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The Difference You Make Advocates for World Health



Haiti

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Haiti is the most impoverished country in the Western Hemisphere. Close to 60 percent of the population lives below the poverty line, searching for enough food to eat, clean water to drink, and a safe place to live.

Haiti is a bleak place for children. One-fifth of all Haitian children suffer from malnutrition, and 67 of every 1,000 children die before reaching their fifth birthday. Life expectancy is a mere 62.9 years for men and 68.3 years for women.

Clean water for drinking, cooking and bathing is in short supply, which continues to fuel the spread of various waterborne diseases.

With so many families focused merely on survival, many Haitian children never get the chance to receive even a basic education. Haiti's literacy rate is a dismal 61.7 percent.

The situation in Haiti has worsened and is commonly described as volatile. The country, already in turmoil, reached a new level of instability with the assassination of the country's president in 2021, followed by a widespread gang crisis and civil unrest among the general population.

Food For The Poor began working to help poverty-stricken children and families in Haiti since 1986. Today, the organization is one of the country's largest providers of emergency relief and sustainable development projects.

Donation of Essential Medical Supplies Is Crucial to Hospitals

"Thanks to this donation, we were able to provide much-needed medical supplies to three major institutions in Haiti," said Valentine Guirand, our in-country partner representative.

The Center Hospitalier de Pernier is a hospital that serves the people of Pernier, as well as the neighboring communes of Pétion-Ville, Tabarre and Croix-de-Bouquets. For the past two years, the commune of Croix-des-Bouquets has been home to one of the country's largest gangs. This gang has infiltrated the Pernier area where the medical facility is located, making the delivery of essential supplies difficult.

"Before this donation, the situation at the medical facility was very challenging due to the shortage of essential supplies," Valentine explained.

"These medical supplies and equipment are essential to any hospital, but even more so at this one where the street violence has prevented many deliveries," said Dr. Julien, one of the attending physicians in the hospital's ER. "Thank you for this donation."

Food For The Poor Haiti - PO #41053/Offer #214

Hospital Alma Mater, founded in 1969, is a 60-bed Catholic hospital located in an impoverished rural region in northwest Haiti. Governed by a Board of Directors comprised of members of the local religious and civic communities, it is the only hospital in a 145,000-person community that provides medical care.

“Alma Mater health professionals have gradually increased access to healthcare by traveling to remote areas of the region to provide care in the community via mobile clinics,” Valentine explained. “This has only been possible thanks to the generous donations of medical supplies that we receive from Food For The Poor’s donors. “We are truly grateful for it.”

Hôpital Sainte Croix [HSC], located in Léogâne, about 20 miles west of Port-Au-Prince, began as a small outpatient clinic in 1968. It grew to become a regional medical center. HSC serves a population of slightly more than 500,000 people and is the only hospital in the area that treats pregnant women at any time of day.

“HSC has the region’s only neo-natal nursery, treats complicated births, and performs C-sections,” Valentine explained. “In a country where maternal and neo-natal mortality rates are among the highest in the world, the maternity services provided are critical. “While other hospitals in the region have closed due to gang violence, which has disrupted supply chains and has caused staff to fear for their safety, HSC has remained open throughout it all.

“This is why we are most grateful for this generous donation of much-needed medical supplies,” Valentine said.

Pictured below are some of the essential medical supplies that were donated to hospitals in Haiti by Food For The Poor’s charitable in-kind donor Advocates for World Health.



Food For The Poor

Food For The Poor, one of the largest international relief and development organizations in the nation, does much more than feed millions of the hungry children and families living in poverty primarily in 17 countries of the Caribbean and Latin America. This interdenominational Christian ministry provides emergency relief assistance, clean water, medicine, educational materials, homes, support for vulnerable children, care for the aged, skills training and micro-enterprise development assistance. For more information, please visit www.FoodForThePoor.org.