The Links, Incorporated™

Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service

Brooklyn Chapter of The Links, Incorporated

Medical Necessities for…

Haiti





Linking the Situation in Haiti & Liberia

- Haiti was devastated by the 2010 earthquake displacing 2.3 million people from their homes with little access to safe drinking water, sanitation and health care.
- 1.55 million displaced Haitians gathered in spontaneous camps.
- Liberia's 14-year civil war ending in 2003 displaced communities and significantly impacted the ability to meet their health care needs.
- In postwar Liberia, only 354 health facilities of the pre-war total of 550 health facilities remained operational and are primarily staffed by NGOs. Nine of 10 doctors fled the country; medical training systems have collapsed.
- Statistics for maternal and child health are particularly dire for both Haiti and Liberia.

The Mission

To address a destabilizing health crisis in Haiti and in Liberia, we endeavor to provide direct care service and humanitarian support to strengthen the health and well-being of women and their children in the affected areas of Haiti and Liberia. These projects are designed to provide resources and technical assistance to improve preventive and curative health care services for women and children, the most vulnerable members of society.

Short Term Goals

- Provide hygiene supplies to displaced women and girls;
- Promote comfort, personal hygiene, healthy habits and prevent reproductive tract infections;
- Develop genuine partnership with organizations with connections with local health care systems within Liberia to ensure long term sustainability of the project; and
- Recruit key professionals to scale up and study effectiveness of projects.

Long Term Goals

Identify key clinicians affiliated with medical centers and other educational institutions who can provide both medical assistance and training needed to replenish the medical infrastructure of both countries;

- Develop additional partners who can assist in the supply of medical equipment and other medical necessities, and
- Cultivate a support network where new locally based medical institutions can be established, servicing the needs of their communities with home grown talent.

Medical Necessity for…

Haiti



Survival Kits

Medical Assistance

Phase I: Survival Kits Accomplishments

- More than 500 Survival Kits have been assembled, all in kind donations
- Four chapter Survival Kit Drives, three Survival Kit assembly parties; three community partnership drives; and Haiti Remembrance Day 2011 and 2013; Ongoing Needs Awareness chapter activities.
- Personal hygiene survival kits include: panties, sanitary napkins, pantiliners, disposable wipes,







Phase I: Survival Kits Promoting Awareness



Through community forums and commemorative ceremonies, we raise awareness about the ongoing needs of the Haitian people (medical/ mental health and financial)



Phase I: Survival Kit Partners



- 1199 SEIU
- St. Augustine's Church Youth Group
- St Phillips Episcopal Church
- Cursillo Group
- Caribbean Chamber of Commerce.
- City Council Member Mathieu Eugene
- Medgar Evers College
- Haitian American Student Association of Medgar Evers College
- Haitian-American Community Coalition, Inc.
- Brooklyn Chapter of Jack and Jill of America (Associates Group)
- Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (CACCI), Roy and Edith Hastick

Phase I: Survival Kits Publicity



Photo by Tequila Minsky

LEND A HAND TO HELP ANOTHER

Love
Compassion Generosity

JOIN THE BROOKLYN LINKS. INC. INTERNATIONAL TRENDS FACET AS WE ASSEMBLE SURVIVAL KITS FOR HAITI
&
SET IN MOTION OUR LIBERIAN INITIATIVE

Sunday, May 19th, 2013
Link Evelyn will share her trip to Liberia during meeting
Items needed for Survival Kits: deodorant, soap, panties, panty liners, individually wrapped liners, individually wrapped sanitary napkins, individually packaged toothbrushes, toothpaste, and washcloths
Vicki to receive survival kits during
Reception hour

1199 SEIU members celebrate life in Haiti
By Tequila Minsky
Many events in the New York area marking the second anniversary of the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti took place last week.
Haitians and Friends of Haiti of 1199SEIU gathered at the 1199SEIU building on W. 42nd St. to commemorate the date and formally acknowledge those who pitched in during Haiti's greatest need. The earthquake took almost 300,000 lives and devastated thousands more. Two years later more than 500,000 are still living in tents and thousands of others have moved back into damaged homes.
Additionally, the evening of Remembrance Celebration of Life was billed as the 1st Annual "We Care for Haiti Gala," promoting the Survival Kit Drive for the Women of Haiti.
Following the earthquake in the spring of 2010, the Kit Drive was developed to provide women and girls in Haiti urgent and essential toiletry items – items often overlooked in crisis relief drives. The SEIU199 community joined UNICEF and established the "We Care for Haiti Campaign."
Schools and colleges, religious and professional organizations and others have supplied kit items. Efforts from SEIU1199 members, staff from the union and Family of Funds, retirees and the community continue their support for women and girls in Haiti.
A kit contains underwear, sanitary napkins, liners, soap, washcloth, a toothbrush, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, lotion, deodorant, and a comb packaged in a 1-gallon plastic bag.
A silent auction took place to help raise funds for more Survival Kits.
Minister of Haitians Living Abroad Daniel Supplice traveled to New York from Haiti specifically for this event and presided over the awards presentation. Along with public figure dignitaries like New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly and Councilman Mathieu Eugene and those known in the celebrity world like Wyclef Jean and Marc Baptiste, long-time activists 1199SEIU VP Estella Vasquez and Secretary Maria Castaneda and Links members including Hazel Dukes of the NAACP and Merriette Pollard from the Brooklyn Chapter were recognized.
This was also a chance for members of the community to meet the new Haitian Consul, Forbin Charles Antoine.
Award recipient Rocky Robinson, retired Captain FDNY EMS of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Volunteer Ambulance Corporation, gave one of the most moving responses on receipt of his award. He told of how days after the earthquake, he wrote on the Internet that he wanted to go to Haiti to help and Yele responded, helping to send him. Post-earthquake, Robinson returned many times to Haiti many times to help.
Vicki Sylvain of the 1199SEIU/Employer Child Care Corporation is the project coordinator of the Survival Kit Drive. The Kit Drive continues with a goal of 50,000 kits. (If you want to help, contact: 646-473-8371, email vicki.sylvain@1199funds.org or haitiwskd@gmail.com).

