



## HAITI RELIEF UPDATE

MARCH 2010

More than 50 days have passed since the earthquake in Haiti, and EICanada continues to partner with the churches of the OEBB. Media coverage of Haiti has started to fade, but the need for relief and rebuilding in Haiti is still astronomical. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of all our donors (\$579,244.55 at last count, in Canada alone) and we feel blessed by the opportunity this gives us to significantly help those we serve in Haiti. Right now we are planning our involvement in the rebuilding of Haiti.

Even though plans are starting to be made for rebuilding, the need for immediate relief is still great. The UN World Food Program is distributing nutrient supplements, and is scaling up a school feeding program, but they have not yet begun widespread food distributions. While we wait for them to provide food for distribution we continue to buy our own food from Santa Domingo in the Dominican Republic, and transport it across the border into Haiti for distribution.



Pastor Jose (*pictured left*) has been doing the organizing and purchasing in Santa Domingo, acting on our behalf in the Dominican Republic, and has been an incredible God-given blessing to our work in Haiti. We had never even met Pastor Jose before Emmanuel's International Director, Andy Atkins, traveled to Haiti after the earthquake. Pastor Jose was just a friend of a friend, and yet he has worked tirelessly, purchasing truck-loads of food, water, tents, and tarps; he has helped coordinate our relief teams, all of whom are still traveling to Haiti through the Dominican Republic; and he has helped us look for a new distribution truck to replace the truck damaged in the earthquake. We are extremely grateful for the help of Pastor Jose, and praise God for providing our

connection with him at just the right time!

Right now the greatest concern is shelter, as the torrential downpours of the rainy season have begun and the hurricane season is coming soon. Pastor Martinez reports that people are begging at his gate every day asking for tents. Andy Atkins will be spending the next 3 weeks in Port au Prince to oversee this next stage of our relief efforts.

Immediate needs and concerns:

- Safety of teams traveling, and staff on the ground.
- God's favour as we apply to donors and the UN for provisions to help those we serve.
- Shelter materials for those without homes, and favourable weather for as long as possible.

Thank you so much for your on-going prayers and support for the people of Haiti.