



Children of Hope

Dear friends & family,

January 21, 2010

It has been a long heart breaking week for those of us who have been following the events unfolding in Haiti. Most information has been gathered by watching news reports which take an emotional toll as the suffering is unimaginable. How much the people of Port- au -Prince and surrounding areas are suffering. Prayers go out on their behalf.

The death toll from the Haiti earthquake is estimated to be 72,000 at this time, however, it would be impossible to have exact number due to burials that occurred without documentation. There are thousands of people still unaccounted for. An after shock occurred on January 20th at approximately 6 a.m. with magnitude of 6.1. This renewed fears that buildings already weakened by the first quake would collapse. Confusion and chaos in Port-au-Prince is well documented and security continues to be a huge issue.



Children of Hope has finally received a call from Haiti and had a lengthy conversation on January 19st with Pastor Jean Marie. We are pleased to report that all the children at the orphanage are fine and that the leaders around the country are starting to call in to let Phyllis Newby know that they are alive and unharmed. They are now beginning to deal with the new reality that is Haiti. Pastor Jean Marie's home and compound have become a refuge for over 200 people. They have arrived from Port-au-Prince looking for food, water and shelter.

Director Phyllis Newby reports that the compound in St. Ard has also become a haven for displaced individuals. The Hospital on the compound is now inundated with people and is being operated by six Haitian doctors. Medical staff from the US are in Haiti now and plan on arriving in St. Ard in the near future.

Food, water, fuel and medical supplies are scarce to nonexistent. Gas per gallon is at \$15 USD and a sack of rice \$74 USD and rising. People are starting to exit Port au Prince in mass by land and by sea to seek out food, water and shelter. After feeding 500 people last weekend, Pastor Jean Marie used the last of his rice supply. The leadership in Haiti is fast becoming exhausted and look to us for financial and spiritual support.

Children of Hope, partnering with HELPS International are in the process of developing a plan to support community leaders on the ground in Haiti. Our focus area will be in Arcahaie where we have access to 10 acres of land with several buildings on it and we are actively planning to develop a secure temporary housing compound for families, single moms and their children. The families involved in this program will be displaced people from Port au Prince. Water, food, shelter and sanitation will be the main priorities in this program.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has announced plans to match funds donated to Registered Canadian Charities. The funds will be matched up to 50 million dollars. The matched funds will be pooled into the Haiti Relief Fund and administered by CIDA. Registered charities that currently provide programming in Haiti will be required to apply to access those funds. Applicants may request any amount from the pooled resources regardless of how many funds they have personally collected. With this in mind, *Children of Hope* and HELPS is currently working to complete the application that is required to access these funds. With or without the support of CIDA, *Children of Hope* and HELPS will move forward with this program. Ideally, we will complete the application and successfully receive \$200,000 for the program mentioned above.

If you would like to give to the emergency relief efforts in Haiti please donate funds to the "Haiti Relief Fund" – *Children of Hope*, 3275 Dolson Court, Mississauga, Ontario L5L 4K5. Receipts are issued for donations.

Mother Theresa stated this "If you can't feed one hundred, then just feed one."

"Give and it will be given to you." Luke 6:38

Yours Sincerely,

Karen Goodyear
Children of Hope
Canadian Coordinator

Children of Hope is a holistic child care program targeted towards meeting the essential need of poor and hurting children in Haiti.

Contact: Karen Goodyear, 3275 Dolson Court, Mississauga ON L5L 4K5,
905-820-5956 Email: kargoodyear@sympatico.ca