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Phase I: Survival Kits
Watch Us on YouTube

QRC / We Care for Haiti Survival Kit Drive - YouTube
www.youube.com/watch?v=D5wPHa8FGTQ
Mar 25, 2014 - Uploaded by Vicki Sylvain
Survival Kit Drive for Haiti four years later. ... **QRC** / We Care for Haiti **Survival Kit Drive**. Vicki Sylvain

1199SEIU Survival Kit Drive for the Women of Haiti & The Links,
www.youtube.com/watch?v=lIcdRR0tHaY
Jul 3, 2012 - Uploaded by Vicki Sylvain
1199SEIU **Survival Kit Drive** for the Women of Haiti & The Links, Inc. ... **QRC** / We Care for Haiti **Survival Kit Drive** by Vicki Sylvain

Phase II: Survival Medical Necessity for…

Haiti



Medical Assistance

Recruitment of healthcare practitioners to participate in medical mission to Haiti

Phase II: Survival Medical Mission





Phase II: Survival Medical Mission Plan

The Links, Incorporated has plethora of dynamic women who are leading the charge to rebuild the community at home and at large. Among the membership of Links are leaders in the field of medicine and healthcare. It is the intent of the Brooklyn Links to call upon its membership in the healthcare field to help in the health recovery and medical reconstruction of Haiti as partners with Doctors Without Borders. Partnering with Doctors Without Borders may help alleviate the burden and speed up recovery and reconstruction efforts.

Phase I: Budget for Haiti

Budget for Survival Kits for Women and Girls of Haiti (~250 kits)

In kind support*	$3500
Chapter Facet funds	$250
TOTAL	$3750

*In kind donations include:
Provision of kit supplies (Brooklyn Chapter, & Community partners); **Medgar Evers College** in Brooklyn New York (venue, refreshments, storage of kits and items, deliver to SEIU, transport of supplies and distribution in Haiti).

Medical Necessity for…



Post Natal Kits

Clinician Missions

Phase I: Post Natal Kits



Project-Patient Support and Outreach

- Support maternal and child health
- Provision of post natal kits for newborns to Redemption Hospital

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Phase I: Accomplishments

- We brought together a team of experts with experience in program planning, nonprofit law, medicine and public health to develop our project.
- We have identified our collaborative partner and on the ground assistance.
- We have identified three medical professionals who will develop best practices in medical and surgical care for our Liberia project. One of those physicians, who is also a member of the Brooklyn Chapter will lead the project and travel to Liberia and begin work with the HEARTT Foundation.

Phase I: Our Liberia Partner

***H*ealth *E*ducation *A*nd *R*elief *T*hrough *T*eaching**



Our collaborative partner and on the ground assistance for our Liberia project is Dr. James Sirleaf, physician and founder of the HEARTT Foundation.

Dr. Sirleaf is the son of Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, honorary member of The Links, Incorporated. The HEARTT foundation needs a constant stream of clinicians who will participate in missions to Liberia, including MDs, nurses and physician assistants.

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Phase II: Future Projects

- Contribution of healthcare supplies/equipment for Liberian physicians and nurses;
- Support community outreach programs that focus on improving female health; and
- Links will travel on a HEARTT mission later this year to better assess how the Links can support HEARTT and evaluate the progress made with initial projects.



Phase I: Budget for Liberia

Estimated budget for post-natal kits for Women in Liberia (~300 kits)

Chapter Facet funds	$250
Colgate Palmolive grants	$1800
**In kind support	$4500
TOTAL	$6550

**In kind support includes: members' donations of supplies, transport of supplies by Dr. Sirleaf's team and storage of supplies; transport and distribution of supplies in Liberia