



Haiti

2 Year Update

January 2012

Haiti Earthquake: Two Years Later

“The Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC)’s response to the devastating earthquake of January 12, 2010 has impacted many more lives and garnered much more resources than anyone on CRWRC’s International Disaster Response team could have anticipated,” said Ken Little, Senior Project Manager of International Disaster Response. “The response has been broad and complex, but has always been seen through the lens of the families and communities whose lives were torn apart. God has been, and continues to be faithful.”

In the early days after the earthquake, CRWRC, and other agencies of the Christian Reformed Church, worked with their local partners under the umbrella of *Sous Espwa*, which means “source of hope.” Through the generous support of churches and individuals in North America, they responded to the immediate emergency needs with food assistance, water, and temporary shelter.

As the magnitude of the destruction became evident and additional funds came in from individuals, churches and organizations around the world, CRWRC quickly recognized that there was a need to add more capacity to implement its growing response. Staff and volunteers from North America were dispatched to Haiti to assist. After completing early needs assessments, it was determined that the CRWRC Disaster Response team would concentrate its efforts in Léogâne, an area that was near the epicentre of the earthquake and where there seemed to be little assistance available from other disaster response agencies.

Since then, a multi-faceted ministry has been carried out. It included the distribution of tarps, emergency food, and hygiene supplies. It involved the construction of latrines, wells, and thousands of homes. It also included psycho-social counseling and the restoration of livelihoods. On the following pages are a few stories that demonstrate the impact that you and CRWRC have had in the Léogâne area over the past two years.

Providing Shelter

In June 2010, CRWRC began constructing wood-framed earthquake-resistant houses to replace some of the thousands of homes that were destroyed by the quake. This became a major thrust of CRWRC's response.

Using the designs of a Dutch engineering firm, CRWRC partnered with a local Haitian company to develop a home that would meet UN standards for earthquake and hurricane resistance. CRWRC also encouraged the home owners and local community organizations to contribute "sweat equity" into building the houses. To date, CRWRC has been able to construct over 2,500 such homes and plans to complete a total of 3,150 homes by June 2012.

Working Collectively with the Government to Build Houses

A key component of CRWRC's successful housing program has been partnership with the municipal government of Léogâne and civil society groups. CRWRC regularly reports to the municipal government on its activities and also involves them

in their celebrations. This includes personal meetings with government officials as well as reports that are sent to city staff members and shared with others.

"We have never had a better relationship with another non-government organization than we have with CRWRC," one of the Mayor's staff recently stated.

This relationship helps ensure the long-term success of CRWRC's work. For example, CRWRC recently worked with Mayor Santos Alexis to reach out to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who have occupied public places in Léogâne. These families approached CRWRC and asked for permanent shelters. While CRWRC wanted to respond, they knew that the families did not own the land upon which they were squatting. CRWRC did not want to build homes for people without also ensuring that they had legal right to the land and wouldn't later be forced off of it by others.

"Especially where there are situations of tent camps, we make sure that the government is right there with us to ensure that the people have clear access to land," explained Willys Geffrard, CRWRC Disaster Response Manager in Haiti.

CRWRC directed people to the mayor. Upon hearing that the families needed legal access to the land before CRWRC would build homes, the mayor provided each family with a certificate to occupy what was formerly public land. CRWRC was then able to build houses for them.

Litant Receives 2,500th CRWRC House By Cleeford Dalce

Litant is 45 years old. He is a single father who lives with his 15 year-old daughter, Mirlande Charles. Before the earthquake, Litant and Mirlande lived with Litant's sister. When that house was destroyed, the father and daughter were forced to take refuge under a tarp. When it rained, they got wet. Today, Litant and Mirlande are living in the 2,500th house built by CRWRC in Léogâne.

"Our local organization in the Bas-Pere community, called the Organization of Young Progressives in Bas-Pere, advocated on my behalf and I became a recipient of a CRWRC house," said Litant.



Willys Geffrard (right) with Léogâne Mayor Santos Alexis.



Litant and his daughter in front of the house's frame structure.

As with the other homes that CRWRC built in the community, Litant was required to clear the land and build the foundation for his new home. To do this, he and his daughter hauled river gravel from a great distance away. They also received some assistance from others in the community.

"I feel bad that I could not do more of the foundation work myself," he added. "There is not much of the right kind of sand and gravel on or near our land."

Through Litant and Mirlande's hard work, the assistance of their community, and the generosity of people like you, CRWRC was able to complete the family's home.

