Jeff Cherubin Domond Foundation "Partners with Haiti"



One Missionary's experience

At Marbial deep in the jungle-forest of southern Haiti, where two rivers converge, Joe and Rita Domond introduce us to another part of that earth-quaked nation. To the people they introduce a marvelous display of medicine: two dentists, a dermatologist, two nurses and a school teacher/licensed nurse.

They had flown into Port-au-Prince and gathered at the home of Joe and Rita. Now Sunday they see the truck piled high with medicine and medical equipment. All of us will follow shortly in a packed SUV, the one hundred miles south to Jacmel, then west. A new driver continues as we crisscross the shallow river each time finding where it is less rocky, going deeper into heavy vegetation.

We are only moving ten miles an hour and we come to the "V" of the two rivers. There is located a church, school, and priests' house, our destination and our workshop.

From our privileged U.S. standard of living we transfer to a very basic standard. One room with four cots is for the men; an adjacent room with five cots is for the ladies. One bathroom is shared by all. A water barrel is to dip a pail of water to flush the toilet. Again the barrel, the pail to douse ourselves, soap up and douse ourselves again. Shower done.

Sleeping at night was a treat with the river laughing over the rocks just forty yards on each side of us. Daytime meals were only part Haitian--plantain, bread fruit, goat, and even spaghetti for breakfast.

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An Evening of Music and Lights

Please join us for an evening of fun to support the work of Jeff Cherubin Domond Foundation's continuing provision of direct medical and dental care, educational, and orphanage services in Haiti. It's going to be a night to remember. We look forward to your participation in this exciting event. Please save the date.

DATE: November 12, 2011

TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

LOCATION:

Pat & Chris Shaner's estate 695 W. Via Espirito Santos, Claremont

COST: \$60 per person

Reservations are available by contacting: Chris Shaner at 909.621.2014 clhayes1@earthlink.com

or

The Domonds at 909.399.3203 jdomond@jeffcdomondfoundation.org rita@jeffcdomondfoundation.org

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Monday morning arrives. Our week starts, the throngs scheduled for Monday are waiting at the school.

We are using four classrooms. A Haitian doc-

tor and nurse are in one room. Dina, a school teacher/certified nurse's assistant, is testing eyes to disperse the seven hundred pairs of glasses. Amy Gouley, a dermatologist, is ready to tend to



itching, rashes, fungus and detect gangrene. At her disposal are a stock of salves, ointments, and creams and an interpreter-nurse, Rita Domond.

In the first of the four cinder block classrooms of the 1950s construction are the two dentists. They It is certainly is nothing like what they left behind – walls painted in coordinated colors, perfect bright lights, a cushioned, push-button adjustable dental chair and a hygienist at-hand.



The patient straddles the five feet long school bench and Dr. Carmel Pradel stands on one leg the other on the bench and the patient leans back on her lap and she goes to work – five days of extracting, extracting and extracting.

Dr. Arthur Forrest, much taller, asks patients to stand on the bench and sit on the writing top of the bench, leaning their head back to the window bars before he begins drilling and filling, his shirt soaking wet from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mario, Joe and Rita's son, is translating, like an angel, appearing wherever needed.

Sterilizing is going on outside with a charcoal fire and two dishpans on the floor with chlorine and other sterilizing solutions. Dental instruments are more or less laid out on tables, benches and duffle bags around the room. So much adjusting and "make do". I think that borders on the miraculous.

At the meals, it is evident that here in remote,

tropical Marbial we had such a marvelous team serving our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

Fr. Jerome (Jerry) Schmit is a retired priest who serves part-time at Sacred Heart Church in



Pomona, California. He has previously traveled to Haiti to visit with Fr. Tom Hagan's Hands Together programs in Haiti's worst slum, Cite Soleil in Portau-Prince. Fr. Jerry was interested in visiting rural Haiti, so he traveled and assisted with the Jeff Cherubin Domond Foundation's mission this July.

According to Joe Domond, every year someone on the team seems to step up and generate energy among the team during a very fatiguing week. This year it was Fr. Jerry.



