



"Kwe nan Ayiti" [Kway nawn Eye-ee-ti]

Believe In Haiti



Meridian is working in Haiti

- Shipping 11 donated geodesic domes for hospitals, 2 as homes for AIDS orphans
- Purchasing discounted antibiotics, rehydration and other medicines
- Sending Full Circle Learning trainers to Haitian schools for post-trauma healing
- Supporting volunteer doctor missions to Haiti
- Believe In Haiti Youth campaign: peers are companions of compassion through the arts

The Meridian Foundation is 100% volunteer supported. 100% of all funds go to the programs.

This campaign for Haiti has been organized and supported by youth!

Use your credit card:

www.meridianfoundation.org



Checks can be sent to:
1001 4th St., San Rafael
California, 94901

Meridian's Youth Campaign

Kwe Nan Ayiti **Creole** for Believe in Haiti



Believe In Haiti Youth campaign:

Peers are companions of compassion through the arts

"Kwe Nan Ayiti (Believe in Haiti)" debuted with a reception and fundraiser dance, hosted by Meridian's Bodies in Motion in San Rafael. Youth from the Branson School, Marin Catholic, Marin Primary, and Stuart Hall and University High in San Francisco approached Meridian Foundation's Director Deanne LaRue to ask how they could help raise money and awareness for Haitians. They raised \$3,002 which will go to life-saving medical supplies and transportation of 11 geodesic portable hospitals that were contributed to Meridian by Pacific Domes in Oregon. "The domes can withstand 130 mile an hour winds, earthquakes and Tsunamis," LaRue said, "and some of the domes are 60 ft. tall, ranging in value from \$20,000–\$65,000 for the larger domes."

The Meridian Foundation's partner and colleague at the United Nations Environment Office for North America, who is Haitian, was on hand to address the kids. Elisabeth Guilbaud-Cox, Deputy Director of UNEP RONA, gave an overview about how Haiti was before the earthquake, explaining the hardship that Haitians endured was in part due to the debt the people had to pay for their independence from the French.

The teen volunteers had something to say too. Lauren Grieve, a Branson freshman said, "We were excited that the focus was on teens helping. We were incorporated as volunteers, and together we raised \$3,002. I feel a single individual can make a difference, and as a group we

offer and even greater contribution.” Kate Courtney, also a Branson freshman was asked what a teenager from Haiti might think about her and the help she offered from the U.S. “I think they would be especially interested because we are teenagers and they might find a stronger connection to us than to adults.” The same group of volunteers want to help trauma workers get to Haiti to aid the healing of children. “We want to work on a project in Haiti this summer, perhaps working with kids our age, through the arts, and we are exploring ways to assist Chile too,” explains Chandler Rich of Marin Catholic.

One charitable act immunizes against hopelessness, notions of who deserves help, breaks the barriers of nationalism and lengthens our charitable reach.

Elisabeth Guilbaud-Cox, Deputy Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for North America, who is Haitian, addresses the youth



Transporting the Pacific Domes hospitals to Haiti with help from Operation USA



Meridian is supporting Full Circle Learning's:

Helpers and Healers in Haiti

Haitian children began to benefit from Full-Circle Learning-inspired activities for communities in trauma in early March 2010. The research-based activities used are designed to build resiliency, address immediate PTSD needs, create a sense of community and gradually reorient identities, to help youth envision their role as the solution-givers, healers and rebuilders of the community.

This photo depicts the group putting together a puzzle of the world. (No one had ever seen a world map.) Afterward, the facilitators discussed the many people who care about them and had sent cards and blessings, and about the doable challenge of reconstructing something, no matter how difficult. The second photos show the eagerness of children, after receiving many other activities, to express their feelings artistically. These and many other activities were led by Judy Rector and an assistant. Another team, Dr. Kira Mauseth and Dr. Tona McGuire, provided clinical support for families with PTSD at the neighboring temporary health clinic. There, the Love for Haiti volunteers worked out of the Anis Zunuzi school. Meridian Health Foundation co-sponsored the effort. Seventy-five children joined in activities and hundreds of adults and children received direct service. Plans for the next phase of capacity-building, in the form of training community workers, are underway. For more information, see www.fullcirclelearning.org.

Haitian child paints the falling blocks



**Haitian parents and children
- puzzle activity -**

Putting the World Together Again





Kenna X Lupe Fiasco X Mike Shinoda – Resurrection
<http://www.okkenna.com/> Haiti song video link