

HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORTS

UP-DATE FEBRUARY 1, 2010

JOHN L. KACHELMAN, JR.

As our efforts in responding to the Haitian earthquake continue I have the following developments that I want to report to you. Thank you for your concern and response to this catastrophe. I am proud of the Lord's Church as her response has eclipsed all others. The other day I was talking with Channel 7 and the reporter made this comment to me, "Do you know what other Churches are doing? I have been calling around and everything I hear goes back to the actions of churches of Christ?" While she was aware of responses from different churches she was impressed with the scope of our efforts and it seemed to her that the churches of Christ response was singular. That is a great compliment!

Developments in transportation

We have developed two sources of transportation into Haiti that relief items will utilize to get the needed supplies to those that are in need:

- *The OFR transportation assist program utilizing USAID operations*

This program is designed to pay port-to-port transportation expenses. The shipper is expected to pay door-to-port and port-to-door transportation. Thus we would be expected to pay to get the container from the door of loading to the port of departure and then from the port of departure to the door of delivery. Our containers will go into the Dominican Republic (DR) and then be trucked into Haiti where our storage facilities are located. We have arrangements to utilize the UN's transport trucks to get the containers in DR and then cross into Haiti. Under agreements the UN's trucks will not be help up by either DR or Haitian Customs but waved through the checkpoints. The UN will also provide and pay for the transportation charges once the containers reach DR. This leaves us with only the expenses of getting the containers to the port of departure. At this point we have agreed to ship EIGHT cargo containers (40 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet). These containers can hold a maximum of 40,000 pounds.

- *Direct airlift into Port-au-Prince (PAP) utilizing military C-130s*

We immediately began exploring ways to use prior connections in the military to fly food directly into Haiti and utilize our military to help secure distribution so those in need would receive the food. Friday I received good news that this is developing. The deployment procedure has finalized and we are being told that essential materials are beginning to approach a sufficient level. This frees up available space that can be made for our items. Because of generous compassion we have 84,000 pounds of rice and about 20,000 pounds of canned foods, infant formula and baby food palletized and ready to go. Items delivered via these direct flights will be distributed by our military and assisted by our brethren. At this point we must get the food to Homestead AFB where it will be palletized for C-130 deployment. When I first heard of this I began thinking of the transportation cost involved in getting the 84,000 pounds of rice from Stuttgart, AR to Homestead AFB. Thankfully a Texas contact, that Kathy Cadden knows, has volunteered to pay the trucking expenses (it will require 2 semis)!

Actions this week in Judsonia, AR

This will be a full week that began yesterday with our snow/ice schedules. We have been expecting hundreds more Family Buckets to be brought from congregations in Arkansas. The winter storm of last weekend made it impossible for some congregations to get the buckets to the LIFE RESOURCES INTERNATIONAL warehouse. Here is a bullet list of actions that will occur in Judsonia this week:

- Hundreds of Family Buckets will arrive (the downtown Judsonia congregation met after our rescheduled worship to work on buckets and will pack 100+ tonight; other congregations will bring their buckets)
- 1,040 special buckets will arrive on Tuesday from the East Brainerd congregation in Chattanooga, TN. These buckets have a lid that screws on/off and are excellent storage for food (we will pack rice in these)
- 42,000 pounds of rice will be delivered and unloaded and stacked

- Packing 42,000 pounds of rice into 1,040 buckets
- Labels for each bucket with messages of hope and comfort and the church's name will arrive Tuesday and need to be affixed to 1,300 Family Buckets as well as the 1,040 rice buckets
- Our first container will be loaded Thursday or Friday with Family Buckets, personal hygiene bags, and rice buckets

Mabelvale Church of Christ delivers buckets to Judsonia...

