

Duvivier Project, Inc. Newsletter

September 2010



Greetings to all! It has taken me a very long time to send out information regarding the relief effort/ assistance provided to the Haitian people after the earthquake, especially regarding the container that was shipped to Haiti with items for distribution to those in need. I wish to extend the warmest thank you to those who assisted whether financially or through prayers to the relief effort, first from my family and the people who received assistance.

Just after the seism that killed thousands in Haiti and left countless homeless, friends and family called asking how they can help those affected by the disaster. I am very thankful to everyone who showed their concern for Haiti and my family. Although I have been well aware of the physical and economical situation of Haiti, it seems like I was not prepared to take serious action and to handle the emotional stress that came from seeing so many people in such a vulnerable situation.

It is not easy for someone who lives outside of Haiti to realize the situation in which the people are living. To watch people walking around constantly barefooted, see naked children running in the street is very difficult. The signs of devastation are everywhere with many children suffering from malnutrition among other ailments that plague them. In our visits to local families, we met people who were sleeping on dry banana leaves instead of a regular bed with mattress and it is sad that they did not even have money to purchase a “natte” a mat made locally with straw. It is very hard to describe the living condition of some of the people that I have met; and there seems to be very little that is being accomplished in the country although there are many organizations present... it could be due to the magnitude of the situation or a lack of preparedness for such crisis but whatever the reason, help is still needed in the country. The government does not seem to be able to see beyond Port-au-Prince and the rest of the country is left in the dark. There are few talks about reviving the agricultural sector which could help many and with the upcoming election the talk has been centered on politics.

There is very little motivation and it is hard to encourage people to change their minds about certain things as hope seems far. As the basic needs are lacking, so are others such as electricity even in the big cities. There is not a community effort to clean up the streets and so there continues to be trash everywhere and with the rains there have been reports of new diseases in and outside of the camps and they are spreading to other parts of the country. It is hard to witness the hardship that befell a country that only a few decades ago was beautiful although poor. I have met with university students who have lost their parents and other family members in the earthquake. They are now attending UNCH, the Christian university in Limbe, Haiti and have very little to wear as they lost everything in the quake. I was able to assist them with some of the clothing that was part of the container that we took to Haiti.

From churches, community groups and individuals, we received \$10,063.19 from the very first call we received post earthquake until we delivered the last piece of clothing to the community members.

In the beginning of our odyssey, we were told that the Haitian government was not going to tax those who were taking humanitarian aid to the country after the earthquake and so, it made it easier for us to plan our distribution in March but by the time the container made it to Cap Haitien; everything had changed and we ended up paying high fees to get the container out. As I write this, there are still hundreds of containers with humanitarian aid at the port waiting to clear customs so that those who are in need can receive much needed help.

I have highlighted below how the allocations were made during the distribution:

- Cash was given to some families who had lost their homes and family members
- Mattresses were given to others who were sleeping on the floor
- Shoes to those who were barefooted
- Food to most everyone who came to us on distribution day
- Wheelchairs were given to newly amputees who had no way of getting around

Some churches collaborated with us during the distribution and assisted us. Below is the list of places where goods were distributed: Pilate, Gobert, Port-Margot, Port-au-Prince, Borgne, Seminaire, Limbe, and Gonaives. We served a total of 5,200 people and below you will see pictures taken at the distribution sites.

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| The Monon Community church Inc has given ----- | \$ 1,456.30 |
| The Brookville Community Church Inc. ----- | \$ 3,332.88 |
| The Hillsdale Methodist Church ----- | \$ 797.01 |
| Perry Black--- ----- | \$ 300.00 |
| Mallon W Carlock ----- | \$ 50.00 |
| Fund raising from Boston ----- | \$ 868.00 |
| Second Baptist Church of Kokomo ----- | \$ 250.00 |
| Morningstar Church ----- | \$ 2,309.00 |
| Doug Vaughn and Family ----- | \$ 700.00 |
| Total | \$ 10,063.19 |

EXPENSES

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|---|------------|
| Paid in US dollars to Monarch shipping Company for container ----- | \$1,600.00 |
| Paid to the Baptist convention for Kitus ----- | \$ 220.00 |
| Paid to Firmente Fleuricourt container storage ----- | -\$ 350.00 |
| Purchase of clothing at goodwill ----- | \$ 300.00 |
| Rental truck to carry used clothing from Daytona /WPB plus fuel ----- | \$ 300.00 |
| Support given to one Haitian Family who lost his home in Haiti ----- | \$ 300.00 |
| Support given to one Haitian family losing one young child and home ----- | \$ 400.00 |
| Rental truck to carry stuffs from Cap Haitian to Plaisance ----- | \$ 900.00 |
| Labor to unload the container and load the trucks ----- | \$ 250.00 |

