

...BUT GOD



PROJECT HAITI



First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi

The Story

How do we best help the survivors of the Haiti earthquake? This was the question a team from First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi was considering on a visit to that earthquake devastated country in August, 2010.

Housing is obviously one of the greatest needs in Haiti. Meeting this need would be a great way to demonstrate the love of Christ to hurting and homeless people.

The tent cities of Haiti are overwhelming. It is estimated there are 1.2 million people living in tents. The photos the FBCJ team brought back of a 50,000 person tent city were hard to comprehend. Some of the tents are small camping tents donated after the earthquake. Others are tarps supported by sticks with a sheet of corrugated tin for a door. The tents are jammed together with two to ten people living in each one. Adequate housing could bring hope to so many who have given up on hope.

The team met a student named Thomas at an amputee refugee camp east of Port-au-Prince.

Thomas was in the camp with his mom who had lost a limb in the quake. His father had been killed.

Pastor Stan Buckley asked Thomas what it would mean for his family to have a small house in a nice village. Thomas's response was, "Well, it would mean everything, but there is no possibility."

BUT GOD was the phrase that rang in Pastor Stan's ears after he heard that reply. Yes, this is a hopeless situation,

...but God

The Solution

Upon their return from three days in Haiti, the team wrestled with the issue of the housing problem in Haiti. Enter the new Haiti house!

The house would be constructed with 4 x 8 foot panels that consist of 4 inches of Styrofoam sandwiched between 1/4 inch sheets of magnesium board. When constructed, you would have a 12 x 16 foot house at the affordable cost of \$3,000 per house.

While the house would be a crucial element of the work in Haiti, there was no desire to build



something that would turn into a slum or a ghetto. The idea of a planned community was developed. Not only would there be houses, but also a church, a medical clinic, and a school, along with partners to operate each one. In addition, there would be plots of land where food could be grown. A world-renowned agriculturalist would be involved to give guidance for the growing of food. Put it all together and the impossible, expressed by a former student, becomes the answer to a dream he didn't dare to dream. Reproduce those communities throughout the countryside and the lives of untold numbers of people could be changed forever.

The amazing thing is that what you've just read is about to become reality. Not only that, but you can participate in this life-giving project.



A Planned Community

INCLUDING 5 ELEMENTS
Housing - Church - Education
Agriculture/Food - Medical/Dental

Partnerships:

- **Housing:** First Baptist Church, Jackson, MS (FBCJ)
- **Medical/Dental:** Hispanolia Mountain Ministries (HMM)
- **Church:** HMM & FBCJ
- **Agriculture/Food:** Metro Baptist Association, Jackson, MS
- **Education:** Hope for the Hungry

Time Line:

- December 2010: Land Survey
- January 2011: Site Preparation
- February 2011: Dental Clinic
- March 2011: Special Offering for Haiti at FBCJ
- May 2011: First Construction Team
- June, July and August 2011: Mission Teams (Construction, Medical, VBS, etc.)

How can you participate?

1. PROVIDE a House for Haiti

- \$3,000 pays for a house
- \$1,500 pays for half a house
- \$1,000 pays for one-third of a house
- \$430 pays for two panels
- \$215 pays for one panel

Please note that 100% of donations given will go towards the building of this planned community including housing, church, school, medical clinic, agricultural plots, and other related items.

Donations can be made online at www.fbcj.org or by mailing a check made payable to First Baptist Jackson to:

PROJECT HAITI
First Baptist Church
P.O. Box 250
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0250

2. Volunteer to GO

Construction will begin in Haiti in May of 2011. Volunteer for a team and go in June, July, or August 2011.

3. PRAY

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For questions or suggestions, contact
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601-825-5764.



Connecting *People*
Transforming *Lives*
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