



Allison Shelley for LWR

# Haiti: Your Love at Work

After an earthquake destroyed health centers serving thousands, your gifts helped repair them

## BEFORE THE EARTHQUAKE, DANGER AND CHAOS

Well before the summer 2021 earthquake, Haiti's health care system was severely strained. Poverty and a lack of government support meant that sick people often did not receive the treatment they needed. The pandemic compounded this. In June 2021, Covid-19 cases doubled. Hospitals treating Covid patients had to turn patients away due to lack of beds and equipment.

The overall context, too, made it incredibly challenging to improve health systems. Haiti has long been plagued by conflict and insecurity. Waves of kidnapping and political violence impacted local governments' ability provide basic services — like health care.

## AUGUST 14, 2021: THE QUAKE STRIKES

In the morning of August 14, a magnitude 7.2 earthquake struck Haiti about 100 miles west of the country's capital, Port-au-Prince. It killed more than 2,000 people and injured nearly 13,000. And 137,500 buildings were damaged or destroyed, including half of the country's health facilities.

The health centers that managed to keep going were overwhelmed. Already stretched to the breaking point by Covid, they did not have enough staff or medical supplies to help the injured. Many people in need of basic care had to travel long distances in areas where the quake had damaged roads and access. A key bridge linking Jérémie, the largest city in the Grand'Anse department, to the eastern side of the island collapsed after the earthquake.

Materials and medical supplies delivery at Hospital Antoine Jeremie.



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## BY THE NUMBERS



**134,710**

People served by restoring four quake-damaged health centers



**646**

Boxes of medical supplies delivered



**4,716**

People reached with awareness about how to prevent diseases like Covid — including by health workers going door to door



**50,000**

Water purification tabs delivered

### HUMANITARIAN TEAMS RESPOND: THEIR BRAVERY, YOUR SUPPORT

We responded to the disaster within the first week, deploying an emergency team to Jérémie to assess health care facilities and distribute relief supplies like water purification products, tarps, and hygiene kits.

After this initial response, the team began planning large-scale repairs to four critical health centers that together served more than 130,000 people. Your gifts made purchasing supplies possible, but teams had to navigate a risky environment. To bring building materials, shipped by sea, over land was incredibly dangerous. Gangs were actively blocking roads in the southern part of Port-au-Prince.

The team was able to negotiate UN flights and sent two shipments of project materials by air. During times when road travel was possible, rivers became the problem: overflowing water in the rainy season often prevented deliveries. At other times, trucks simply went through the water as best they could.



### ONE YEAR LATER, YOUR COMPASSION HAS BORNE FRUIT

Overcoming the obstacles, teams were able to repair the four health centers, adding important improvements like wheelchair-access ramps, handwashing stations, and medical-waste incinerators. Your gifts also sent health supplies like wound care kits and IVs to the centers. As part of the program, staff trained nearly 50,000 people in infection control techniques.

Thousands of Haitian whose access to health care was interrupted by the quake — expectant mothers, children who need vaccines, the elderly with chronic illnesses — now have a place to go. After a calamitous disaster, your generosity is helping patients get the medical care they need.

#### Your kindness equipped centers with:

- Bed linens and towels
- Gloves, masks and goggles
- Wound care kits and dressings
- Sharps containers
- IV tubing
- Other vital supplies

#### And repaired:

- Roof leaks
- Electrical systems
- Water supply systems
- Wall cracks
- Toilet and shower blocks
- Septic tanks



New electrical system at the Moron health facility.



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