

# Grace!



NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2011

International Child Care Canada • [ca.internationalchildcare.org](http://ca.internationalchildcare.org)

## YOUR GIFTS ARE SAVING LIVES THROUGH *Maternal Health Programs* IN NORTHERN HAITI



Unimaginable destruction caused by earthquake.

Clerçine Antoine with Dieudelin.



During a recent monitoring and evaluation trip to Haiti, ICC Canada staff visited several health clinics in the areas surrounding Cap Haitien. The progress being made in our Maternal Health programs in both Ballon Bay and Grand Rivière is nothing short of amazing.

A true testament to the success of this amazing progress was exemplified through a young 22 year old woman named Clerçine Antoine who has been given the task of raising her sister's child following her untimely death shortly after giving birth. Her nephew, Dieudelin Fenelus (17 months) was first brought

to the clinic back in January and was severely malnourished weighing 5kg. Clerçine is unemployed and living with her parents with no means to pay for the medical treatment that Dieudelin required. The healthcare staff at the Grand Rivière clinic were there when Clerçine and Dieudelin needed them most, and have been instrumental in Dieudelin's successful recovery. The post-natal care that Dieudelin is receiving provides nutritional feeding for both him and

Clerçine on a daily basis as well as regular medical check ups to monitor his successful recovery.

Beyond the life saving medical treatment for Dieudelin, Clerçine also receives training from the medical staff on how to properly care for her sister's child and maintain his healthy development in the future. There were times when Clerçine could not afford the cost of transportation to bring her child to the clinic for treatment, but once again thanks to your support, ICC was there to meet this need. Today, Dieudelin is showing significant improvement, he now weighs 7.5kg

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and is on his way to a healthy target weight. Clerçine expressed her heartfelt thanks to ICC staff for providing both the medical treatment for her child and the parenting education that she received to care for her child.

The clinic in Grand Rivière currently treats roughly 100 children per month. Over the past

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# Your gifts are making a significant difference

**MATERNAL HEALTH PROGRAMS...** *continued from page 1*



three months they have treated 350 malnourished children, 300 of whom have been successfully treated. The other 50 children remain in treatment, and ICC staff are working diligently to see them through to a healthy weight. The clinic is not only providing life saving Maternal Health for vulnerable and at risk children, their services include a wide range of family health programs. These programs include health education, which teaches mothers how to properly care for their young children, family planning services, psycho social counseling, HIV/AIDS treatment and counseling,

correct hygiene techniques, and they also provide food and clean drinking water to mothers and their children. None of this would be possible without the generous support of Canadian donors like you, who are helping to change the lives of some of the most vulnerable children and mothers in Northern Haiti. The North of Haiti severely lacks the programs and support system required for young mothers and children like Clerçine and Dieudelin. That is why ICC's Maternal Health program is committed to provide the vital programs and support that Haitian families desperately need.

## The Power of Partnership

*Your dollars being leveraged*

**GRACE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL (GCH)** lost the use of roughly 80% of its buildings due to structural damage caused by the January 12th Earthquake last year. Since then, International Child Care has been tirelessly working to provide the much needed medical support that the Haitian people require. Containers to Clinics (C2C) along with AmeriCares and Management Sciences for Health (MSH) saw the need for



Containers to Clinics (C2C) Partnership with GCH.

an interim medical treatment facility at GCH and decided in November 2010 that they were going to do something to help. This led to their unveiling of an innovative clinic to restore quality healthcare services for women and children at GCH by sup-

porting the installation and operation of a new Maternal Care unit. Containers to Clinics (C2C) built this new clinic out of recycled shipment containers and outfitted the facility with furniture and medical equipment for primary and preventative health interventions. Using recycled shipping containers as the main structural material ensures the clinic's adaptability, security and most importantly durability.

The Maternal Care Unit will provide mothers and children with pre and post-natal care, family planning services, health screenings, vaccinations, health education and nutrition counseling. Containers to Clinics (C2C) construct the clinic and provide site coordination to ensure proper functioning of operations. AmeriCares helps support the clinic by providing medical equipment, materials and supplies for both the clinic and hospital, and Management Science for Health (MSH) provides oversight by collecting monthly data and performing regular evaluations. This partnership provides life changing, sustainable and consistent services to maternal patients while GCH undergoes its rebuilding phase.

## PORT MARGOT CHOCOLATE PRODUCTION SUPPORTS ICC Health Clinics

**PORT MARGOT**, is a small rural town in Northern Haiti, about an hour from Cap Haitien. ICC operates a health clinic/dispensary in the area, and in a creative way to raise funds to support the work, also operates a chocolate factory in the city. While Haiti has not usually been known for its chocolate production, it's a steadily increasing export, and Northern Haiti grows a significant quantity of the cocoa beans used in its manufacture. The ICC chocolate factory is a micro enterprise community cooperative project and serves as a self-sustaining business model that benefits both the business and the community. ICC provides an interest free loan to purchase the equipment needed for chocolate processing; a grinding mill, working space and a generator to power it. The profits generated from the chocolate production are used to pay back the initial loan amount, which is then used to start other community businesses. The members of the chocolate collective purchase cocoa beans from local producers, grind them into an unsweetened paste, then package and sell it locally. A portion of the profits generated help support the operational costs of health centers like the health clinic/Dispensary of Port Margot. The workers volunteer their time, and all profits are re-invested into the community health operations.



Locally made chocolate which helps to support clinics.



