

Reconstruction is Beginning

House of Hope



Photo of front corner of House of Hope showing block wall knocked out of place. A number of interior and exterior walls received similar damage.

House of Hope received serious, but repairable damage. Following is the report from our Haitian architect Chetlin-

“The building was partially cracked under the strikes of the devastating earthquake, so it needs to be reinforced. Some of the columns and walls are cracked. Due to this situation, all the columns have to be reinforced and the cracked wall have to be replaced in order to guarantee the safety of the users.”

The total cost for this portion of repairs will be \$10,957. We have been blessed with donations to cover this part of the repairs. After structural repairs are complete, work teams will be needed to patch “surface” cracks and repaint the interior of the building. Structural repairs will include wrapping damaged columns in a 1/8 inch steel casing, adding additional steel support posts next to undamaged columns, and reinforcing concrete block walls to prevent cracking.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for our manager, Angelo, that God will give him strength and wisdom to manage the house through this crisis. He also lost his home in the earthquake.
- Pray for wisdom and strength for Carl and Carole Vorst and the board members of Amer-Haitian Bon Zami.
- Pray that a 40 ft. container can be shipped in April.
- Pray for the security and safety of our children and staff.
- Pray for all of our neighbors and God’s children in Haiti who are suffering, that God will quickly bring them the help they need.

Patti’s School



A view of one of the West walls of Patti’s School knocked down by the quake. The walls will be rebuilt to be earthquake resistant.

The roof of Patti’s School will be poured on Sunday Feb. 28. Pouring on Sunday will draw less attention than on other days of the week. The city inspector determined that the columns and beams are sufficiently strong to complete the roof. Troy Wiedner from Stillwater (PA) Christian Church will supervise the pour and make sure that the concrete forms and supports were not shaken out of place. Troy supervised the original project two days before the earthquake and is the best person to verify that everything is still in place.

The school walls did not fare as well as the school’s columns and beams. The wall along the West side of the school collapsed. When the quake struck, the walls were only partially complete and not fully supported.

Work Teams

The work of rebuilding will take years, but with your help we can accomplish the job. While construction work teams are filled for June and July, there is still need for a construction team in May. If you are interested, please send an email to cvorst@charter.net. Include the words “work team” in the subject line. You will receive an application by return email.

Vacation Bible School

Have you considered using House of Hope for your Vacation Bible School mission? Materials can be provided which include a PowerPoint presentation for each day and can be tailored to meet your specific needs.

Mailing address:

Amer-Haitian Bon Zami
PO Box 45298, St. Louis, MO 63145

Shipping address:

Amer-Haitian Bon Zami
11146 Morrow Drive, St. Ann, MO 63074