Dianne Jean Francois, Jen Nicholson & staff.



Signs of the earthquake are everywhere.



Life in Haiti is especially hard for the children.

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In 15 years, I have made more than twenty trips to Haiti. I never felt more helpless than on this one. Yet I know, as Mother Teresa says, to help one of God's children is to help the world. Our next trip is in early June 2010. ---Dr. H. Brent De Land, Jr.

*Photos courtesy of Sylver McGriff.