

"RED TAPE" CAUSING SECOND DISASTER

Manassas, Virginia- February 1, 2010 - The Missionaries of Our Lady of Divine Mercy are on the ground in Haiti and have seen hundreds of cases of malnutrition, dire thirst and deplorable sanitation in make-shift tent camps.

One particular camp the missionaries visited was located in a soccer stadium. Upon arrival, missionaries witnessed a man whipping children with a belt trying to subdue a crowd that had gathered for food. Walking through the camp, women approached us asking for medical assistance. One girl, 12 years old, had a severe head injury and the wound was filthy. "There are no doctors here," she said with an urgency in her voice. Her mother, showed me her ankle which was already infected.

In short this is what Haiti looks like today:

- There is limited electricity in the city; most people are using generators if they have them
- There are at least 1 million homeless
- Every Catholic Church except St. Peter's is down
- Tent camps are everywhere and people are using sheets to cover themselves
- There are at least 10,000 people in one camp that have no organization feeding or giving water
- Water trucks are distributing water in the city with lines stretching over 200 people
- We witnessed children being whipped as they tried to press for food at one camp
- Malnutrition is at a critical level
- The airport is full of food, but logistical "red tape" is keeping aid from being delivered
- The Missionaries of Our Lady of Divine Mercy, using a private network, distributed food, water and medical supplies to area hospitals
- There are still bodies in the buildings, but due to lack of equipment cannot be extracted
- Hospitals are doing frequent amputations because of infection and these same people are being put out on the street soon after surgery
- There are very, very few wheel chairs, crutches, hospital beds and antibiotics available
- Children are running through the street in virtual rags begging for food and water
- While some areas of the cities that were not deeply affected by the earthquake are selling food, other areas have nothing
- Trash is so bad that people are burning it in the street at night
- Most people are using filthy water to bathe and there is no sanitation at several major tent cities.

THE EARTHQUAKE IS NOT OVER UNTIL EVERY CHILD HAS FOOD, SHELTER, WATER AND LOVE

it is time to bring the Church to the people. Please help us by providing financial donations. We will use the money to purchase additional tents, medical supplies, food and water for these people. We are all part of the same story.

THE TIME FOR MERCY IS NOW.

YOU ARE THE INSTRUMENT TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.



About Missionaries of Our Lady of Divine Mercy

The Missionaries of Our Lady of Divine Mercy is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to serving the poor through the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. We believe in the dignity of every human life and strive to bring the message of God's love and mercy to each person we serve.

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