



Friends for Health in Haiti Newsletter

August, 2006

Greetings from Jeremie, Haiti!

Jeremie, with a population of 30,000, is the largest town in the department of the Grand Anse (Haiti is divided into 10 departments, similar to our states). It lies on the northern coast of the southern peninsula of Haiti. We have recently rented a house in Jeremie, which will be the home base for FHH operations during construction of the initial buildings. The hospital site is located about an hour's drive outside Jeremie, up in the mountains south of the town, in a small village called Gatineau.

MISSIONARIES

At this time, there are four missionaries who are presently under FHH. Let me introduce them to you.

Steve and Joline Moore – Steve is trained as an engineer and he and Joline have been in Haiti for the past eight years. Steve has been involved in several hospital construction and renovation projects in Haiti in the past, including Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Deschapelles and Hopital Lumiere at Bonne Fin. Steve will be the Construction Manager for FHH and will direct all aspects of construction and building maintenance. Joline will be in charge of visitors and work groups and will assist in finance and administration as well.

Cherlie Severe, RN received her nurses training at the University Hospital in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. She worked with Katie Wolf at Hopital Lumiere and was the Director of Nursing there for several years. She recently left her position as a staff nurse at St. Joseph Hospital in Milwaukee to return to Haiti to serve her people. She will be in charge of all nursing activities.

Catherine (Katie) Wolf, MD was a missionary at Hopital Lumiere in Bonne Fin from 1982-1987 and 1990-1994. She founded FHH and is presently its Executive Director. She has been practicing Emergency Medicine in Milwaukee since 1994. This year she is finishing her MPH degree at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, conducting fundraising and doing program planning for the future medical activities of the clinic and hospital.

MOVING: Florida and Haiti

Cherlie and I (Katie) recently moved our household possessions from Milwaukee to a condo in West Palm Beach, Florida, in order to be closer to our work in Haiti. Packing and moving was a painful experience, after living in Milwaukee for the past 12 years! We flew to Haiti on August 10th and came out to Jeremie on the 12th. We were able to rent a very nice house in Jeremie which will be large enough for the four of us missionaries as well as some work groups who will be visiting. Steve and Joline came out from Bonne Fin on the 15th with all of their household possessions and we have been setting up the house. Electricity here is erratic, so we have purchased a propane refrigerator. We are getting used to going to bed with the sun, since there's not much to do in the evenings without electricity! We hope to eventually set up a solar system for electricity, and an internet system. There are many other details which need to be worked out, including establishing bank accounts, establishing systems for obtaining supplies and materials, hiring house help, etc. But, at least we have a house from which to work.

Visit our website:

FriendsForHealthInHaiti.org

*Read Joline Moore's report
of the move from
Bonne Fin to Jeremie!*

Greetings from Jeremie, Haiti continued...

FUNDRAISING

We have recently started fund-raising for FHH and will wait to begin actual construction until adequate funds are received. In the meantime, meetings will be held with the community of Gatieneau to solidify their participation in the project, position of the buildings will be plotted on the land and the land cleared of trees and vegetation for construction. The engineers and I will be meeting with the Public Health officials to obtain written permission for our construction and activities and we will be developing our programs according to Public Health guidelines.

THE NEXT FEW MONTHS

I will be returning to the US on August 25th and will spend September and October in Baltimore working on my MPH degree. I will be in Milwaukee for fund-raising activities for the first few weeks of November, after which I will return to Haiti for further program planning and research in our service area around the town of Gatieneau. We will be working closely with the Haitian Health Foundation, a non-profit organization which has been working in Jeremie for the past twenty years. They have an extensive community health program in the area, and we will be working closely with them to complement and enhance their activities and further meet the needs of the local communities. We will be sharing more details about our future plans in later newsletters.

Please continue to pray for us in the following areas:

- ~Set up of our new home in Jeremie.
- ~Relationship with local Public Health officials and written approval of construction plans.
- ~Relationship with Haitian Health Foundation and coordination of plans for service.
- ~Logistics for purchase and transport of equipment and supplies.
- ~Building layout and clearing of the land in preparation for construction.
- ~Adequate funds to begin equipment purchase and construction.

Thank you for your interest in our project and activities. We have seen the Lord at work and trust in His direction for the future.

Blessings,

Katie Wolf

Executive Director

Friends for Health in Haiti

Friends For Health
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