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## Hope for Haiti

## **Press Release**

## Message to Hope for Haiti from the Ground

Naples, FL- Jan. 19, 2010- "Our response to this horrific disaster has been a smashing success. With Mikey leading the way we have been at the forefront of getting Haiti's main general medical center back in business after half of its buildings including the whole nursing school was destroyed and the hospital completely abandoned by its staff. With partnership with IMC (International Medical Corps), Mikey has Hope for Haiti right where we want to be now as part of this relief effort. The medical team has done a great job in getting things started at the hospital. Our nurses on this trip are excellent. They are doing such a great job that I think they are invaluable to the hospital running smoothly.

Everybody comes to them for almost everything. And they are very knowledgeable and well organized. Having said that, the ground is shifting again and we need to reassess and refocus our mission in Port-au-Prince. We can continue to support the mission with supplies +/- a limited medical staff through our partnership with IMC while not losing site of our primary mission. So it was nice to read about the mission to Les Cayes.

The situation at the General Hospital is changing. We are moving from total chaos to an organized chaos. Hope for Haiti has a lot to do with that. We can be very proud of our staff in Haiti for their response which has already made a significant impact on this recovery effort. And hopefully things will continue to improve. The Haitian staff is finally starting to show up. Hopefully, politics will not hinder the progress being made.

I just wanted to update the office and to let you know that all your hard work and tireless efforts are making a very big difference. Bill Clinton was here earlier and came through right where we are. I was putting a cast on a patient while he walked right by the bedside. One of Steve Shukan's pediatric patients was personally seen by President Clinton and examined by Dr. Gupta, that's how deeply involved Hope for Haiti is in this recovery effort."

- e-mail excerpt from Vladimir J. Mathieu, MD

For continuous updates, follow Hope for Haiti on Twitter at @HopeforHaitiFL, or via the organization's Web site www.hopeforhaiti.com.

Thank you! JoAnne, Elizabeth, Jennifer, Stephanie, Mikey, Patrick, Lee



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