



Haiti Relief Trip

December 2011

Friends & Family,

I am so grateful for your support through prayer and donations, which allowed me to reach out to the hungry souls of Haiti. The weeklong trip was beyond wonderful. I would love to sit down with you and share not only how much good we were able to do but also the passion that was fueled in my heart while working with the Haitian people. I will do my best to give you a picture of the past week through his letter.

Each morning began with a team prayer and scriptural message from Dr. Vanderpool, the leader and founder of Mobile Medical Disaster Relief. God's presence was so strong. We would discuss topics like being the Lords hands and feet, why we make money, and how to be eternal minded, ect. The joy and passion began to build inside me during this team prayer time.

We were then assigned to different groups. Teams were organized into: a construction team, a multifaceted orphanage ministry, a prayer team, and a medical team including the general clinic, dental clinic, and scabies clinic.



A stocking for each child in the orphanage



Sunday Church Service

The first two days were spent at the orphanage, which was at full capacity housing about 50 precious children. I was thrilled to hear that four were in the process of being adopted. We used these days to love on the children, set up our medical clinics, and to prepare for the children's first ever Christmas celebration.

The Medical clinics began the following day lasting throughout the week. The Thomazeau people are able to receive care once a month from teams with MMDR. We had lines of patients outside in the blistering sun waiting to be seen by the doctor, dentist, and/or nurses. I relished working along side nurses in the clinic as well as assisting the dentist, Dr. Neill :) Through our wonderful interpreters, we were able to understand what was hurting each patient in order to figure out what could be done to make them feel better.

The progress MMDR is making in Thomazeau is inspirational. They are in the process of purchasing a large plot of land to begin building hurricane and earthquake resistant structures for a permanent location. Another project, at this time, is water related. The team is trying to gather the expertise and supplies needed to repair a broken water system. If working properly, the well, filtering system, and pump can supply clean water to three major areas of Thomazeau. Please continue praying for the MMDR organization. They are doing great work to help the Haitian people.

My gratitude for your support is overwhelming. From the beginning of nursing school I have desired to use my education in providing relief to the poor. My experience in Haiti has clarified and fueled an intense passion for this type of work long term. I am excited to see where our Lord leads my husband and me to use our work in the years to come. The American writer and theologian, Frederick Buechner defined "vocation" beautifully by saying, **"The place God calls you is the place where your deepest gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."**



Children of Hope School Children



Medical Clinic



Dental Clinic



Our Interpreters

Natalie
December 2011
Mission Team Participant