

Haiti
February 28, 2007

Global Links sent out its sixth container of the year on February 28th. This container, the 13th Global Links has sent to Haiti since our program began there in 1996, will benefit the Hopital Albert Schweitzer in Deschapelles, Haiti. This particular container was sponsored by the Grant Foundation in Pittsburgh.

Hopital Albert Schweitzer is a 100-bed referral hospital that serves about 150,000 patients annually. People come from all over Haiti to receive treatment there. It is a non-profit institution supported by the Grant Foundation, reaching out to many of Haiti's poorest. One of the hospital's top requests was for stretchers and we were able to provide them with 20 on this container. They also have many patients with trauma injuries who need special orthopedic care. To help them with this pressing issue we were able to include a Tasserit fracture table, a physical therapy table, over 100 pairs of crutches and over 50 canes, as well as 30 walkers and five wheelchairs.

This was in addition to the more than 300 boxes of standard medical and surgical supplies. The director of the hospital, Dr. Chandon Chattopadhyay, identified surgical supplies as the top priority for the shipment because of how expensive these materials are to purchase within Haiti. We were able to provide a variety of instruments, drapes, surgical gloves, suction tubing and wands, chest drainage units, and much more.

This shipment is an example of a successful Pittsburgh partnership between the Grant Foundation and Global Links – both working together to improve health care in Haiti. We look forward to partnering with them again, and we hope to forge many more such successful partnerships in the future.