"I want to thank CRWRC for this wonderful house. We really like it!"

Pride of Ownership

By Cleeford Dalce

After receiving their wood-framed, earthquake-and-hurricane-resistant homes from CRWRC, many families dedicated their own time and labor to improving and personalizing their houses. Money is carefully saved for each renovation project, and as you walk through the villages in Léogâne you can really feel the sense of pride and ownership that people have in their homes.

Gregory Hector is a great example. He and his family are recipients of a CRWRC house in Macombe. After his house was completed, Gregory began to improve the structure. He added a porch with a traditional "gingerbread" trim as well as two extra bedrooms and a room which is used as a beauty salon for his wife's business.

"My wife and I now work together from our new home," he said. "The beauty studio has been decorated to welcome the many new customers. I help my wife run the shop. The money we have been able to earn supports our daily needs and provides money for us to send our son, in addition to another needy child, to school. We thank God for sending an organization like CRWRC to our community. It has played an important role in improving the life of our family!"



After home-owners laid the foundation for their new home, the components for CRWRC's wood-framed houses were delivered. Crews of Haitian workers then assembled the 2,500 houses to date.



Homeowners are taking pride in their new houses — painting them, building fences and making additions. A true community spirit is being built.

Strengthening Communities and Improving Livelihoods

By Cleeford Dalce

In January 2011, CRWRC began a three-year *Disaster Rehabilitation* program to restore livelihoods and assets to those in the Léogâne area. Called “Livelihoods for Earthquake Affected People in Haiti,” or LEAP, this program is helping families become self-sufficient. It includes micro-loans to merchants in the town and suburbs of Léogâne, small business support, training and credit for business recovery, as well as an agriculture rehabilitation program to help 2,000 farm families in the mountains south of Léogâne.

Francky Juillet is the president of a community organization called Rassemblement des Paysans pour le developpement de Gerard-Trouin. Last November, he was visited by CRWRC “LEAP” program manager, Jeff Cosico. He listened politely to what Jeff had to say, but admitted later that he was skeptical.

Mr. Juillet is from Gerard-Trouin, a remote community located off the Bainet road high in the mountains above Léogâne. His village had not received any real attention from government or non-government organizations in many years. In fact, no agricultural agents had visited their area since 1984. Since then, many international organizations had come, done surveys and made token gestures or given promises of assistance — never to be heard from again.

Mr. Juillet admitted that he was pleasantly surprised when CRWRC staff returned to Gerard-Trouin in February 2011 with a full description of how the



In the remote community of Gerard-Trouin, goats have helped restore people’s livelihoods and prevented families from having to migrate to the city to look for work.

LEAP program would work alongside his community organization to implement several projects. In April and May, banana plants were delivered along with training on how best to plant and care for banana trees. CRWRC also provided the community with goats and training on how to properly vaccinate and care for the animals.

“Now we have only the highest praise for CRWRC” said Mr. Juillet. “They promised and they delivered when so many others did not. They are people of integrity and we love working with them.”

Word has spread throughout the region about the work CRWRC is doing. Recently, CRWRC’s work was featured on a broadcast of Haitian National Radio. During the broadcast, a local government official for Gerard-Trouin spoke highly of CRWRC and regarded it as a “model” program for disaster rehabilitation work in Haiti. In the same breath he shared that he is pleased that, because of the goat program CRWRC introduced, many of the residents of his community will not have to migrate to Port-au-Prince to look for work to earn their livelihood.

Special Thanks to Volunteers

CRWRC’s response to the earthquake in Haiti has been made possible, in part, thanks to the time, talents, and expertise of many volunteers. George & Toni Fernhout and Ron & Lauris Fuller each spent four months serving in Haiti as International Relief Managers. Lee Mys also served as an IRM for a few weeks. In addition to these volunteers, 100 people went to Haiti and participated on short-term mission trips.



Concluding the Earthquake Response

CRWRC will wind up much of its disaster response activities in Haiti by July 2012. At that point, the LEAP program will still continue for another 1.5 years, and discussions are underway as to how it will be integrated with CRWRC's longer-term development work in Haiti.

"When I revisited our projects in Haiti a few weeks ago it was amazing and gratifying to see CRWRC-constructed latrines, water pumps and especially

houses everywhere — 2,500 houses in fact, sheltering over 12,000 people who had lost their homes in the earthquake," said Wayne de Jong, CRWRC Director of Disaster Response and Rehabilitation.

