



HAITI EARTHQUAKE

Jan. 28, 2010 UPDATE

Toronto, Canada - January 28, 2010

The HF medical team of 21 continues to work from the UN refugee camp in Carrefour and the HF camp in Port-au-Prince. The team saw 600 patients on Thursday in these two camps and also visited some other outlying towns and regions west of Port-au-Prince but found that the need for surgery and medicine is starting to decrease. In Carrefour, the HF team is under UN protection.

With the next team from the USA and Canada about to leave via the Dominican Republic for Haiti, plans are being made for them to focus on general medicine and disease control. HF is also looking at the potential to set up food camps as well as longer term initiatives related to the provision of earthquake-proof shelters, orphan care and vocational training. In this regard, we are also in discussions with other NGOs such as Save the Children with whom we have been collaborating elsewhere.

Our longer-term objectives would be to help Haiti stand on its own feet, but this will take years of effort. Even in the medium term, the Haitian President has been requesting tents and ready-meals to be distributed en masse in the region. Meanwhile, news of the scale of the disaster continues to filter out slowly. Most sources now seem to accept that the final death toll from the earthquake of two and a half weeks ago will top 200,000 people, and over 1.5 million people have been left dependant on aid.

To raise funds and awareness Humanity First Canada is holding various Fundraising events throughout Canada; Please visit www.humanityfirst.ca/haiti for more information on Fundraising events.

End of Update – January 28, 2010