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|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Tax custom duty ----- | \$ 1,250.00 |
| Purchase of rice and beans ----- | \$ 2,000.00 |
| May's trip to Haiti ----- | \$ 480.00 |
| June's trip to Haiti ----- | \$ 260.00 |
| Haiti's Custom Advocacy fee ----- | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Total | \$9,610.00 |
| Balance | \$ 453.19 |

To God be the glory for all the things that we were able to accomplish with your generous contribution and we are glad that you listened to your hearts and helped. Words can barely express our gratitude. Although we helped a lot of people with your donations, there were still countless people that we could not assist and I can still see the faces of many that we could not help as I left town and those images still haunt me.

As I was not accompanied by my wife on that last trip when we were finally able to get the container out of customs, the distribution seemed like it would not be an easy feat for me. Without the assistance of a very courageous woman, Sister Carlo, this report would have had a different tone. I met this woman at the church where I serve in West Palm Beach, when she came to the US for a time of respite while grieving her daughter's death, a young woman who lost her life in the earthquake. God allowed us to help her and her son as much as we could and provided comfort to her during her time of need and in turn, she assisted first in the US by sorting out the donations en route to Haiti and filling up the container. She returned to Haiti shortly after the container was shipped in an effort to have some closure and reorganize her life. She called us while in Haiti and asked that we keep her abreast of the work that is taking place and to let her know when the distribution would take place so that she could be of assistance.

So, she met me at the airport upon my arrival in Haiti and traveled with me to Plaisance where she served. Without her presence, it would have been difficult to get someone in town to help us re-organize for the distribution. Having assisted with the packing of the donations, she knew the content of the different boxes and was able to delegate a lot of the work as well so that the people outside of Plaisance and Duvivier were able to get their packages in a timely manner. She led the local distribution with her organizing skills and things went as smooth as possible under the circumstances. We praise God for her courage and for her willingness to help and devotion to service.

Our thanks continue and are renewed daily to those who donated money, and time for this effort. We are indebted to Lori and her friends for organizing the fundraiser in Boston whose proceeds from that event went to assist those in dire need as the effort to rebuild Haiti continues.

As I complete this note, we are a week away from our next trip to Haiti where a group of volunteers from Morning Star Church in Indiana will be working on completing the fence on the property at Duvivier. Our next step is to build a warehouse where we can store construction materials as well as donated goods for future distribution.

Most of you are probably aware of the highly publicized elections that are coming in November; we are praying that the new leader will be man or woman of vision, a caring individual with concrete plans to help get the country in the sad place where it is currently. Most people who lost their homes are still leaving in tents and some are on the ground where their loved ones are buried. There are reports of increased acts of violence in the camps, new diseases that are spreading among the camp dwellers among other calamities that the Haitian people face. Please continue to pray for the Haiti, the US and the world at large.

Again, thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Sincerely,

Amos Myrtil, Pastor
Duvivier Project Inc.

For more pictures, visit www.duvivierproject.org.

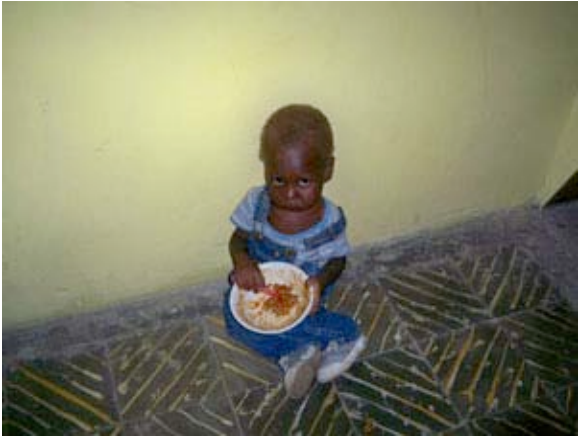


Distribution in Plaisance Haiti

Thank you to all who donated for
the Earthquake Relief effort. You
have affected the lives of many...







Thank you for your support of the
Plaisance, Duvivier Haiti community.

