

CARE Haiti Newsletter

No. 6 – May 21, 2010

Seen and heard:

"It's not enough to work. You have to love what you do to make a difference." -- Dieudonné Mayambi (Hygiene promotion coordinator)

Sanitation: important to mothers

It started with their children. Now it's their turn to understand the importance of physical hygiene and maintaining a clean living space. CARE nurses and health officers have started forming mothers' clubs in a number of sites. Their task is to help the populations living in selected spontaneous camps adopt basic practices in a number of areas including water treatment, waste and excreta management, proper latrine usage, hand washing, and how to maximize water usage.





Building back stronger

The Shelter team is launching a pilot project in two sites for the construction of transitional shelters: Aztèque in Carrefour, and George Kernizan in Léogâne. The building guidelines follow the norms and principles outlined in the poster prepared by CARE and a number of organizations of the Shelter Cluster. "The purchase order for the tools and materials has already been placed with procurement. The work will start as soon as we've received the equipment," says Sybille Lafortune, project officer. About 100 families with available land plots have been selected in the sites mentioned above. In addition to the materials,

CARE engineers will provide these families with technical assistance throughout the entire construction process. (Shown: IFRC model shelter)

Faces of CARE

It's not an easy task to describe Mildrède Béliard in two paragraphs. Not only is this young lady intelligent, creative, warm, fair and passionate about life and her country, she is a true fighter for her people and actively involved in her community. She and a group of journalist friends set up a local organization, *Réseau 21*, about three years ago. Its goal is to share social and cultural information with young people in more innovative ways. "The idea is to inspire youth to love and value Haiti's richness," says Mildrede. "Many young Haitians want to leave this country, and we are well on the way to losing a feeling of belonging. But if we start to appreciate what we have, there will be a future."



Mildrède joined CARE Haiti as communications officer and press attaché in February. She is responsible for media, the production of CARE's weekly newsletter, writing articles and taking photos of our projects, among many other things. In addition, Mildrède is a great source of information in matters regarding women's affairs, Haiti's youth and culture, and the building of her country. "My wish is that the older generation passes down its knowledge to Haiti's youth and gives them the space to prove themselves," she says. – Anne Larrass



Lighting people and nights in the camps

Awareness sessions on STIs and HIV / AIDS are organized in the camps for teenagers and adults. During these sessions prepared and run by nurses of the Reproductive Health CARE Haiti team, people feel confident enough to discuss taboos around sensitive issues like sexuality and contraceptive methods.

"During these meetings, people speak easily of taboos and their concerns about one of the biggest problem which is to pay for contraceptive pills. To better assist them and provide some solutions, we have already begun to identify local institutions in

Léogâne that offer this service for free so we can refer them, "say Nurses Marie Carline Mornay and Dérothy Dorval. During the sessions, solar lamps whose battery lasts at least seven hours are offered to participants. To date, more than 268 lamps have already been distributed.

CARE Haiti Hiring

Since the beginning of emergency operations, CARE Haiti has hired over 230 people. They are mostly construction workers, engineers, doctors, social workers, nurses, drivers, accountants, security guards, investigators, storekeepers, handlers, etc. They are recruited to supply and sometimes constitute the teams of our six emergency programs: Shelter, WASH, Food Security, Distribution, Health and Psychosocial support.

The Human Resources Team composed initially of two members, has been reinforced with five other people including two expatriates. They work seven days a week and up to 18 hours every day to read and sort the CVs of job applicants and conduct interviews. To date, more than 5,000 CVs have been studied by members of the team that interviewed more than 1,000 people. An e-mail address has been created to facilitate the sending and the study of applications, but the box was quickly overwhelmed as the applications were numerous. The Human Resources Team, however, continues to launch job advertisements and to receive nominations.