From: Dale Morris

Sent: Monday, February 01, 2010 9:05 AM

To: 'John L. Kachelman, Jr'

Subject: RE: the Buckets

John, one of our members is a driver for Fed-Ex. The company has allowed him to use one of their trucks to transport our buckets to Judsonia. Last night we loaded up the truck, and he plans to drive to Judsonia either today or tomorrow to deliver 132 buckets. The driver is one of our deacons, Mike Moore, and will need to co-ordinate his arrival there with some of you in Judsonia. Is there a cell phone number or some number at which he can make contact to be sure he will have access to the container on arrival? Please let us know. Many thanks for all your efforts to co-ordinate all of this. Dale

Actions in Henderson, TN

When news of our efforts

Columbiana church were first beginning to circulate I received contact from brother Dick Mason, an elder of the church in Columbiana, Ohio. Brother Mason asked how the church there could help with the Haiti relief efforts. They decided to put together Family Buckets and hygiene bags. They were going to bring them to Judsonia but I told them the Henderson, TN collection site would be closer for them. Last night Dick sent this email and the pictures at the end of this report.

From: sam4coc@comcast.net [mailto:sam4coc@comcast.net]

Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2010 3:37 PM

To: Jan Sharp

Cc: Kachelman, John

Subject: Columbiana Church Haiti Relief Status

Hi Jan,

Here is our status;

The trailer is loaded and stored in a heated garage. It contains: 155 Family Buckets as well as other buckets that contain 82 male personal packs and 112 female personal packs.

3 buckets of medical items, about 10 boxes of various sizes with various numbers of items that go into buckets and packs that were left over from complete packages. (The buckets of packs are identified and the numbers contained in them are listed) The boxes are marked on the outside with contents but not amounts.

Two of our brethren are leaving early on Tuesday morning for Henderson, I gave them your cell phone number and they will call you when they are about an hour away. They do plan on staying the night with you. Thanks for that. They are Dave Yohn and Ron Brewer.

Our Treasurer is still collecting monies and tallying things so when that is done we will forward a check for the residual funds that we have collected.

I've enclosed a couple of pictures of our efforts. May God get the glory.

In His Service

Dick Mason, Columbiana



Here is the link to the Columbiana brethren's web site: <http://www.columbianacofc.org/>

Actions this week in Columbus, MS

We are collecting food and preparing for the first container that will be loaded this week. On the first container Kathy will load 21,000 pounds of rice and complete filling the container with the Family Buckets that have been brought to the warehouse there. Over the weekend Kathy worked to secure approximately 42,000 pounds of dried beans and some other commodities that will be shipped via the USAF into PAP.

Distribution Plans

Our efforts are dependent upon the reality of distribution. Far too many have rushed into collections, solicitations, and shipping into Haiti without a well-thought plan for distribution. Over the last week we have been assessing and discussing the most effective way for distribution that will accomplish these objectives:

- Bring glory to God through His Church
- Deliver relief items that are needed
- Assure the safety of those involved in delivery
- Make sure the commodities do not end up spoiled or stolen

Our governing concern has been how we can assist our Haitian brethren so they can respond to this catastrophe. We do not want to invade and take over—we want to support our Haitian brethren in the work they are doing. In order to accomplish this we have been discussing various approaches by which the local churches can be the points in our efforts. I am very glad to report that within the past few days the distribution plans have gelled and I have communicated these plans with Washington.

Our initial approach will be focused on two locations to ship containers into and then disperse the commodities through a network of congregations. We will ship into Gonaives and Port-au-Prince. Our plans are still being formed but I am very impressed with how things are developing. Below are email communications discussing the distribution schemes that our Haitian brethren have developed. There are more details developing in this and I will gladly share these with you at a later time.

Rejoice in the capabilities of our brethren!

➤ *The Distribution in Port-au-Prince via Son Light Orphanage*

I asked Roberta to give me a distribution plan for containers shipped to the orphanage. She sent this reply that identifies the congregations and the numbers that will benefit from the shipments.

From: roberta audate
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2010 9:58 PM
To: jkachelman@centurytel.net; jan sharp; jesse robertson
Subject: RE: Haiti Relief Operations

John,

We can receive 2 containers. I have a distribution plan which uses brethren to help me distribute and package food for distribution. We have 9 sites where we want to hand out food to those in need and to the church. These sites are in the city of Port au Prince and Carrefour the epicenter of the earthquake. We have large trucks for transporting and enough space to receive the 2 containers in my yard. We have adequate security for this operation too. If you need further information, please let us know. I look forward to working together lifting our Lord's name high.

