



## **Special Donor Report**

### **Response to the Haiti Earthquake 2010**



***“MedShare was helping Haiti years before the earthquake, and we will continue to help Haiti years after the earthquake.” – A.B. Short, Co-Founder & CEO***

## **Background**



**Devastation in Port-au-Prince.**

On Tuesday, January 12, 2010 Haiti experienced a 7.0 magnitude earthquake, with an epicenter just 16 miles west of Haiti’s capital, Port-au-Prince. The capital city itself was largely leveled. The Presidential Palace and Parliament were destroyed along with many other structures. As a result of the earthquake, an estimated 3 million people to date have been injured, displaced, or otherwise affected. An estimated 230,000 have died, with 300,000 left injured and another 1 million left homeless. As the poorest country in the Americas with the lowest healthcare spending in the western hemisphere, many rural Haitians lack even basic healthcare.

After the earthquake destroyed much of the existing infrastructure along with many hospitals and clinics in the capital, the country was ill-equipped to deal with the vast number of injured patients suffering the effects of dehydration, crush injuries and severe physical trauma. In the days following the earthquake, patients have sought care in makeshift clinics in overwhelming numbers, often traveling days to seek care at heavily overburdened hospitals in outlying areas.

## **MedShare in Haiti**

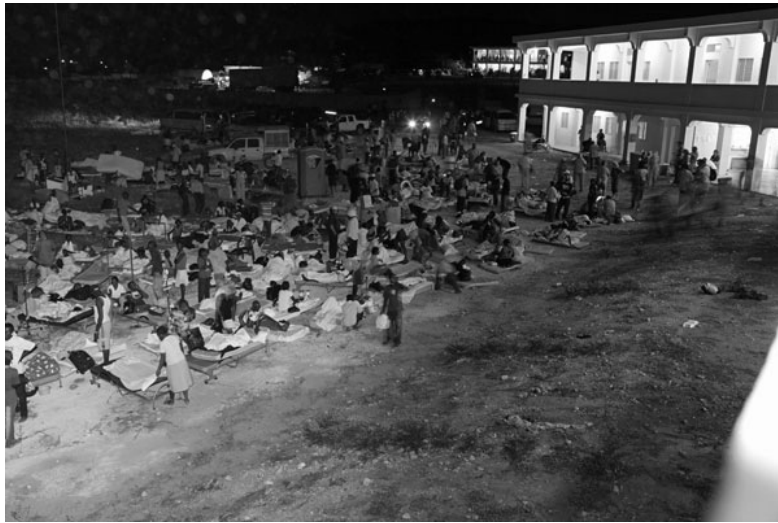
MedShare has 10 years of experience sending medical supplies and equipment to Haiti. Prior to the earthquake, we had sent 37 tractor-trailer sized containers of medical supplies and equipment conservatively valued at \$5.6 million to various hospitals in Haiti. MedShare has responded to the disaster in Haiti by sending life-saving medical supplies and equipment to treat the millions of people affected by the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that rocked the country. In catastrophes such as this, MedShare is able to provide for items of the greatest need including basic first aid supplies, sutures, oxygen masks, surgical steel instruments like dressing and trauma scissors, as well as orthopedic equipment such as splints and backboards.



**Hopital Trinite - One of many Haitian hospitals destroyed in the earthquake visited by MedShare staff.**

***MedShare has engaged in strong and meaningful response to the crisis in Haiti. To date, MedShare has been able to get more than 67 tons of requested and desperately needed medical supplies in the hands of medical professionals in Haiti and equipped 27 medical mission teams to treat earthquake survivors. Seven more shipments are planned as relief efforts transform into longer term recovery.***

## CEO's Report From Haiti – A.B. Short



**Patients flock to Good Samaritan Hospital, a border hospital in Jimani, Dominican Republic to receive treatment.**

*A.B. Short, Co-Founder & CEO, traveled to Haiti and the Dominican Republic the week of the earthquake to assess how MedShare supplies could be best used.*

“I’ve traveled to 38 countries and I’ve never witnessed the mass pain and suffering like I did on this trip to Haiti. It was emotionally draining, but incredibly inspiring to see the strength of the Haitian people, both the victims and the family members supporting them with love and care. In the midst of this emergency, I witnessed firsthand the success of MedShare’s operations. When donations from some organizations came in, I saw medical professionals having to take time away from the patients to sort and organize the various medical products. In contrast, MedShare donations would arrive and go immediately to use because they were already sorted, labeled and ready to go. We got needed medical supplies into the hands of physicians, and it made me proud that our staff, donors and volunteers made all this happen.”



