

**The Haitian Project, Inc. Update #12:**  
**Moving Ahead While Appreciating Our Loss**



*From Patrick Moynihan: THP President*

Today, I visited the Montana. The hotel is completely collapsed. I thought of the people I have met there and the people trapped under the rubble--one of whom is Board Member, Patrick Brun's niece. I sat in the exact chair at the pool where I have sat in for many a day over our years in Haiti. I taught Marianna (youngest daughter) how to dive there and swam races against Chilean/Argentinian military with Timothy. It was a place of relaxation for us and our volunteers.

I/we have lost many friends. The demolished buildings are tombs in many cases. This remains the context to each day, but life is the focus. So, I have been charging around to find what we need to make it happen at Louverture Cleary School.

Thanks to the hard work of many, we have had a great day. We had a lot more organized activities at the school--thanks to the volunteers, especially. We have a half-day of classes planned for tomorrow. The staff and volunteers are amazing.

We have given the Missionaries of Charity the Nissan Patrol to use as an ambulance. We will send one volunteer and 2 to 4 students to work inside--I repeat--inside the sisters' compound. They are handling a lot. We need to help as we can. They are simply amazing in their ability to highlight the dignity of life--even in the harshest of circumstances.

We met with Brad Horwitz and Bernard Fils-aime of Trilogy/Voila (Haiti's largest cell phone company). They will provide two tents for classrooms and emergency housing. They also gave us 10 cell phones with minutes--ready to go. We talked about several cooperative projects. Watch for a Wall Street story on Viola written by Mike Esterl--more surprise there on Monday.

Thanks to THP architect, Scott Hill, his brother, Jack Talbott and Wassim --all three experts in structures and earthquake damage--we have been cleared to use most of our buildings. Viola will also send their structural engineer--who has just been flown in--to look over our buildings. We expect Gerry and Charles, our local architect/engineer, to be here tomorrow as well. They will provide instructions on what to do with the one building that may need some repair.

Patrick Brun is amazing working machine. He patiently waits for me to bring his truck back [often hours late] and works away daily getting the Red Cross settled in. We hope he will also be warehousing soon for Catholic Relief Services (CRS). He provides what we need and backs us up at every turn.

Peace,

Patrick

The Haitian Project has operated without interruption for over twenty years. Having worked through boycotts, hurricanes and political upheaval, we know from past experience that the cost of operation will increase greatly

during this crisis. We all also know there is no more important time to keep up our mission than now. Whatever the increase in cost, we are committed to continuing to house, feed and educate our 358 students as well as provide direct aid to the hundreds of families who live around our school. We are proud that our students, staff and volunteers are already engaged in the relief effort. More than ever, they need your support.

Donations can be made online at [www.haitianproject.org](http://www.haitianproject.org) or by check mailed to The Haitian Project, P.O. Box 6891 , Providence , RI 02940 .