Praising Him,
 Roberta

Food Distribution Plan, Son Light Children's Home

Thank you for your help in providing for the needs of our hungry neighbors. We have great hopes that we can partner with you to deliver relief. We currently have a well established distribution matrix in place in the form of sister congregations and orphanages in and around Port au Prince. The numbers estimated are meals per month provided. I have indicated the person in charge of the location distributions.

1. Debbie Vanderbeek, Director of Thomaceau Orphanage. 3000 meals per month for neighboring community.
2. Jean Claubert Belton, Minister of Ganthier Church of Christ. 1000 meals per month for congregation of 200 people and neighboring community.
3. Widlord Thomas, Contact at Sonlight Children's Home, Santo 11. 4000 meals per month for orphanage of 30 children, church of 100 members, and nutrition center for 130 children 10 meals weekly, as well as food for neighboring community.
4. Alex St. Hubert, Varreaux Church of Christ in Cite Soliel. 1000 meals per month for 150 member congregation and neighboring communities.
5. Evands Pierre, Vilaj Solidarite Church of Christ. 1000 meals per month for 200 member congregation and neighboring communities.
6. Alain Derisse, Christ Roi Church of Christ. 500 meals per month for 100 member congregation and neighboring communities.
7. Yvon Innocent, Sarthe Church of Christ. 500 meals per month for 100 member congregation and neighboring communities.

We would love to be able to provide at least 11,000 meals per month through this matrix.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of partnering with us in this massive effort to provide much needed relief to the Haitian people. None of the food provided will be sold or bartered. Our efforts in the past have been very successful in directly reaching the hands of those in need.

Sincerely,
 Roberta Audate Edwards
 Director, Son Light Children's Home and Nutrition Center
 Santo 11, Croix des Bouquets
 Phone: 3441-4108

➤ *The distribution in Gonaïves*

I received a report from Dr. David Smith about the brethren's plans from this area and this is really encouraging to me. David sent the below plans and I talked with him earlier today and he said that in further communication with the brethren in this area even more encouraging news of their level-headed and practical planning is forthcoming. These brethren have made some really good plans and have secured storage that is very safe and have devised distribution plans that will get the items to those in greatest need. Here is David's earlier email and more on these plans will be coming in later reports:

From: David E Smith
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2010 6:49 AM
To: 'John L. Kachelman, Jr'; 'Smith, Phillip'
Cc: debbie@hopeforhaitischildren.org; 'Jesse Robertson'; 'Jan Sharp'; 'Hill, Tony SWL'; 'Tony & Robin Hill'; 'mike caldwell'; 'John L. Kachelman, Jr.'
Subject: Potential Gonaïves Plan
Importance: High

I finished a conversation with Pacius about the potential for receiving food in Gonaïves.

