



# Byas Foundation

Dedicated to Hospital of Hope  
Pilate, Haiti

## Annual Report for 2005

**After Jeanne, a visit from our president:** In January, President of Byas Foundation, Fr. Robert Charron, went to enquire on the situation of Hospital of Hope in the community of Pilate and also of the city of Gonaïves, in Haiti. Both communities greatly suffered from that memorable hurricane that also caused heavy damage in Pensacola, Florida. Fr. Charron brought back a stack of photos, some showing the desolation left after the hurricane, others showing the obvious courage of stricken citizens finding the strength to smile.

**Postal fund raising campaign:** As done every year, thanks to our treasurer, the Foundation received \$5 025 through it's postal fund raising campaign, the highest return since it's beginning.

**March of Hope:** Over 55 supporters came to walk at the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of March of Hope on September 17. The \$3 000 raised at that event helped to finance a new roof for the Hospital. That investment was long overdue since the old roof had been leaking for some years prior to this year's renovation.

**Medical supplies:** During Winter 2005, the Foundation packed and shipped 80 cases of medical supplies. This brings to 830 the number of cases sent to Hospital of Hope since we began that operation in 1998. The shipment also included a medical examination table and a dentist's chair. Those pieces of equipment will come in a handy for the growing institution.

**Financial Statements:** Preliminary financial statements of the Foundation show total revenues of \$ 17 731. Since operating expenses are quite low, most of that money will be transferred to hospital of Hope. In 2005, the Foundation remitted \$ 16 000 to the hospital.

**Conference by Sister Lucie Laquerre:** On May 25, an attendance of nearly 30 supporters of the Foundation listened to Sister Lucie Laquerre while she explained how Hospital of Hope has grown in the last years, in spite of the adverse political environment. To put things in context, we must remember that this hospital, with 8 other hospitals in Haiti, was selected by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to deliver a UNICEF program designed to fight propagation of HIV/AIDS.

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## Pilate in 2005

### **After hurricane Jeanne: (how to avoid a famine)\***

We know how much Pilate has suffered from hurricane Jeanne in September 2004. Let us just recall the flood destroying the valley. Three days of heavy rain swelled the main river that runs through the town of Pilate, washing away 83 houses and damaging many more, leaving over 300 families in sinister. Banana trees were rooted out and gardens devastated. Livestock drowned in the flood. In one night, that population lost everything it had.

Year 2005 was then marked by an urgency to bring assistance to a population threatened by famine. With help of the World Food Organization (WFO) that took charge of women and underweight children, Hospital of Hope has managed to avoid the worst for Pilate. The WFO supplied oil, rice and peas.

## **Hospital of Hope in 2005**

### **Community Health Services**

A volunteer nurse from Quebec supported the hospital's Community health services by counseling the rural population on the basic principles of public health. Also, the *Association québécoise pour l'avancement des Nations Unies* (AQANU) has helped finance preventive health services.

### **Reroofing the hospital**

Byas Foundation, on its part, has contributed, along with two other foundations, to rebuild the roof of the main building of the hospital. The job implied demolishing the old roof structure to build a new concrete slab roof. The residing staff had to move for five months, that is until the job was completed. Luckily, a new two level building on the hospital's site solved the problem. The residing staff moved to the top floor (meant to become the new sanatorium) while the inventory of building material was safely stored on the ground level (that will become the new emergency room). Father Bernard Antoine, (congregation of the Holy Cross) a trained engineer, supervised most of the work. We asked him a descriptive report of that renovation job. In spite of all his efforts, he was unable to send his report. He lives in a suburb of Port-au-Prince short of electricity.

**Doctors of the World's surgical mission** was held as scheduled for ten days. An organization called *Amitié et Action médicale pour Haïti* (AAMH), was organized in France by Dr Pierre Bouron, finances the salary of two Haitian nurses to ensure the night emergency services.

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### **Report on development of Hospital of Hope in Pilate – year 2005**

The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) selected Hospital of Hope to implement a UNICEF (a branch of United Nations) program aiming to prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS in its area. It finances the necessary supplies and training of personnel 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 HIV infected. Giving to mother and child a medication called Niverapine does it. If complications should arise, the hospital can now deliver by cesarean section.

The CRS had announced, for 2005, that the tri-therapy program would become available to patients diagnosed positively with HIV/AIDS. But social and political conditions in the country caused unexpected delays in setting up that phase of the program. Some indications allow us to hope that this part of the program could soon be applied in 2006. This will bring the need to set up new quarters in order to treat those patients.