



HAITI — SIX MONTHS LATER!



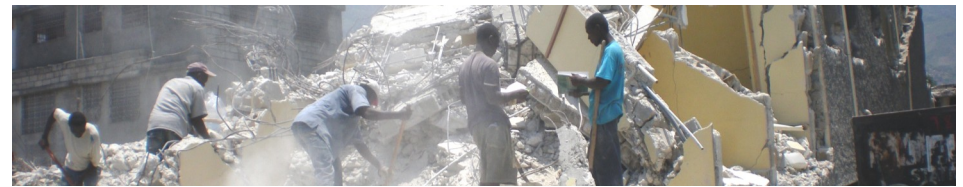
Sign at entrance of Enmanuel Damus' Orphanage

Yesterday (July 12) was the six month mark since an earthquake, measuring 7.0 on the Richter Scale, shook Haiti, killing app. 280,000 people, leveling 190,000 homes, and making 1.5 million people instantaneously homeless. In the wake of this catastrophe - for a few weeks - Haiti's tragedy dominated the airwaves, and the world community mobilized and reached out with compassion to the beleaguered island. US\$5 billion dollars was committed to immediate relief aid, and long-term plans were made to the rebuilding of Port-au-Prince, the capital city, in which the majority of the population lives.

Having worked closely in partnership with people on the ground in their relief efforts in the aftermath of the war in Kosovo (1999) and the Indian Ocean Tsunami (2004), I was not surprised to watch Haiti follow in the same path as the two — after a few months, “donor fatigue” set in. The global community's compassion dissipated as the media turned their attention elsewhere and Haiti vanished from the headlines, but — although the plight of the Haitians faded from the news — their struggles did not.

Today, and in the next few days, Haiti is back in the news for a short time, again. Journalists and other officials have returned to make an evaluation of the improvements that should have taken place since the earthquake. The news are not encouraging. One newscaster concluded that the situation for Haiti at large, is worse now, than then. Only 2-5% of the pledged funds have actually been contributed; many of the relief organizations are hanging on to their funds for long term use. There is absence of leadership, disorganization, land disputes, customs delays. The masses of uncollected rubble, makes many major streets almost impassable, causing much of the relief aid to remain stuck in warehouses, thus, not benefitting the people. Although there are also many foreign individuals and agencies who are doing effective mercy ministry in Haiti, the population is still in desperate need of help!

UPDATE AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE



ASSOCIATION LA FOI ET L'OEUVRE EN MARCHÉ

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Port Au Prince Haiti May 7th, 2010

Dear brothers in the United States.

By this letter I would like to say that today the 7th of May of 2010 we certify that Pastor Jorge Luis Urrea's trip and the brothers of the ministry Bridges of Mercy has been given to give hope to the people of Haiti, we were heartbroken and hungry but the brothers and sisters have given us the hope back that not everything is lost, in Christ there is hope.

For various projects and for what has been invested in this trip, we have received the amount of \$3 620.00 U.S dollars in cash used for:

- Purchase of food for the school for 310 children.
- Purchase of food for the Orphanage, Chicken, rise, and bread.
- Pick up 18 boxes from Customs.
- Help to the doctors of the Medical Operation.
- Help to the Professors of the children at the Orphanage.

We have also received the amount of 300 pounds of food, clothes, soaps, medicines, vitamins for the Children, Calcium, flashlights, two equipment of sanguineous pressure, completely new everything valued in the amount of 500.00 U.S dollars/ Foods, chocolate, rise, soup broths, chicken broths to give continuity to the work with the children and finally I received from Pastor Jorge Luis Urrea the amount of 1000.00 U.S dollars in cash to be able to purchase foods in the future.

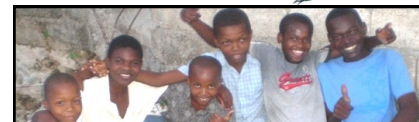
I want to make count that since the earthquake happened I've constantly received by the company of Western Union shipments of the money from the ministry of Bridges of Mercy, without that aid we wouldn't have been able to subsist.

To all the brothers that made this trip possible, we give our acknowledgements, and the God that knows to compensate will pay with increase and abundance for all of you.

Thank you

Pastor Enmanuel Damus
La Foi ET L. Oeuvre en Marche

Enmanuel Damus



HAITI — ORPHANAGE PICTURES



Jorge Urra (left) and Enmanuel Damus (in suit) with Team



In addition to providing basic relief aid to Enmanuel's orphanage, Jorge Urra with his team also brought enough supplies to feed 310 children in other orphanages and schools.



FROM R.K.'S CORNER

The Bridge has in the past been involved in numerous relief efforts in various countries. Our primary call and function is to propagate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to unreached nations, therefore, our direct focus is not on mercy ministries, but we embrace them as practical expressions of the love of Jesus initiated by the national believers.

The Bridge does not have a specific ministry into Haiti, but we felt it was right to give our partners and friends an opportunity to contribute funds to Haiti through The Bridge, which would be funneled through Haitian nationals with "boots on the ground"; those already busy in sharing the Good News with his/her countrymen. Compared to the large, multi-million-dollar NGO agencies, we see ourselves as a tiny "fish and loaves" ministry. This means that, with relatively small amounts of funding, we place those resources into the hands of indigenous men and women with integrity and character, who carry a vision and a clear call from God for their people. We have watched how works from very small beginnings, have expanded into significant ministries that today affect whole nations and regions!

In Haiti, the door opened for us to partner with **Enmanuel Damus** via our friend, Cuban-born **Jorge Urra**, through whom we have partnered with resources into Cuba and other Hispanic-speaking countries for over fifteen years. Jorge has an apostolic ministry. He sees and recognizes God's gift and calling in others, then help them grow in faith and leadership, while networking with others to provide necessary resources for them to do God's work. Jorge has proven to be a man of faith and utmost integrity. A part of his heart is to minister to orphans, so we have helped finance some of his outreach projects in orphanages in several countries through his **Bridges for Mercy** ministry.

Three years ago, while ministering in an orphanage in the Dominican Republic, Jorge connected with Enmanuel, a Haitian pastor who directs an orphanage in Port-au-Prince, located on the hilltop behind the President's Palace. Jorge visited Enmanuel, and a good relationship grew between the two. Enmanuel is well connected among other local pastors in the city, many of whom run their own orphanages. At times, he gathers some of them for weekend seminars with Jorge as the main speaker—a great blessing for them!

We are very happy to funnel the donated Bridge funds through this vehicle to the Haitian people, as we are assured that every penny is accounted for, and that the money is spent wisely with maximum leverage, and given to those in need! **Take a look at what the initial \$3,800.00 provided!** We will continue to keep the account **8162 Relief Aid — Haiti** open for further contributions, and invite you to donate toward the Haitian people on a regular basis! The funds are sent out in full, without any deductions of overhead or administrative expenses. **Have a great summer!**



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**LINKING GOD'S PEOPLE TO
REACH THE UNREACHED**

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