

Grace in the Midst of Pain

In early March, Pastor Ron Bouchard (HHH Board member from NY) and I went to Haiti to work alongside our Haitian brothers and sisters with regard to earthquake relief efforts. We were truly encouraged as we saw the body of Christ at work in Haiti, offering grace to so many in need.

Many of you have contributed towards these efforts and our family in Haiti has diligently been the ‘hands and feet’ of Christ as they have ministered to the earthquake victims.

Approximately 133,000 people have moved back to the Artibonite area, most with nothing but the clothes on their backs. It is with these

families that we have primarily focused our relief efforts.

As relief assistance is offered, so are the stories of the survivors, each one offering a glimpse into the tragic experience of so many on January 12, 2010. Please continue praying for the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ to comfort and strengthen both the displaced and those ministering to their needs.

Stan Wiebe, HHH Director

“I was pregnant when the earthquake took place. I was upstairs in a house. The house was shaking and I couldn’t stand up. I fell and tried to get up again. I was thinking that it was the end of the world. I heard a tremendous noise. Thank God there was a large man who was near me. As he tried to get downstairs, I held his shirt so that I too could escape. When he fell, I fell on him. We continued to fall down to the bottom of the stairs. We had time to run out before the house collapsed.”

~ Eliana, hospital patient



“We were at home, but my older children were outside to buy something. While we were inside, we felt the house shaking. Then we were running outside, even though it is dangerous too with other houses collapsing, electric poles falling, etc. I looked for my son but I couldn’t find him. After some days, we found a piece of the t-shirt that he had worn and we realized that he was dead. It’s hard!”

~ Marlene, recipient of a rented home

“I’m a student. I was at school when the school started to shake. Suddenly, we realized that it was an earthquake. I was near the window, so I jumped out. I thank God because I’m still alive, but it’s sad to lose my classmates.”

~ Viergeta, relocated student

“This is the first time that I have experienced an event like this. We were going to church, my family and I. The church was near to our house. We were walking and when we arrived in the church yard, suddenly the earth started shaking. The houses collapsed, people cried and ran away, the electric post fell. We didn’t know what to do. When the shaking stopped, we were dusty and I was happy that my family was safe. But after this, I was sad to see how much damage was produced and how many of our brothers and sisters died. I ask myself if I was dreaming. It was very sad!”

~ Achmete, recipient of a rented home

Ways HHH-Haiti Partners are Helping:

Medical Relief

HHH-Haiti partner churches around Gonaives have been ministering to the needs of the many earthquake victims brought to the Gonaives hospital: serving them nutritious meals, paying for their prescriptions and x-rays, providing hygienic items and praying for them.

Transitional Assistance

Our schools have received many new students and we have been able to assist them with school supplies, uniforms, etc.



Bags of toiletries await delivery to patients at the hospitals

We are also providing scholarships for new vocational students to attend a ten month program to gain

knowledge in the trades of construction, basic plumbing and electricity. With this knowledge, they have hope of finding better employment when they return to Port-au-Prince.

With so many families having returned to our area, we have a list of over 70 families that are in need of a place to rent. The committee is interviewing these families and assisting them where we are able.

(Continued on back)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

View one of Stefan Youngblood's newest videos of "We Will Rise" - sung in Creole for Earthquake Relief Efforts.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4U0AEuFGHDA>.

A Haiti Herald, April 2010

... Partners are Helping *(Continued from front)*

Already, we are renting homes for many families with the donations that we have received.

Although they lost everything in



Port-au-Prince, several of these families own land in our community. We are planning to build a new home for these families.

Special Provision for Children

Our children's home (CFNE) has been the recipient thus far of 3 boys and 1 girl who have each lost a parent in the earthquake. Our doors have been open and we have let various agencies know of our willingness to accept more children as the need arises.



The children at CFNE rehearse "We Will Rise" for an Earthquake Relief video by Stefan Youngblood.

Funding for these children comes from having 4 sponsors at \$25 a month. More sponsors are needed for these children.

Giving Thanks!

- The church at Poteau recently installed **Pastor Sajous as their Senior Pastor**. Pastor Sajous is from this community and has faithfully served with us for many years. He is a man with a passion for the Lord and a desire for others to know Him, too.
- Eager NC youth have found **creative ways to assist** the ministries in Haiti by collecting coins, selling kiss-o-grams, refinishing and painting items for silent auction, etc.!

Please Pray For ...

- **God's love, comfort and strength** to be experienced by the people of Haiti as they continue to recover from the Jan. earthquake.
- That the **Haitian people will be empowered** as the country moves ahead with rebuilding

efforts.

- **University opportunities** for our youth who lost their schools in Port-au-Prince.
- For **HHH-Haiti partners** to be strengthened and effective as they continue to minister to their neighbors.

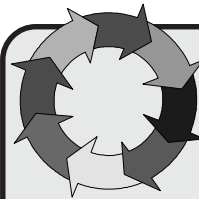
Upcoming Events

- 1st Monday of each month – **Prayer meeting** for Haiti at 7:30 PM at the Wiebes'
- Apr/May - **Darlene Nadiuel** from Haiti visiting Raleigh, NC for one month.
- July 2010 - **Christ Covenant Church** youth team going to Haiti to help lead Summer Camps.
- Sept. 2010 - A **church from NY** is planning a trip to Haiti to assist with relief efforts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HHH, CONTACT:

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How does it work?

Hearts and Hands for Haiti is about loving our neighbors in Haiti through partnership, empowering the Haitian people to help themselves.

- ↳ As God entrusts us with resources, we are enabled to partner with indigenous ministries in Haiti.
- ↳ In turn, the Haitian ministries reach out to their neighbors with Christ's love, blessing their communities with needed resources and jobs by hiring local workers for needed services.
- ↳ With employment and needed resources, families are able to invest into their economy, which helps other Haitian families support themselves.

As each Haitian experiences the love of God expressed through their neighbors, it is our prayer that their hearts will turn in praise to their Creator.