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# Hope for Haiti®

## A Day of Remembrance & Reflection

"At night bushes are werewolves!," the literal translation of the Haitian proverb, "Nan fè bren, raje se lougawou," meaning that "Things seem worse when we are afraid." Now in Haiti, every shudder is an earthquake and every moment is lived in fear.

Today, Monday, July 12th 2010 at 4:53pm, marks the six-month anniversary of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake, followed by 52 aftershocks, that claimed the lives of over 300,000 people living in Haiti and crumbled the country's capital and surrounding communities. We are constantly reminded about that day, not only with the sight of a collapsed National Palace, fallen buildings, rubble in the streets, tent camps throughout the city with more than 1.5 million displaced families, but we are reminded because our minds won't let us forget the fear, the panic, the pain, the loss, and the sadness.



Last week, while visiting one of Hope for Haiti's supported schools in Port-au-Prince, a large truck drove by the school's compound. The vibration caused by the truck put the entire school in panic. Screaming came from inside the school while close to 600 primary and secondary students trampled one another to escape the building. Students were convinced that another earthquake had occurred and they refused to go back into classes. The students were crying and shaking with fear, many reliving their losses on January 12th. While looking at this sea of traumatized young faces, one couldn't help, but feel the pain and fear of the nation. Situations like this have happened throughout Haiti. Some cases as terrible as students jumping out of second floor school buildings because they think they feel a tremor. It is easy to see the physical damage of the earthquake, but the emotional trauma is what lies underneath the rubble.

This past Sunday ended the World Cup, an event that provided a desperately needed escape for Haiti. Today, it is back to reality and although a lot of visible progress has been made, we all know there is still a challenging road to physical and emotional recovery ahead.



Thanks to you, since January 12th, Hope for Haiti has raised approximately **\$5 million** to respond to the enormous needs of the Haitian people during this epic tragedy. After six months of emergency relief, Hope for Haiti has developed a phased plan of action that is responsibly and effectively executing our current and future recovery goals for the next three-years. Below we have outlined our past and current activities and our projected 1-3 year goals, with the knowledge that the scope of our response will continue to evolve as the needs of the Haitian people change throughout the on-going recovery and rebuilding with national and international support.

### **Emergency & Relief Action (1-6 months):**

#### **1. Continue safe delivery and distribution of emergency supplies.**

In just the past 6 months, alone Hope for Haiti, has delivered and distributed over \$30 million worth of medications, medical supplies, food, water, tents, and construction materials to over 60 health care sites, including over a dozen IDP camps within and outside of Port-au-Prince. This delivery and distribution network has continued and has transferred over from cargo and private planes, to shipping containers to the country's capital where Hope for Haiti staff quickly and safely stores, sorts, and distributes supplies specific to the needs of each location.

#### **2. Providing assistance to Internally Displaced People (IDPs).**

In addition to providing in-kind supplies, Hope for Haiti has continued to send medical volunteers to assist in IDP camps, and within the General Hospitals in Port-au-Prince and Les Cayes. Hope for Haiti has also assembled a strong Haitian medical and support team to help care for the medical and public health needs of over 10,000 people currently residing at the Don Bosco Camp in Carrefour.

#### **3. Fostering private & public partnerships and coordinated relief efforts.**

Hope for Haiti has been working closely with partner organizations within and outside of Haiti to leverage skills and resources in transportation, water & sanitation, healthcare, and education, to best serve the Haitian people during this crisis. This coordinated effort is critical for establishing a short and long-term recovery strategy.

#### **4. On-going needs assessments and site evaluations of all programs.**

Pre-earthquake, Hope for Haiti, was helping support 37 schools (12,000 children and 500 teachers) and over 60 healthcare sites throughout the southern peninsula. Hope for Haiti staff have been assessing each program site, documenting their needs and the impact of the earthquake, and talking with the community about their local recovery efforts.

#### **5. Implementing temporary structures to rebuild program capacity.**

Hope for Haiti is actively supporting our current programs to quickly build them back up to their

previous capacity. For many of our schools, this means providing tents, benches, chalkboards, and food, to start classes again. In the meantime, rubble removal has begun for structures that have collapsed, temporary structures are being constructed, and long-term plans for reconstruction are being developed in concert with the goals of the local community and the Ministry of Education.

### **Recovery & Development (1-3 years):**

**1. Expand medical care and public health outreach within program service area.**

Increasing and sustaining current shipping and distribution of needed medications and medical supplies is critical to continuing to support national and private healthcare centers to provide quality medical services to the poorest of the poor. Hope for Haiti wants to implement a strong public health program that is accessible to all of Hope for Haiti's program sites, especially integrated into the on-going education program.

**2. Strengthen and grow capacity within our education program.**

Hope for Haiti hopes to expand its education program by increasing the number of students attending school as well as improving the quality and comprehensive nature of the services provided to not only students, but also teachers and parents.

**3. Construction and repairs to all affected program buildings.**

In three years, Hope for Haiti will complete all reconstruction efforts of schools and healthcare centers destroyed by the earthquake, having accommodated the increase in capacity needs.

**4. Expand capacity for clinical services offered at the Hope for Haiti Infirmary.**

The city of Les Cayes has welcomed over 100,000 new residents who have fled from the earthquake's epicenter to seek shelter, food, water, and medical attention. To meet this increase in population's demand for healthcare services, Hope for Haiti hopes to double our current patient capacity and increase medical services by hiring more Haitian medical staff, strengthening our lab and diagnostic testing capabilities, continued distribution of medical supplies and medications, and sustained monthly mobile medical missions.

**5. Enhance and expand inter-organizational partnerships and coordination.**

Hope for Haiti strongly believes in being able to do more together. We will continue to build strong partnerships within the areas of education, nutrition, healthcare, and emergency relief, to strengthen the quality and support of our on-going programs. We are looking for strong synergies within the private and public sectors that can provide value-added services to our supported schools, and nutrition and healthcare sites.



Words can't describe our gratitude to you for your generous response over these difficult past six months and we hope that you stay a part of our continued recovery and development efforts. From everyone at Hope for Haiti and all of our beneficiaries, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your continued support, thoughts, and prayers. Please join us today in remembering and honoring the lives lost and families affected on January 12th as the nation continues to heal.

*Lespwa Fe Viv-  
"Hope gives one the strength to carry on."*