

CHOLERA REPORT

1/5/2011

With the cholera death toll approaching 3500, The Salvation Army in Haiti continues to provide support for prevention and treatment of those infected.

Captain Monael Many, Assistant HRD Director is responsible for maintaining inventory of soap, bleach and oral rehydration supplies. Soap is provided weekly to over 2000 College Verena students and staff as well as 13,000 people living in the Place de la Paix Internally Displaced Persons camp.

The Port-au-Prince clinic has received supplies of soap, bleach, antibiotics and oral rehydration packets. Operating in a temporary facility with limited space, the PAP clinic has not been able set up a treatment center, but one is operated by Organization of International Ministry (OIM) in the IDP camp. The Salvation Army works closely the camp committee to provide adequate supplies for the cholera treatment center.

Bethel Clinic, The Salvation Army hospital in Fond des Negres, operates a cholera treatment center with 17 beds. That center was filled within days and now an alternate site is being organized with the assistance of the Haitian government. Captain Felix Ezeh, the clinic administrator, reports 8 cholera related deaths at the hospital. Cholera is an easily treated disease, but can be fatal if treatment is not started within 3 or 4 hours of becoming symptomatic. A pressure washing machine was purchased to improve the clinic disinfecting protocols.

Every department in Haiti is impacted so many TSA corps (churches) and schools are reporting infections in their communities. The Couyot community is of particular concern because access to medical assistance is a 5 to 7 hour walk and patients could die before reaching treatment. Captain Many arranged for a supply of oral rehydration packets and bleach to be sent to Couyot..

The Salvation Army cholera response has been made possible by a generous donor in the Bahamas and a matching grant from TSA Canada territory.