Glasgow the Caring City Haiti Response Briefing: January to July 2010

International Department: Glasgow the Caring City
Unit 12 Linn Park Ind. Est.
315 Drakemire Drive
Glasgow. G45 9SS



Reg. Address 119 Carmunnock Road, Glasgow. G44 5UW Scottish Charity SC029090

Glasgow the Caring City Charity, on behalf of the people of Scotland, responded to the January Earthquake which struck Haiti claiming thousands of lives and exposing millions more to long term destitution.

Our priority, as a development charity responding to international disasters, is to protect the lives of children living in crisis. We do so by addressing four key emergencies in the daily life of a child survivor of a disaster: Health, Nutrition, Education & Security.

During our public appeal for Haiti we generated cash incomes of circa £60,000. Through our links with business & industry we secured new medical, nutrition, shelter & hygiene products, which supported the victim relief efforts, with estimated market value of £6 million. In addition to our *Goods to Enable* programmes have also invested our cash in the reconstruction of a 9 class-roomed school, installed a sustainable water & sanitation programme, created a feeding programme and invested in SME enterprise schemes.

Our flagship appeal events for Haiti provided a clear message about supporting 'all Scottish charities' providing relief to victims of the earthquake and in addition to the featured fundraising events, we provided over 50 classroom education session on the disaster relief efforts to upwards of 1500 school pupils between the ages of 7 - 18.

In addition to funds raised through public appeals and events, we also received a £17,000 grant from the Scottish Government to assist our shipping programmes, reducing the delivery time of aid to the disaster zone and empowering our local partnerships to assist more victims.

6 months on from the beginning of our response to the Haitian Earthquake Disaster we are engaged in a three phase strategy for the relief of suffering and the promotion of long term, sustainable improvement.

The following is an account of our response:

Key achievements have been:

- a. Supply of medicines enabled 10 emergency clinics to have appropriate supplies.
 - b. Tented accommodation gave shelter to over 2,500 people.
 - c. Food provided to over 2,500 people on a daily basis for two months.
 - d. Safe water to over 2,500 for two months.
 - e. Feeding of approx. 1,000 children each day for six months.

Container Shipping Programme:

Glasgow the Caring City, through our industrial supply chain partners, received significant donations of hygiene, medical, nutrition and sanitation supplies. These supplies formed the basis of our emergency shipping programme, numbering 5 containers in total. In addition, and thanks to a Grant from the Scottish Government, our partnership despatched a further 2 containers directly from Florida in support of the relief efforts.

Our pharmaceutical aid container was one of the first to arrive in Port au Prince and our chosen healthcare partners International Relief and Development (IRD) were able to directly treat some 50,000 people.

Our local distribution plan was overseen by the Good Samaritan Foundation (GSF) programme in Cite Soleil. This is an area badly neglected by government and most NGO's. GSF has been working in Cite Soleil for over 20 years from a school compound and adjoining Church building. The earthquake damaged the school but the main church hall stood firm apart from one security wall.

The following are the key needs which were addressed.

- 1. Immediately with the tents sent by GtCC, a temporary camp was set up in the compound housing approx. 2,500 people providing shelter and security.
- 2. Local partners arranged for cooking equipment to be bought in the Dominican Republic and a food centre was established.
- 3. An emergency static medical centre was established at the Good Samaritan School
- 4. A mobile medical unit was based Good Samaritan School and from here worked out in the Cite Soleil community.
- 5. A water distribution programme was set up bringing in safe water from the countryside.
- 6. A weekly community clearance and cleaning programme through a food for work scheme.

These six key areas directly impacted 2,500 people but also were able to indirectly impact many more families.

The aid shipped with Scottish Government funding enabled this programme to function for 5 months and today the following aspects continue as part of an ongoing development programme.

- > Feeding programme to approx 1,000 children on daily basis.
- > Medical care
- > Safe water distribution
- > Re-opening of five schools with materials provided by GtCC. Approx 1,000 children directly impacted.
- > Four of the schools being refurbished and salaries are being paid until March 2011.
- > One school being fully rebuilt with GtCC and WER funds. Temporary school being

funded with salaries, etc.

