

Sionfonds for Haiti



January 7, 2011

One year ago over 200,000 people died in Haiti in a few short minutes. You answered the call for help from those who survived by supporting Sionfonds for Haiti. On this, the one year anniversary of the earthquake, we would like to share with you news of the ongoing work of Sionfonds and thank you for your continued support.

Haiti needs Education and Jobs

Immediately after the earthquake, sending aid, food, shelter and supplies to Haiti was our priority. Within weeks we were again focusing on our goal of creating sustainable change in Haiti through education, nutrition, employment and health care. With your help we were able to consistently feed over 500 school children each day. As our school populations have grown, so have our teaching and cooking staff. We support a new school in Kenscoff. Educating and feeding Haiti's children is an investment in the future. Your donations to Sionfonds for Haiti are an investment in these smiling faces and the future of Haiti and the world.



Please consider donating now.

Thank you,

Annie Blackstone
Sionfonds for Haiti
US Director



We Have a New Website and Logo

The website allows us to keep you updated on our work and simplifies

communication for our all volunteer staff here in the states. Who we are, what we do and why, our projects, and stories about the people whose lives are touched by our organization can all be found on the new website. We are constantly updating content and adding photos, slideshows and blogs to the website. It is a social networking site that allows you to join a group of people with common interests, and to ask questions of the members or get messages about the student you sponsor or the next medical trip.

Please visit www.sionfondsforhaiti.org today to make a donation and become a member of our online community.

Donate by mail to P.O. 79 Canyon Ca. 94516 or at our website at www.sionfondsforhaiti.org



Medical Trips

Sionfonds led two medical expeditions to Haiti in 2010. The teams consisted of dentists, doctors, midwives, nurses, and lay personnel. We came from

Canada, the US and Haiti, to provide acute care, medications, dental care and education. Our mobile clinics served 8 rural communities in Haiti, most along the southern coast, that do not have access to medical care.

We treat hundreds of people each day, many of whom have never seen a dentist and rarely seen a doctor. Everyday we save lives. Our trip in November coincided with a hurricane and the beginning of the cholera epidemic. We came prepared with medication and 3000 educational handouts on cholera prevention and treatment. Education is the cornerstone of all of Sionfonds' work in Haiti. We teach prevention and treatment of cholera, public health, HIV prevention, and dental hygiene at each mobile clinic. Our next Medical trip will be this April. We are now accepting applications for team members.

The Schools



We were able to reopen our schools in Masson and Cavaillon within weeks of the earthquake, and consistently serve our students a meal each day. The enrollment at all of our schools has increased. Families are migrating away from the cities and nutritious school lunches attract hungry children. Our nutrition program helps families that are struggling to feed their children. We have a new school in Kenscoff, and continue to fund the education of 800 children in Belle Anse. Due to the hurricane in November we were unable to visit our schools. We hope to have updates on sponsored students soon.

Arts and Agriculture



Sionfonds' sewing school has been teaching sewing to women in Belle Anse for over 5 years. This year we were able to buy 10 new peddle sewing machines. We have formed a partnership with Haiti Peacequilts, an amazing organization that helps women form quilting collectives and market their products. Our graduates and students will be learning to sew things that will be sold at Macy's and other retail outlets, as well as to create amazingly beautiful quilts that will also be for sale. We have plans to expand our goat giving program to include a rabbit breeding program. More about these and all our exciting projects is on our website.

Nursing



Haiti had one nurse for every 10,000 people before the earthquake. Many nurses and nursing students perished in the earthquake. Haiti needs nurses now more than ever. We are happy to announce that in December another of our nursing students graduated. We now have three graduates of our nursing student program. We pay the tuition and expenses of our students while they attend school. When the earthquake left all of them homeless we rented a house for them to live in while completing their studies. Our nursing students got some on the job training by assisting us on the November medical trip.

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