



FRATERNITE NOTRE DAME HAITI - ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015 -

Fraternite Notre Dame thanks the MINUS-TAH (*United Nations Mission for Stabilization in Haiti*) very warmly, for their very efficient help through the involvement of their military and civil contingents at our Haiti mission.

Most Reverend Bishop Jean Marie, Founder of Fraternite Notre Dame, has given priority to activities for the poor, the sick and deprived families, and in the field of education.

The impact on the population is every important, especially when it comes to those living in the poor Haitian mountains, abandoned by most relief agencies and not getting humanitarian help, if it were for Fraternite Notre Dame's missionaries.

1- Education and Children's Rights

Starting in 2015, the Peruvian military contingents, accompanied by the Colombian Police

Force, have organized a large scale feast at the top of our mountain, located about 2 ½ hours from the capital by road. They had set up large inflatable toys, constantly maintained by 2 generators, given the fact this area is deprived of electricity and running water. Then, the feast ended up with a very generous snack for the children, which the soldiers themselves handed out. That day, we were able to witness that joy and enthusiasm prevailed among all the children.

2- Development and Construction Tasks

However, the Chilean and Ecuadorian contingents continue providing their support, they assist us extracting huge rocks from the nearby gullies in the mountain, towards our projected constructions. Much efforts were invested, and what can be said also of the courage required, to bring that many tons of large rocks up the rough paths and under a scorching sun.



Jean Marie, had him evacuated to New York, for head and hand surgery.

Other religious communities have also been attacked in Haiti around the same time of year, with nuns beaten and raped, and many other evils.

A big thank you goes to the Chilean and Ecuadorian Contingents.

3- Dedication and Sacrifice of the Religious

Early March, 2015, our mission was the target of terrible aggressions; our priest and two of our nuns were savagely attacked in the middle of the night, by a group of 10 men in arms, desirous to steal some money. The men first entered the little cabin of the priest, and they stoned him using very large rocks, cracking his skull and then, willing to finish him, they shot him with their shotgun.

Our Priest fell, unconscious, and they assumed that he was dead; next, they entered the nuns quarters, and beat them violently, as they were holding the orphans in their arms.

Miraculously, the priest was able to recover his senses, despite very serious skull fractures. During that night, we were able, after a four-hour wait, to evacuate him, all covered with blood, to the military hospital of the Argentinian contingent of the Minustah, for emergency care.

Thank you very much to the military hospital personnel, who took great care of him. Then, a few days later, our Superior, Bishop

4- Schools and Education for Children

Anyway, our schools are still open, from 8:00am until 1:30pm; all the students are served a nutritive snack by break time, and a hot meal before they leave the school, because for some, they have to walk for about 2 hours to return home.

5- Medical Field and Common Right to Health Services

In these mountains where basic necessities are lacking, illnesses are rampant and can wreak havoc very quickly. Certain residents need to be hospitalized, and therefore need ambulance



service and support to reach the city. But such patients also need a medical follow up, both at the hospital and once they return home. Because they cannot afford medical care, many people do not benefit from medical services in town, so they have recourse to our dispensary, where medical care is offered free of charge.

6- Malnutrition

In addition to this plight, we always meet with problems affecting large families, struggling with malnutrition and deprived of financial resources. We need to help them with food and medical care, because their children lack



Supporting these Haitian families in the mountain, very far from the city, is very much appreciated by most of them.

Everyone knows that here, up these rocky mountain trails where the heat at times is unbearable, can be found a place where assistance and hope are offered. Fraternite Notre Dame's presence, thanks to our dear Founder, Most Reverend Bishop Jean Marie, has changed the lives of thousands of poor persons, and brought relief to countless miseries, in places where road access in itself is a great challenge!



vitamins and eat only one meal a day, usually, rice and corn.

7- Hygiene and Access to Potable Water

In 2015, we have stimulated a large number of families regarding hygiene, by helping them to build individual restrooms for each family, so as to tackle the scourge of Cholera which works ravages in the mountains. We encourage them to use potable water and to drink it.

