



Marco Depestre Foundation of Ottawa

January 2012 Bulletin No 1

Welcome to the first bulletin edition of the Marco Depestre Foundation of Ottawa (MDFO) in 2012. First, we would like to wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year 2012 filled with God's richest blessings of health, hope and joy. Our goal is to preserve the dignity and promote the wellbeing among our needy neighbours in Haiti.

It is almost two years since the devastating earthquake in Haiti claimed the lives of over 200,000 and changed the lives of millions more. The international response to this disaster was overwhelming, yet the desperate conditions have not changed significantly for many who are still picking up the pieces with courage and hope that things will improve for them and their children. Benevolent acts of kindness have given many Haitians strength and hope to face their daily challenges, as they realize that others care enough to demonstrate it in tangible ways.

Since our Annual meeting in June 2011, MDFO has been registered as a Not-for-Profit Corporation through the Ministry of Government Services of Ontario. Also, a Cooperative Agreement has been signed between MDFO and the Marco Depestre Foundation in Haïti (MDFH) to assist with the implementation of our projects.

The following activities were accomplished in the latter part of 2011:

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

12 children were provided with funds to assist their guardians with educational fees and costs. This project is being monitored by a dedicated professional volunteer, Mrs. Arnelle Julien.



MARO VERGER SCHOOL



37 children who are receiving schooling under a tent, were provided with school supplies in October.

MAKARY HOME REPAIR PROJECT



Aluminium sheets, cement and nails were distributed in July for the repair of 4 homes.

CHRISTMAS MEAL PROJECT



Over a thousand sisters and brothers were provided with meals, foodstuff, and toys during December in the areas of La Saline, Makary and Poste Marchand.

It was a good opportunity for dental care techniques and Malaria prevention to be provided to those in attendance.



Wherever possible, labour was acquired in the regions where activities took place so residents could be provided with the means to make a living, with a belief that a small infusion of money in the local economy would benefit many.

We take pleasure in sharing with you what we have accomplished in the last six months through your generous support, and by the grace of God. We thank you for your support of the work and activities of MDFO, in the belief that:

«... let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest, if we do not give up».

Galatians 6:9