

## **Haiti FAQ's**

### **When will this year's trip be taking place?**

Watch the bulletin for information about the next Haiti Outreach Mission trip.

### **How many people will be going on the trip?**

In the past, the total number of participants on the trip was around fifty.

### **Once in Haiti, where will we stay?**

We will fly to Florida, spend the night and fly to Port au Prince, Haiti, and then we take a private bus or van to Mirebalais. This trip takes approximately three hours. We will spend the rest of the week in Mirebalais. Normally, we eat all of our meals and sleep at the Saint Louis Rectory. Those who choose to may stay at a hotel next to the rectory (at minimal cost). Both facilities have indoor plumbing.

### **What type of activities will we be involved in?**

The main activities are centered on the clinic, the schools and the orphanage; the clinic requiring the most time & people. We will have doctors and other medical professionals as part of the team. However, there is much work to do at the clinic for non-skilled individuals. We also will have a construction/maintenance crew, involved in various projects. During the week a group will visit local schools and provide fluoride treatments and teach dental hygiene to the students. Note: Over 1400 children received these treatments last year during our visit (this is a fun project—you will love the kids).

### **What type of physical condition should volunteers be in?**

Most activities require the volunteers be in decent shape i.e. be able to get around and put in an 8-hour work day. There are numerous jobs available for people without specific talents.

### **What is the weather like?**

HOT! The daytime temperatures are usually in the mid to upper 80's, and it cools down a little at night.

### **What will we be eating?**

We will be having breakfast, lunch and dinner at the rectory. You can find something to satisfy your appetite. Some dishes are actually quite tasty; though we do recommend avoiding foods that are not cooked. We drink only bottled water (delivered from the U.S.)

### **Is Haiti Safe?**

We have not had any safety problems on our trips to Haiti, though Haiti has certainly had a history of civil unrest. Things seemed to have settled down some.

**What is the cost?**

This also can vary, depending mostly on airfare. Two years ago the cost was around \$900, last year it was closer to \$600. Everyone traveling with us pays his or her own expenses (vaccination protection may be required.)

***If you are interested in participating in the trip, or have any questions, please contact either Pat Byrne (586) 296-2091 or John Messina (586) 264-9157***