Artists impression of new GCH

## Chicago-based Children's Memorial Hospital joins ICC in our dream of a new Grace Children's Hospital

Despite the slow progress that has been seen in much of Haiti's relief and reconstruction efforts, ICC's unwavering commitment to providing health and wholeness to children and families is being further exemplified by ICC's plan to build a new \$20 million dollar Grace Children's Hospital (GCH) in the Lower Delmas area of Port au Prince. ICC has partnered with the Chicago-based Children's Memorial Hospital to commence the design and planning stage in the rebuilding of GCH.

The Chicago based coalition, which included Illinois State Senator Kwame Raoul, along with seven other prominent healthcare workers, engineers and architects, traveled to Haiti back in February to assess the environment, community and property damage surrounding GCH. Chicago Children's Memorial Hospital is currently building a new children's hospital, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, opening June, 2012. It is quite amazing that despite being in the process of completing construction of

their own \$915 million hospital, they are still willing to donate both their time and expertise to help GCH and the people of Haiti. "Our vision is to share that experience in helping plan, construct and operate a Haitian-driven and sustained women and children's hospital and outreach health delivery system," says Bruce Komiske, Chief of Design and Construction at Lurie Children's. "The goal of this alliance is to significantly improve the health status of all Haitian children within the next five years with the hope that the process becomes a model for other developing countries."

Grace Children's Hospital campus master plan will provide a road map for the organized growth of services, while providing flexibility and expandability for changes due to clinical advances, technological innovation and local market opportunities. This regrowth will be the catalyst for a broad community rebirth. This vision will be the foundation of the reconstruction plan and will guide the planning process. The new hospital

design is based on both the current healthcare needs in the surrounding communities as well as the vision for services that GCH will provide in the future. The conceptual design is built on a model that allows both functionality and a smooth patient flow which will increase efficiency and the timely treatment of patients.

The new GCH will include a variety of health and social services such as an Intensive Care Unit, Emergency Response unit, Maternal Health unit, TB/HIV inpatient ward, Pediatric ward, Rehab clinic and a school for inpatients. The inpatient ward has been designed to comfortably accommodate 123 inpatient beds, as well as another 12 beds in the emergency ward. The new design has also placed an emphasis on families of children in the inpatient ward, which has led to the creation of family waiting rooms. This will act as a place for parents and families to wait comfortably when they are making frequent visits to patients who are acutely ill and spending weeks or months in GCH's inpatient ward.

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**DEAR FRIENDS OF ICC CANADA,**

I’m occasionally asked the question, “How is it that all you folks working in relief and development don’t work together more and save valuable human and financial resources?” It’s a very pertinent question and one that I’m very pleased to report is of keen interest to us here at ICC Canada.

As I was reviewing this Grace Newsletter I was very encouraged, (and I hope you will be too) to note the number of people, groups and agencies that ICC is currently partnering with, to some degree or another, in the reconstruction of Grace Children’s Hospital in Port au Prince.

I include groups such as Containers to Clinics (C2C) along with AmeriCares and Management Sciences for Health (MSH), all of whom are assisting us by providing fully equipped, air-conditioned temporary clinics, medical equipment and data collection services for our Maternal Health services in PAP; the Chicago-based Children’s Memorial Hospital, which is helping with the design and planning stage; World Vision Canada and the NHL Player’s Association who are working together to help raise further funds for the reconstruction phase, as well as Health Partners International who continue to supply us with much-needed free medical supplies.

What a true blessing to see God bringing this diverse group of people together, along with your greatly appreciated support, to build something that will be a blessing to the people of Haiti for generations to come.

God bless you!



Peter D. Montgomery  
National Director,  
ICC Canada



The main objective of ICC in building the new GCH is to provide desperately needed services to the Haitian people. With this in mind, the ultimate goal will be to use both labour and materials from within the country when they are readily available. This will help stimulate the local economy and help further develop the skilled labour force within the country, creating employment and a sense of local ownership in the rebuilding process. ICC and the Chicago-based Children’s Memorial Hospital coalition spent countless hours talking to patients and hospital staff in order to determine how to address gaps and challenges that they are currently facing and will face in the future. This research has been instrumental in designing the most appropriate hospital possible for the Haitian people, rather than a hospital based solely on North American notions of design and construction. This is an extremely exciting time for ICC, its many devoted supporters, and most importantly, its Haitian beneficiaries.

The rebuilding of a much needed bigger and better GCH will provide long lasting, sustainable improvements to the currently fragile, insufficient health care system in Haiti. Through the construction of GCH, ICC hopes to set a new standard for the adequate provision of Health Care services, both within Haiti and in many other underdeveloped and developing countries around the world. This is a monumental undertaking for ICC and will be the largest fundraising endeavor in the history of the organization.

Now, more than ever, ICC is going to need your faithful support and prayers in order to raise the capital to rebuild GCH. We are trusting in God, and know that through Him all things are possible. If you, your business, or your church community would like to be a part of the fundraising efforts and are interested in hosting a charity/fundraising event, don’t hesitate to contact the ICC Canada office for assistance.

**WE INVITE YOU ON A LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE THIS YEAR!**



ICC believes that the first step towards global change is understanding, and we invite you to take that first step by becoming a member of one of our Mission Education Encounter Teams (MEET). This life

changing opportunity is available to both individuals and small groups interested in traveling to ICC’s programs in Haiti and/or the Dominican Republic to put their hearts and their hands to use in the field. MEET trips are a week

long opportunity to experience the joy that is experienced through direct contact with the families that benefit through ICC’s work in some of the most challenging circumstances in the world. What better way to see firsthand all of the miraculous work that your financial support is providing to women and children in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. MEET trips are not for the faint of heart-they are for the generous of heart. I know that this experience will change your life in the same way it has changed the lives of past MEET participants. Give us a call to set up your life changing experience at 1-888-722-4453.