CRWRC's Disaster Response Manager in Haiti, Willys Geffrard, agrees. "Looking around at the two-year mark, it is amazing what God has enabled us to accomplish. It demonstrates God's faithfulness to the families of Léogâne through CRWRC."

Earthquake Response At A Glance

CRWRC's Disaster Response Team is focused on five target communities near Léogâne, Haiti: Masson, Luitor, Macombe, Croix des Peres, and Flon.

To date, CRWRC has provided:

- food to 4,603 households
- emergency funds to 2,331 households
- toolkits to 1,400 households
- 3,500 tarps to provide immediate shelter until homes could be rebuilt
- 21 wells
- 121 home repairs
- two water filtration units installed at two hospitals in Port-au-Prince
- training in leading psycho-social trauma counseling to nine men and nine women in addition to those trained through CRWRC's partnership with STAR
- 33 psycho-social sessions and trauma counseling activities, which benefitted 1,686 people (691 women, 550 men, 445 children)
- loans to 446 business people; 105 of these received second loans
- 15 small and medium enterprise groups will graduate this year from Partners Worldwide training
- 6 communities have constructed seedbanks
- farm tools such as hoes, machetes, and knives to 1,324 farmers
- seeds and seedlings for farmers including: black beans to 281 families, lima beans to 1,375 families, corn to 98 families, banana seedlings to 1,882 families.
- additional vegetable seeds such as eggplant, leek and mung beans to 205 families
- 1,591 female goats and 50 male goats to 12 communities
- 11 communities built tree nurseries
- 101,185 linear meters of contour canals constructed to prevent erosion
- \$250,000 to help Haitian partner agencies rebuild
- over 2,500 wood-framed, earthquake resistant homes

Special Thanks

CRWRC would like to thank the following funders for contributing to its Haiti Earthquake Response over these last two years:

- individuals, churches, schools, and businesses across the United States and Canada
- ACT for Peace Australia*
- Canadian Baptist Ministries
- Canadian Reformed World Relief Fund
- Disciples of Christ USA*
- Canadian Foodgrains Bank
- Crossroads Christian Communications
- Dorcas Aid International**
- ERDO
- ICCO & Kerk in Actie*
- Manitoba Council for International Cooperation*
- Mennonite Central Committee Canada
- Netherlands GG Woerden
- Presbyterian World Service and Development Canada*
- Primate's World Relief and Development Fund*
- Reformed Church in America
- United Church of Canada*
- World Diaconate Relief Committee
- World Vision Canada
- YCARE – UK*
- ZOA **

actalliance

* Donated through CRWRC's appeal to the ACT Alliance

** Donated both through the ACT Alliance and direct to CRWRC

Financials

Revenue

Through October 31, 2011 CRWRC had received over \$15.3 million for its Haiti earthquake response. This included \$7,082,751 in donations from individuals and churches. These donations were leveraged through CRWRC's membership in the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and its partnerships with outside funders and aid organizations to raise an additional \$8,313,743.

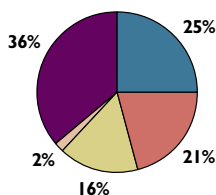
Expenses

Through October 31, 2011 CRWRC had spent \$ 12.2 million (79%) of the funds it had received for the Haiti earthquake response. This included \$655,573 (5%) for food aid; \$1,381,487 (11%) on non-food items including temporary shelter and support for *Sous Espwa* partners; \$372,870 (3%) on water, sanitation, and hygiene; \$205,660 (2%) on psycho-social support and education; \$8,536,499 (70%) on shelter construction; \$971,018 (8%) for livelihood restoration; \$94,879 (1%) for program management.

The remaining balance of \$3,178,507 is available for future use as CRWRC continues its home reconstruction until June 2012 and the livelihood restoration programs until January 2014.

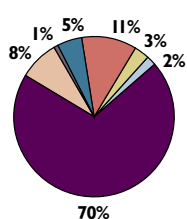


Revenue



Private donors in the USA	3,793,271
Private donors in Canada	3,289,480
Organizational Donors	
In Canada	2,466,686
In the USA	266,159
In Europe & Other	5,580,898
Total Income	15,396,494

Expenses



Food Aid	655,573
Non-Food Items and Temporary Shelter	1,381,487
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	372,870
Psycho-social & Education	205,660
Shelter — Wood-Framed Houses	8,536,499
Livihoods and Other CRWRC Program	971,018
Management and Communication	94,879
Total Expenses	12,217,987

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