**Delivering supplies in Haiti. Due to MedShare’s unique online inventory process, supplies arrive pre-sorted and by request so that nothing is ever wasted or assumed to be needed.**

*“The shipment arrived and has been used in the triage system in the Port-au-Prince airport. It was well accepted and the supplies were put to use immediately. The triage group was so impressed by the supplies sent that they immediately requested more of the same. The impact was tremendous as you know that triage is the first stage of disaster healthcare. Your supplies allowed victims to receive IV solutions and bandage wounds and caste broken bones. The gowns sent gave the victims some dignity in the open setting of the triage unit.”*

*-Cliff Feldman,  
Humanitarian Aid  
Program Director  
World Help Inc.*

*“We just received a call from Pastor Forges in Tabarre, P-A-P. He has secured the medical supplies in his warehouse today!!!! Thank you all!!! He is opening a clinic and medical station in his church. Thank you for including us as a partner in Haiti. You are miracle workers making this happen so efficiently. Your communication is superb. We are thankful to be a part of your team.”*

*-Richard & Rose Edkins  
Family Outreach  
Ministries*

## Staff Report From Haiti – Holly Frew

*Holly Frew, MedShare staff member, traveled to Haiti after the relief shipments were sent to ensure they were received, used, and helpful, and to gain insight for MedShare's longer-term recovery plan.*

"I traveled to Leogane, Haiti to the Hospital Cardinal Leger. This is a Catholic hospital that was almost completely destroyed by the quake. The building where they stored their medical supplies and equipment was collapsed and in pieces. I could still see boxes and shelves with medical supplies smashed under the rubble. This hospital is going to have to be completely rebuilt."

"I also spoke to the nuns who ran the hospital before the quake, and where I see MedShare having the most impact is when these aid doctors pack up their tents and go home. Sister Josephine said the aid organizations would be operating until mid-March, and then they're on their own. Again, this hospital will have to be completely restocked and rebuilt. Replenishing those supplies, hospital beds, and biomedical equipment is how MedShare can help hospitals like Hopital Cardinal Leger become functional again."



**Hospital Cardinal Leger - visited by MedShare staffer Holly Frew.**



**Due to the devastation of the Port-au-Prince port and nearby Port Cap-Haitian, initial supplies had to be air-lifted to Haiti.**

## From Relief to Recovery: Upcoming Plans in Haiti

As we move forward, MedShare is identifying how to best use our resources, skills and partners to contribute towards rebuilding a quality health system in Haiti. Currently, MedShare has seven requested shipments in the pipeline and is working to fulfill these needs. During this time, MedShare will continue to make available free supplies for medical teams doing work in Haiti. In the next week, Chuck Haupt, Executive Director of MedShare's Western Region and Josh Kravitz, Programs Director, will travel to Haiti to identify one or more hospitals where MedShare's supplies, equipment, and biomedical engineering support can make a meaningful and swift impact in their recovery efforts. Once this plan is in place, we will communicate it to donors, volunteers, and stakeholders.



Photos of Haiti's damaged infrastructure in the days immediately following the earthquake.

## Building Trust Through Stewardship

At MedShare, we adhere to the highest standards of donor transparency and accountability. Unless otherwise specified by the donor, all financial and product donations made to Haiti relief and recovery efforts have been treated as temporarily restricted assets and are being used specifically for our work in Haiti. As MedShare performs this work by sending containers of medical supplies and equipment, outfitting medical mission teams, and providing biomedical equipment and training, monies are released to cover the associated costs. It is MedShare's commitment to spend funds given to us for Haiti as quickly and responsibly as possible to alleviate the suffering of the Haitian people and to use the resources we have been entrusted to rebuild sustainable health systems. Once again, THANK YOU for your investment in MedShare. We could not do this important work without you!

If you have any questions about your donation or our work in Haiti, please contact one of the following:

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