This highlights the impact of GtCC involvement through immediate emergency aid but also highlights GtCC policy to build on emergency aid and move into development aid.

Cash for Reconstruction Programme:

GtCC in partnership with a consortium of international development charities will rebuild the 9-roomed Good Samaritan School in Cite Soleil, with a target completion date of January 2011, exactly 12 months on from the earthquake

A contract was agreed and signed with the consultant engineer at the end of June and the first £30,000 of funding was released at the end of June. On a recent inspection visit, work had not yet started and estimates on material costs were not complete. However, fixed prices have now been agreed on all major purchases (with guidance from IRD, Washington DC) and orders placed.

On Monday 19th July site work began with foundations being marked out and by Wednesday 21st materials started to arrive on site. With the guidance from IRD we were able to save on costs. First phase of nine classrooms, toilets and kitchens should be complete by the end of 2010 ready for January 2011 opening.

Two of these classrooms will be named in recognition of the GtCC/Scottish input. The new front gate and security wall funded by Glasgow the Caring City is complete and is now being painted in 'Scottish' blue!

Foundations for the new rear wall have been dug and initial brick work will start soon although GSF do not have all the required funds to complete. Yuca Foundation of Spain and World Emergency Relief UK bare the majority of these costs.

It was agreed in April to grant a one-off donation to assist 4 schools in Cite Soleil to reopen. Funding was for materials and a small contribution to salaries for the teachers who had not been paid since the earthquake. There are over 500,000 children in Cite Soleil and currently less than 40% attend a school. The four schools educate approx 160 children in each school with seven teachers per school. All meet in just one room with little sound division. Since our April visit, we noticed significant improvement in each school and the directors of all schools told us that this was the first time any 'white man' had actually kept a promise to help them. Until the funds arrived they dared not believe that they would get help.

WER UK has agreed a grant to give support to each school until March 31st 2011. This was welcomed with much gratitude. This will be a good additional project for this year and although locally managed by GSF, is a direct WER funded & GtCC equipped community project. The project is also a good template for further implementation subject to funding being obtained by WER/GtCC. We are submitting a project grant request for these schools to a Spanish foundation via Antonio in the Dominican Republic. This amounts to approx. \$10,000.

Cash to Enable Programmes:

Saltou Water and Agriculture Projects:

Saltou is a mountain community 80 miles north of Port au Prince but which is only accessible via a 6 hour cross country journey. It is a rural area mainly with small farming households. Approx. 16,000 people live in this region.

The village of Saltou has around 5,000 people. We have scoped the following potential projects:

- >Chicken/agriculture project
- >Water project

There is severe malnutrition in the population, especially among the children who comprise 60% of the population.

There is no safe water in Saltou and people and animals use a small pond which is fed by rain water or water draining from the hills. GSF have carried out analysis of this water and the water is polluted and is causing much illness.

The Japanese government developed a reservoir and water distribution in this area 10 years ago but hurricanes broke the distribution pipes 5 years ago and again, 2 years ago and it has never been repaired. All that is necessary is to repair/replace the over-ground pipes coming from the reservoirs and run approx 2 miles of new pipes. Then a new storage and filtration tank will be installed.

GSF will submit a proposal and it is planned for GtCC to fund at least part of this project. The land although rocky is fertile. It would work for a chicken farm but also a more detailed food security farm similar to a GtCC project in Sudan would work well here also. No financial Commitments have been agreed to date.

Issues/Concerns/Challenges:

Clearance through Haitian customs can be difficult, but so far WER and GtCC have shipped and distributed over £6 million value of relief aid since 12th January 2010. At present we have a further two containers being cleared for us by IRD which are still held in Haiti Port.

Many NGO's will not address projects in the Cite Soleil district due to security issues. Glasgow the Caring City and World Emergency Relief UK, both registered Scottish Charity bodies, are working in these areas and have witnessed the good work of several other Scottish NGO's too.

Local Development Partners:

Good Samaritan Foundation / International Relief and Development / Cross International.

