



September 10, 2011

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are writing you asking for your help and support for the people of Haiti.

Last year we joined in the volunteer efforts of Friends & Family Community Connection (FFCC), a San Diego based non-profit organization. FFCC was started in 1995 and has been actively helping and supporting many community outreach programs. In addition to its local community efforts across San Diego County, FFCC has undertaken many volunteer efforts for disaster relief. It is now successfully involved in a growing international effort in Tanzania, Africa which helps feed and educate the children of that country. FFCC is dedicated to helping and serving underserved communities.

Over the past year and a half we have made several trips to Haiti with other FFCC volunteers to help and serve the people of Haiti. Last April, 2011 we set up our first Mobil medical clinic in the town of Carrefour. We treated over 1,000 people and we were overwhelmed by the degree of need and general lack of structure and support the people of Haiti endure. Sadly, Haiti still requires significant help despite the intense international efforts since the January, 2010 earthquake.

There are thousands of people still living in tent cities. Cargo containers sit in their port of entry for months at a time. Despite the millions of dollars donated to the relief effort, monies are not reaching their intended targets. Redevelopment of cities and communities destroyed by the earthquake are taking longer than planned. In the meantime, thousands of people are desperate for food, water and medical assistance.

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We are planning a medical mission in January 20 -29, 2012. The location of the clinic will be in Leogane, Haiti. Leogane is a seaside town located west of Port-au-Prince. It was at the epicenter of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake. The United Nations has determined Leogane as the worst affected area with 80 – 90% of buildings damage. It is estimated that approximately 30,000 people died from the earthquake in Leogane. The current population is 134,190. It is estimated there is one doctor for every 17,000 people; making general medical care and management of chronic conditions unattainable for most.

Our goal is to return to Haiti on January 20 -29, 2012 with a team of doctors, nurses and volunteers. Our team will provide basic medical aid, health education, referrals of ill patients to nearest hospital, and support to the underserved people in the village of Leogane.

We anticipate our team will include 8 Physicians, 2 Pharmacists, 10 Nurses, 2 Health Educators, 2 data processors and 6 general volunteers. We will have 18 – 20 Haitian interpreters volunteering and assisting us during the trip. We will need a lot of support both here and in Haiti. We will require a variety of medications, support staff and medical supplies in preparation for our medical mission.

We are asking for your help and support. We hope you will join us in helping the people of Haiti. Go to ffccsd.org for more information on the work happening in Haiti or contact Tina Socha (tina.socha@san.rr.com) for information about our upcoming trip.

Thank you,
Drs. Eunice Sanchez-Mata & Joel Mata