1. There have, indeed been many refugees to Gonaives area. The local hospital (it was the CARE warehouse facility before the 2008 flood which destroyed the downtown hospital); then changed to a hospital. Many/most of the hospital staff was moved out to Port au Prince to care for the PaP injured.
 - a. Only 10% or less of the Delmas church have come to Gonaives – they tend to go to their family homes which are dispersed throughout Haiti. Almost all of the mangos on our farm trees have been eaten by the refugees. The Bois Marchand chief, a very good friend, who has worked with us in many of our relief efforts with the children of the area in the past, has asked for help for all of these people who have come home to their relatives. The same is true at Poteau (where Pacius works with the church). The chief there has asked for help. The Poteau church building is full of refugees. Food is needed.
 - b. SUMMARY, many refugees in the area. Shortage of food
2. Gonaives port – 90 miles away from Port au Prince – up north
 - a. We have had a container there for months. The containers there are secured by the police and port authorities. It is possible to make trips back and forth there to get items from the containers (the usual way of doing business since there are no big cranes to unload them and/or big trucks (at least few trucks) to move them out).
 - b. The committee had already made plans to do that. If the deuce and a half truck from Healing Hands arrive in the future, then there might be a way to move larger amounts.
3. Committee overseeing planning
 - a. Poteau – two men who will be installed as elders in March – Oreste and Friton
 - b. Gonaives—Daniel Alexandre (preacher and nephew of Emmanuel – Pleasant Valley preacher for >20 years and supporter of Daniel) and Meseck (attorney judge); Emmanuel has been supportive of the discussions
 - c. Delmas members (from Port au Prince)
 - i. Jambon – Delmas PaP song leader
 - ii. Gerarad – prominent member at Delmas; media reporter who runs a school (he knows how to take pictures and help report!)
4. Distribution – echoing what Phil said, Pacius prefers not to have food distributed from his house due to hassle and security issues. Thus, food kept at the port and then trucked to the farm (secured there) and then to Poteau would be best.
 - a. Food could then be trucked from Gonaives (even though it is 90 miles away) at various intervals to the Sonlight and Thomazeau and other designated orphanages and to Delmas church members might turn out to be the most effective way to target relief (or at least a very effective way). We have a truck like Debbie's. If we were someday able to receive that deuce and a half (2 ½ ton) military truck [tomorrow I'll ask about this], then larger shipments could be made to PaP – depending on how long the food lasts. With food secure in the Gonaives port, food could be stretched out over the many long months ahead. This might be the best way to try to ensure a more steady supply for the longest period of time to those folks with whom we have the greatest concern.
 - b. Pacius shares concerns of many that food in the UN or other government facilities will not be available to the people that John has concerns about (NOTE FROM JOHN K—this concern is simple—the UN often receives food supplies but will not distribute these to those in need. In Darfur a UN food supply compound was within eyesight of starving masses but no food would be given to the hungry!). It is indeed good to try to protect a portion of the containers in situations that would potentially allow more directed shipments with trusted individuals in charge.
 - c. Jambon, Gerarad have a great loyalty to their people in Port au Prince as does Pacius. Pacius has a great allegiance to Debbie, the orphanage and their need.
 - d. TRIAGE – this is an awfully difficult job. There will be no perfect solutions. We will all be disappointed in some aspect of how this is carried out. I must say, however, that what we were able to accomplish with the flood distributions exceeded my expectations. Reporting by the

recipients was good. We had no internet, and we had few or no pictures. We hope to improve that now.

5. CONCLUSION

- a. This is what Gonaives can offer. It is not perfect. However, there are many people having input about what they plan to do with resources that they receive. Initially, there was suspicion that Pacius was receiving money from the US that was intended to go to Port au Prince, and there was probably suspicion that he would receive other resources intended for PaP. (Desperate people will certainly be suspicious when there are scarce resources). I told him to remind the people that any money that he has spent or distributed has come from our bank account in the country that was for our operations and not transferred (we will be transferring money later to cover these expenses).
- b. At this time, > 95% of the people in need in the area are NOT members of the Delmas church. Most of the aid would be distributed from our farm or from the Poteau or Gonaives Liberte street church (I cannot confirm that yet – that church is downtown and in the middle of a rough neighborhood; not the best place for large distribution, but potential. The needy people of the neighborhood would be pushing to get food and probably push away the refugees).
- c. The people and families who have received the refugees were hungry and low on food before the refugees arrived. Haitians share their food and resources. Some of the food will find its way into the hands of the local people who are hungry. We will have no control of that after the food is distributed.
- d. If food containers from Judsonia or from other points are sent, this is the plan that the committee has come up with. I do believe that these are good people who are struggling to come up with Haitian solutions that are best for the Haitian people involved. These are thoughts from Gonaives. There might be folks in PaP that have other thoughts.
- e. May we pray for wisdom for these men and women as they struggle to do the best they can in a terrible situation for which no manual was written previously for them.

David E. Smith, MD
 Haiti Christian Development Project
www.hcdp.net
 Heart Clinic Arkansas
 10100 Kanis Road
 Little Rock, AR 72205



Columbiana, OH



Columbiana, OH



Columbiana, OH



David Fletcher & Garry Neal bring 350+ buckets from
Levy and CAC