



Byas Foundation

Dedicated to Hospital of Hope
Pilate, Haiti

Pilate 2004 in retrospect*

The flood after hurricane Jeanne

Pilate is located in a valley that protects it from most violent winds. But not from torrential rains like the one that caused serious sinister while hurricane Jeanne passed through. Three days of heavy rain that swelled the main river that crosses the town of Pilate, washing away 83 houses and damaging many more, leaving over 300 families in sinister.

Now the landscape is changed. Remnants of walls are left here and there, with bits of clothing and a few household articles resting in mud. Banana trees were rooted out and gardens devastated. Livestock drowned in the flood. In one night, that population lost everything it had.

At the Hospital of Hope, part of the surrounding wall was undermined and collapsed on a stretch of about 25 feet. It had to be quickly rebuilt to ensure security of the patients and the hospital's belongings.

Hospital of Hope in 2004

The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) selected Hospital of Hope to implement a program aiming to prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS in its area. It finances the necessary training and supplies to detect the disease and give adequate pre-counseling and post-counseling to patients. At this point, they stress on preventing transmission through birth when the mother is infected. Giving to mother and child a medication called Niverapine does it. If complications should arise, the hospital can now help delivery by operating a cesarean.

CRS also contributed financially with Byas Foundation to modernize the operating room along with the birth room and the counseling office. Now that these infrastructures are operational the CRS pays the wages of an obstetrician surgeon and an anesthetist nurse and a medical auxiliary for the operating room. It promised tri-therapy for 2005.

On the other hand, the operating room used to be the everyday emergency room. Since it must now be available for surgery, it became urgent to build an emergency room. Renovating the sanatorium and making it functional for an ER with 8 stretcher beds did this.

During summer 2004, the Canadian Embassy helped to build a new building to relocate the patients of the sanatorium.

Then the dentist's office was renovated, an office was set up for the management and the accountant's office was enlarged to make space for Internet purposes. The World Health Organization that requests weekly epidemiological reports financed this. Therefore, since December 7th, Hospital of Hope is connected to the rest of the world through Internet by satellite. Communications will now be so much easier.

Byas Foundation's Annual Report for 2004

Postal fund raising campaign : As done every year, thanks to our treasurer, the Foundation received \$4 130 through it's postal fund raising campaign.

March of Hope : Over 50 supporters came to walk at the March of Hope on September 21. The \$2 700 raised at that event helped pay to rebuild the collapsed part (25 feet) of the Hospital's fence wall after hurricane Jeanne.

Medical supplies : During Winter 2004, the Foundation packed and shipped 175 cases of medical supplies and three stretcher beds that were received at Hospital of Hope in April. This brings to 750 the amount of cases sent to Hospital of Hope since we began that operation in 1998.

Operation Jeanne : Hurricane Jeanne has blown during the weekend of September 18th. It destroyed 83 houses and damaged many others, inflicting sinister to over 300 sinistened families. Thanks to local medias, the Foundation amassed over \$7 000 to help the Hospital that was facing a large increase in demand for medical help. \$4000 was sent to the Hospital in October and the rest in December.

Conference by Sister Louisa Bélanger : On August 24th, an attendance of nearly 60 supporters of the Foundation listened to Sister Louisa Bélanger while she addressed the topics of how Hospital of Hope dealt with currant difficulties in Pilate and how it manages to serve the population of the town during political and other crisis on the one hand, and the new missions the Hospital is trying to accomplish with the Catholic Relief Services.