



Hope for Haiti®

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local CEO Issues \$10,000 Matching Gift Challenge for Zika Virus Response

Naples, Florida – Hope for Haiti, a Naples, FL-based international non-profit received some heartwarming news in advance of the Valentine’s Day holiday. As the organization responds to the Zika virus outbreak in Haiti, a local CEO couldn’t help but respond to the organization’s call on Friday to reach 200 women that are currently pregnant to keep them Zika free.

Greg DeLaere, CEO of VIA Information Tools, Inc. (www.via-it.com), offered a special matching gift challenge to Hope for Haiti- he would match donations up to \$10,000, effectively doubling the organization’s goal: “It has been weighing on me, as Haiti does not have the resources to deal with this issue on a grand scale...The effect on pre-born children is dramatic and permanent, making conditions around raising a family in Haiti that much more difficult.”

According to Vladimir Mathieu, MD, a doctor with Millennium Physician Group and a Hope for Haiti Board Member: “Expectant mothers in Haiti have virtually no means of protecting themselves against this virus, as many of them live in what we would consider to be very basic shelters and have limited access to public health resources.” Because of Hope for Haiti’s in-country team (50+ strong in Haiti) and its well-positioned programs in education, nutrition & healthcare, clean water, infrastructure and economy, Hope for Haiti is able to effectively respond to crises like this that overwhelmingly affect the poor.

Hope for Haiti is actively coordinating with the CDC-Haiti and the Haitian Ministry of Public Health to respond to the crisis and reach pregnant women with critical education and prevention tools. At a cost of \$50 each, Hope for Haiti will be able to provide life-saving Zika Prevention Maternity Kits to expectant mothers, which include bug repellent, water purification tablets, educational materials and treated bed nets.

Hope for Haiti is also looking for donations of 30-40% DEET (non-aerosol) mosquito repellent. The [lotion](#) or [pump spray](#) can be purchased online via AmazonSmile (choose Hope for Haiti and the organization will receive 0.5% of the price of your purchase).

To learn more about Hope for Haiti's response and for additional resources, please visit www.hopeforhaiti.com.

About Hope for Haiti

Hope for Haiti is a Naples, Florida, based 501(c)(3) charitable organization that has been committed to serving the Haitian people for 26 years with the mission to improve the quality of life for the Haitian people, particularly children. Our programs build capacity in five core areas in the greater South of Haiti: education, healthcare & nutrition, clean water, infrastructure and economy. By building long-term partnerships, Hope for Haiti connects, heals, and empowers communities on the path toward sustainability. Hope for Haiti is a 4-star rated charity by [Charity Navigator](#) and is a participant at the Gold Level through the [GuideStar Exchange](#), two leading independent evaluators recognizing the organization's transparency and careful stewardship of donor resources.