



To feed the hungry and help them become self-sufficient

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... WITH A PASSION FOR FEEDING THE HUNGRY

Haiti is the poorest country and the most disease ravaged in the Western Hemisphere. The emotional impact of my experience in Haiti taught me the importance of human life, caring and volunteering in an effort to make life in a third-world country better for those who are in despair. Making a difference feels great, but I also had to accept that a gut wrenchingly high amount of death occurred before my eyes, too. In the clinic, there were failed premature deliveries, heart attacks and heat stroke victims. Every death is especially heart-breaking because our goal is to save people. The most emotional part of my experience was walking through Sister Theresa's Hospital. The nurses on staff there told me that it's not recommended that we stay longer than 5 minutes, for the fear we may get sick. But the only thing that made me sick was holding these children in my arms, and knowing that they will never leave the hospital. They are there because they need to be isolated from the village. Malnourished 14-year-old children appeared as 5 year olds. All of those children were going to die. They could not be helped. They had diseases ranging from TB to HIV. But what broke my heart even worse was walking into a large room, where cribs, about 40 rows by 40 columns lay side by side. Babies lie lifeless, with vomit, dirt, and some with worm coming out of their eyes, but they were still alive. The nurses told me I couldn't hold them because they would easily bruise and bones would break. I had a hard time leaving, and it was the one thing I refused to videotape. See full story at <http://www.hungerplus.org/projects.htm>
Jonathan Jossick Sierra Vista Sunrise Rotary Club

Robert H. Tippenhauer, Rotarian from the Delmas/Aeroport Rotary Club in Port au Prince, Haiti was presented with a Paul Harris Fellow for his untiring work with the District 5910 feeding program. Members of a committee from District 5910 contacted Bob Tippenhauer in September 2000 and he and a group of Rotarians from his club met us at the airport. After lengthy discussions, we felt that District 5910 and his club was a very compatible match and this has proved itself over the last four years. We agreed that the food would only be available to children who attended school. We felt that education was a way that they could possibly break the cycle of poverty. Since that time Bob has always met representatives from District 5910 and has personally distributed the food sent by the District. Bob attended the district conference for D-5910 this April and Hunger Plus presented him with the PHF. He was brought to tears by the presentation and greatly appreciated the recognition by Hunger Plus and District 5910.

At the suggestion of Rotary International President Glenn Estess and Bob Forney, CEO of America's Second Harvest, Hunger Plus, Inc. Chairman J. B. Roberts, President Wayne Merrill and Vice President John Germany met with Bob Forney in Chicago at the home offices of America's Second Harvest. The purpose of the meeting was to see if there is a way we could form a collaborative effort with America's Second Harvest, Rotary International and Hunger Plus, Inc. to better serve the desperate starving people of our world. America's Second Harvest handles food banks across the United States and enjoys a wonderful reputation in America. Likewise, Rotary International has 1,200,000 volunteers in nearly every country in the world. Because of the efforts Rotary International has put forth on Polio Plus, it enjoys a wonderful reputation around the world. Since our meeting in Chicago in August, J.B. Roberts was invited to the National Convention of America's Second Harvest to further discuss this collaborative effort. We realize there are many problems facing this possibility but they are not insurmountable. We will keep you informed as things progress.

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