

10-26-10

A cholera outbreak has taken the lives of over 250 Haitians and sickened more than 3,300 (as of 10/25/10) in Haiti's worst health crisis since the January earthquake. The areas affected include the Artibonite Valley (a location of many persons displaced by the earthquake), Arcahaie (near Port-au-Prince), and Limbe (near DSI communities Bas Limbe and Port Margot).

This outbreak has increased worries the disease could reach the earthquake zone where we serve 18,500 families. According to the Pan American Health Organization, the number of cases will continue to grow because Haitians do not have any built-up immunity to cholera.



DSI's Actions

In the Artibonite Valley, DSI has delivered systems and Gadyen Dlo to 353 schools in many communities with its partner, UNICEF. Additionally, we have delivered 90 gallons of Gadyen Dlo (our Haitian made liquid chlorine treatment) to DINEPA (Ministry of Water and Sanitation) to purify over 1,300,000 liters of water. This Gadyen Dlo will be used in St. Marc to treat a piped public water system.

Thanks to PPG Industries, we are providing over 2,000 pounds of chlorine tablets to our strategic partner, International Action, whose team is installing 50 chlorinators ("tablet feeders") to serve the communities in the Valley. We are also making available our stock of Aquatabs to other NGOs for distribution.

The 70,000 Haitians we serve in the earthquake zone have increased their demand for liquid chlorine over the past two months. In addition to training over 120 health workers, we are strategically expanding within this community to provide life saving clean water to 2,700 more families in the coming weeks.

We serve 15,000 families in other communities. We have been asked to provide 50 gallons of Gadyen Dlo to Terre des Hommes in Les Cayes. In Jolivert, our team has noted two deaths related to diarrhea but they are unconfirmed for cholera. We are monitoring the situation and are focused on ensuring the Haitians we serve continue to be served with safe water. Gadyen Dlo programs will help ensure these types of outbreaks no longer occur in rural Haiti.

Your Opportunity

To sustain our existing programs or help in strategic growth to protect Haitians with safe water and sustainable jobs, please contact David McGinty (202-412-9064 or dbmcginty@yahoo.com) or make a donation by mail or through our website (www.deepspringsinternational.org/donate).