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Centre D'Etudes Jeff Cherubin Domond By Noreen Muscato

The Jeff Cherubin Domond School (Centre D'Etudes Jeff Cherubin) began, through your donations, with the idea that it would serve the educational needs of the Haitian children who live in the rural community of Marbial, Haiti. These children do not have access to school because of the lack of transportation and distance they have to the city of Jacmel where the schools are located.

For this reason many parents in the rural community make the difficult decision to give their children to families who live in the city with to give their children the opportunity to receive an education. Unfortunately, these children often end up being used as "domestics" and are forced to cook, clean and perform other house chores rather than attend school. Sometimes many of these children are physically abused and their parents are not aware that they are being mistreated and not attending school. Not only do these children have to adjust with being away from their families, in many cases they are neglected and not receiving basic necessities like



food and clothing. Often they become "lost" children as communication between children and parents is cutoff. In Haiti children are required to attend kindergarten at age 5 for three years before graduating to first grade. In 2007, thanks to your generosity, the foundation was able to start a school in the old house where Joe Domond was born. As a result, 29 children of all ages from this rural community attended school in the classroom for the first time.

Since 2008, with your help, one classroom has been added to the school each year. The school currently consists of five classrooms accommodating kindergarten classes I, II, & III, and 'Fondamentale' classes I & II. The 'fondamentale' classes are like 1st & 2nd grades in comparison to our school system.

The Centre D'Etudes Jeff Cherubin currently has 103 students, and we are happy to announce that since the start of the school 52 students have graduated and successfully moved on to the next grade and continue to excel academically.

Without your kindness the foundation would not have been able to pay for teacher wages, purchase school supplies and pay for school uniforms. In addition, thanks to your generosity, we have been able to provide the school with a water filtration system so students and teachers now have access to clean water for the first time!

Our goal next year is to build a school to replace the old house where we currently house the kindergarten that was damaged in the earthquake.

Come see firsthand where your donations go. Join us for a fun-filled evening at our next fundraiser on November 12, 2011. We will have photos and videos available where you can see the excitement and enthusiasm on the faces of the children that attend the Jeff Cherubin School.

We appreciate your kindness and generosity and most importantly so do the children of Marbial! We look forward to seeing you!

(Noreen is a co-chair volunteer at the Jeff Cherubin Domond Foundation.)

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How your money was put to work

By Chris Shaner, Chair person

Domond Foundation, we make this ministry all about the people we are serving and the people who make it happen. And they are the best at what they do! And our children in the school and the community that attends our medical trips so appreciate all you do with the money you donate!

But, it takes money! The Foundation was started in 2006 with donations of \$4,790, and has grown to a total of \$84,563 in the past five years. So, you can see that we have had great growth in our donations, and continue to receive more each year from our loyal and generous patrons.

Our school has grown from one classroom and one class of 29 to four grades and four classrooms. Our children have grown from 29 to 103, with more coming each year. This requires new classrooms and new teachers each year, and so our school's budget has grown to \$30,000 a year.

Our medical trips each year have also grown. We started in 2009 with our annual pilgrimage to the village, and since have received \$63,963 in donations to accomplish our mission. We try to take as many professionals as possible to the village for a week to administer as much dental and medical help as possible. These dedicated people who volunteer their time and skills have served over 1,500 people as dental patients and have pulled over 1,600 teeth during those three visits. We have seen over 1,300 medical patients in only 10 days with each of these wonderful professionals working over 200 hours in three visits. Our medical budget for the coming year is \$40,000.

In addition to the children and the medical trips, we are also supporting children in an orphanage, and hope to raise \$10,000 this year, as we have spent \$5,220 in the past three years and hope to grow this ministry

Last, but not least, we started taking water filters to the people to help them avoid the diseases in the water they drink. We were fortunate enough to have a donation of \$8200 this year and to purchase over 200 water filters for their homes. We hope to add to this each year by budgeting \$10,000 this year for the filters.



We also had a generous donation this year for clothing of \$5000 that was to be used for the children. We were able to clothe many and make uniforms for the children in the school. We have budgeted \$10,000 also for this ministry.

So, as you can see, we have a large budget of \$100,000, and we continue to need your support in any way you can to help us reach our goals. Without your help and generosity, we could never make these wonderful ministries happen. Thank you so much for all your help, and PLEASE, keep it coming. We need you more and more each year.

Jeff Cherubin Domond Foundation

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