Each of these were established and working in Haiti prior to the earthquake. In addition the aid was also distributed to and through the following:

ADRA International / International Medical Corps (IMC were acting as NGO medical cluster managers)

Haiti Relief / International Health Partners / Silesian Brothers / Mercy Corps / Partners in Health /

World Harvest / World Outreach Now

Case study:

Food distribution:

The funds donated by GtCC/WER UK and WER's Dutch office (WNH) are proving to be of great benefit and WER/GtCC is supplementing these funds with *Goods to Enable* which we have been able to source from other international NGO's in Haiti.





Approx 900 children are receiving a meal 5 days per week at school. WNH funds will run out next month. WER is allocating a small amount of the grant to the four community schools for food. WER need to raise approx £1,700 per month to continue this programme beyond October 2010.

As one teacher told me 'if the children are hungry they cannot learn.'





Feeding the children is a priority and we need to look at ways we can assist GSF in this area.

Case Study

Vocational Training School.

On our recent visit to Haiti we identified a model of excellence for Vocational Training which our partners GSF are involved with





There are tens of thousands of young people in Cite Soleil without work. The school is providing four key areas of training.

- 1. English
- 2. Driving School
- 3. Music
- 4. Health and Hygiene.

Over 100 young people between ages of 15 and 25 are attending five days a week for two months from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. At present, it is free to attend although students are being encouraged to make a small payment. GSF are paying teachers. There is great demand.

We did not meet one young person who had a job and this can become a major change project for the community. This ingenious programme left us very impressed.

Governance and Future Opportunities:

Many organisation in Haiti are historically underfunded and suffer from mismanagement. When funds from international appeals are thrown towards local projects there becomes an inbuilt risk of misappropriation and diversion from intended purpose. The following steps are being taken to ensure 100% risk reduction

Working partnership agreements with The Good Samaritan Foundation existed prior to January 2010. On recent visits to Haiti our partnership team has spent time with their founder and project director discussing management issues and mentoring both in the areas of financial, business and general management. Using the skills of our partnership staff, developed across numerous international programmes, we have created a system of continuous training thus ensuring high standards of operating practice are maintained. Furthermore, with a lengthy list of international NGO partners operating in Haiti, skills which are required to bolster the GSF team can be drafted in.

Finances are being managed in a proper way and we were able to see the bank account which has been set up to receive and handle all GtCC funds. No GtCC funds will now go into the general GSF bank accounting system thus reducing the likelihood of irregular spending.

Our team assessed the overall administration systems and although these are basic, we were satisfied with their standards

There is a full trail on all major and petty cash expenditure. The challenge is trying to avoid handling too many operational areas to be fully effective but GSF do not have funds to recruit additional staff and that would not be appropriate until there is further evidence of how GSF is developing over the long term and what their priorities become. The founder of GSF is a visionary with a big heart and that in itself can bring pressure when a development agenda has been agreed.

Overall we are encouraged with the chosen local partners' ability to effectively manage the local development strategy and confident of their full administrative capabilities.

Future Opportunities:

Building upon Scottish Graduate skills and our depth of talent in the fields of engineering, health, education and community learning we plan to investigate the possibilities of international internships to Haiti, supplementing local skills and providing practical learning opportunities. Funding is required for this plan.

Feedback & engagement with Donors:

Our domestic priority is to re-engage with our donor communities, here in Scotland, bringing them up to speed on the progress of our efforts in Haiti.

A mobile visual display frame has been donated by a local businessman which will form the basis of an information portal for schools, businesses, public spaces etc. Any agencies or individuals wishing to host the unit can contact us directly on info@glasgowthecaringcity.com (a floor space of 4m x 2m high is required).

In addition, we plan a 'live feedback session' during September where members of the public, schools children etc will be able to hear accounts of working in Haiti from team members who have visited the area. info@glasgowthecaringcity.com for more information.

Document prepared by the International Development Department of Glasgow the Caring City

Contributions: Alex Haxton CEO of World Emergency Relief UK

Tim Malseed, Communication Intern, Glasgow the Caring City

Author: Ross Galbraith, International Development & Programme Manager.

Rev Neil Galbraith
Chief Executive Officer
Glasgow the Caring City Charity
The Caring City Network

SC029090

Directors: Tom Harrigan Luciano Rebecchi kevin McGuckien David Adam Alex Mosson M.T. Shaheen Rev. Neil Galbraith.