

Haiti report 1-18-10, by Cyndi McNamara

Moises asked me to meet with Dr. Bido again today and learn about what is going on. The people going on the team to Haiti were asked to come to the hospital today to receive vaccinations at 10 AM. Naturally when I went to see what was going on, there were only a few people there, mainly TV and political people. I met Hilda Peguero who works for the TV station, but is also a social worker. I also met Heriberto Marte (aka guy) who is a TV producer. They are pictured here with one of their peers.



A meeting to work on the finalization of the plans was held in Moises' office, Kristy, Andrea, Dr. Bido (not pictured) were there.



But before long, we had to move to the conference center because we were joined by Elsa, Vitale Pierre.



Thanks to Andrea and Kristy I am able to report on the highlights of the meeting.

There are now 80+ people going of which 30 are medical people from La Romana. Once the list of people going is complete I will attach it to this report however; I will mention a few people. Elsa Phanord will be in charge of cooking for the team and they will be sleeping in tents. They are also going to be joined by Mission people from San Pedro de Marcoris and Santo Domingo. In addition to Kristy Engle, other missionaries going are Ketly and Vital Pierre, (Ketly and Vital were missionaries in La Romana in the mid 1990's), Tanis and Esther Derolus (Pastor & his wife of the church and school in Las Colinas Ester is Pastor Eldon's daughter). Jean Baptiste will be returning with this team as well as Denny, Jean Claude, Andy, and Andrea. I pray that they will all be safe and that the emotional impact of what they see and experience won't be too difficult for them to handle.

Many contacts in the US are being made which will be useful for future trips. We all realize that this is just the first of many trips that will be made, but this trip is critical in helping determine how to best respond.

After the meeting Moises told me that the biggest need now is for money. They are going to purchase 2 or more generators at a cost of \$2000, plus an inverter and batteries to bring with them and leave with the Mission in Port-au-Prince. They are also going to have to purchase food for the team, stoves, tanks

of gas for their use while they are there. All of this equipment is going to be left for the mission to use and to be used by future teams that come. They are going to be served breakfast and supper and sleep in tents.

I was talking with Andy about how valuable the experiences of doing Batey Medical clinics will be for this trip. Kristy will have over sight of 3 medical teams, who will be going to the world's largest Batey full of people who are getting hungrier every day.

(1-18-10 2:38 pm)