

# HELP HAITI NOW

## Mission Accomplished: Nov. Trip to Haiti

Thank you! Your prayer support and donations made Nov. 9-17, 2005 a successful trip.



*Together we are providing food, water, medicine, shoes, clothing, and educational support to the poorest of the poor.*

The hardest part about traveling to Haiti is getting ready. Our Haitian brothers and sisters have *nothing* and it's stressful determining and packing the most valuable supplies. I am always overjoyed when I get 200-300 lbs. of luggage checked onto the plane. But the journey has only begun! I pray a lot, from the beginning to the end of a mission trip. Despite little problems along the way, everything always works out. Jesus, Mary, and a fleet of angels are with me.

When I arrived in Port-Au-Prince, Ba and Nicole were waiting. Thank God, again! Nicole drove us two hours to Montrouis where I stayed at her American-style home when we weren't working in the mountains.

## 87th Place / Food and Water Distribution

The next day (Thurs., Nov. 10) we woke early as you do in Haiti -- you can hear roosters crowing all the time. Ba and I went to the market to buy food for this needy community of 300 that we help. We bought one-week's supply:

- 2 large 50kg bags of rice (\$60)
- 36 cups of black beans (\$30)
- 36 sticks of soap (\$15)
- 12 bottles of cooking oil (\$15)

Our driver, Bady, joined us in dividing everything into 36 portions. Each family received a share plus a frozen chicken breast I carried from Florida.

All were happy to see us arrive at 87th Place. People came running after the truck. Martin led a Creole song "Mercy, Savior" and a prayer. Ester, whom we established as "Chief" on prior trips, took over and handed out everything. I gave the kids Tootsie Pops. They told us about their medical needs, mostly stomach problems. Two people died from malaria the week before. We agreed to return with medicine for malaria and other ailments.

Ester also asked if we could pay for two of her children to go to school. There is a tiny school nearby. The cost would be \$125 each for a uniform and tuition. There's probably more kids at 87th Place that need money for school. After all this, Ester, a bunch of kids, and I went swimming in their most beautiful lagoon.

We returned the next week with medicine and water. We discussed their great need for an above-ground cistern to hold water. Ba's brother could direct the construction and estimated it would cost \$1500 U.S.

## St. Marc to Goyovier

Ba and Martin arranged for Pastor George to drive us to St. Marc on Friday and then up the mountains to Goyovier. We spent 2-3 hours in the dusty, hot town buying supplies: medicine, water, food, lanterns, blankets, chairs, paper, and much more. As we started up the mountains to Goyovier the 4-wheel drive didn't work. We had no choice but to return to St. Marc to figure out another ride. There is NO transportation up and down the mountains. The road is very rough. Everyone walks and carries cargo on their head or on donkeys. Fortunately, a friend of Thelus, Pastor Galilee, showed up with a Jeep and agreed to drive us for \$120 U.S.

Next time I've decided we should have the people in Goyovier send donkeys down to meet us to carry the supplies while our team walks up. The Haitian team does it all the time. I've walked down two times and suffered sore legs for days (so do the Haitians!) -- so hiking up is going to be some great exercise! It's about 10 steep miles on loose rock.

We arrived at the top of the mountains in Goyovier after dark. Many people from this remote community of 10,000 came to welcome us. We lit lanterns, put on jeans and jackets, and spent several hours setting up the pharmacy.





## Goyovier / Medical Clinic

The medical clinic, Centre de Sante - Help Haiti Now de Goyovier, officially opened Sat., Nov. 12, 2005. For four days people were waiting outside when we awoke. Thelus examined over 200 patients. My lack of Creole language skills limited me to smiles, hugs, and prayers.

Living in Goyovier is like camping. There is no electricity, and cell phones don't work. When the sun goes down the temperature drops and it is cold at night (40-50°F in Nov.). There's four rooms in the clinic: exam office, pharmacy, bedroom, and small kitchen area. We slept on air mattresses. Ba said that if I brought more people to Haiti he and the guys would sleep outside. There's an outdoor shower. There's also an outhouse/latrine. The first time I went to use it the door was covered with what looked like leeches -- so I didn't use it very often.

## Goyovier / School

Goyovier Community School is operating in full gear. I was surprised to see just how crowded it is and was thankful for our mission, realizing that more than half of the students wouldn't be there if we weren't helping. They expect the enrollment of 504 students to swell to 750 students next year.

In September we sent money to build bench desks so 150 kids didn't have to stand during class. They all have seats now but are very squished. There's about seven classrooms; some are very tiny concrete cells. There is one large room which is divided by chalkboards into several classrooms. Two classes are held outside with a tarp overhead.

The director prepared a list with information about each class. There are 11 grades. Beginning level classes are the largest with students as old as 16.



Please think of groups whose members would monthly donate \$10 each to support the teachers.

### Additional School Needs

1. 15 calculators (teachers)
2. 15 staplers (teachers)
3. 30 protractors (students)



## Our Haitian Team



- **Chilet ("Ba") Joseph**, Coordinator in Haiti and Vice President of Help Haiti Now. Ba has helped missionaries for 15 years. He is dedicated to our team and our primary contact.



- **Thelus Saint-Elie**, Physician's Assistant in medical clinics in St. Marc and Montrouis. He grew up in Goyovier and is fulfilled by serving his community.



- **Martin Cangé**, book-keeping, patient information, medical assistant, and a zillion jobs to help our mission and team including prayer leader.



- **Magalie Cangé**, Martin's wife, a nurse, and everyone's friend. Magalie works in the pharmacy and also cooks a good meal of rice and beans for us every day.



### Ongoing Needs:

1. Ibuprofen, Tylenol
2. Vitamins
3. Medicine
4. Tennis Shoes
5. Clothes
6. Our Monthly Expenses:  
\$630 - Teachers' pay  
\$300 - Clinic medicine

*The kids at 87th Place and Goyovier will not get toys at Christmas. The families are very poor. But we can help them at least have a good meal on this holiday (which they happily celebrate). All donations of money will be sent to provide food in the two communities we serve.*



## Upcoming Trips to Haiti

- January '06. Repeat the Nov. activities and fine-tune transportation and lodging plans.

- March '06. Small group trip. If funds permit, build the above-ground cistern at 87th Place.



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God Bless You and Merry Christmas!

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