

Communi-clik

Breaking News from Florida's International Volunteer Agency



DECEMBER 2005

BAHAMAS STRENGTHENS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Paul A. Newbold, field director of Bahamas' National Emergency Medical Services (NEMS), hosted the return of FAVACA volunteer-consultant Captain Wayne Watts to Nassau, December 16-23. Watts conducted follow-up to a leadership/management conference held in April 2005, providing hands-on training in systems improvement for field supervisors and senior managers.

HAITI DISASTER MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE

FAVACA sponsored a professional exchange to Miami December, 4-7 for a team from the Haiti Department of Civil Protection, the country's disaster response and preparedness agency. Visitors included Marie Alta Jean-Baptiste, director; Abel Nazaire, external coordinator; and Roosevelt Compere, internal coordinator. The group consulted with USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, and AmericasRelief Team. The participants also visited the National Hurricane Center and joined a conference call with the Governor's Office and the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). FAVACA, in collaboration with FDEM, has long provided technical assistance to Haiti's Civil Protection Unit.

DEVELOPMENT/EVALUATION MISSION TO BAHAMAS

FAVACA international programs manager Will Guzmán conducted a development and evaluation mission to the Bahamas, December 7-9, to assess recent projects, discuss future needs, and brief partners on FAVACA's Caribbean Assistance and Recovery Grants Program (CARGP). Partners include the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, The National Archives of the Bahamas, The National Museum of the Bahamas, The Bahamas Red Cross Society, The Public Hospitals Authority, the Bahamas

Agricultural and Industrial Corporation, and the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism. CARGP is made possible by Jimmy Buffett's Singing For Change Foundation, Outback Steakhouse®, and Carrabba's Italian Grill.

TIES STRENGTHENED WITH USAID-HAITI, PARTNERS

FAVACA development director Rebecca Reichert and program manager Demian Pasquarelli traveled to Haiti November 28 - December 2. The team met with special advisor to the prime minister and former FAVACA staffer, Marc Roger, to establish priorities for technical assistance including disaster management and environmental restoration. Additionally, USAID shared priorities in the tourism and artisan industries. Reichert and Pasquarelli also met with representatives of the Pan American Development Foundation; FONHEP, a national education provider; Healing Hands for Haiti, a rehabilitation project for the disabled; and Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture. During their visit they provided support to first time FAVACA volunteer consultant Gina Hortance who was providing an e-Commerce workshop for Foundation DEFI.

SOUTHCOM HAITI EVALUATION ADOPTED, ICU PROGRESSES

Volunteer-consultant Virginie Andre traveled to Haiti, December 4-10, her sixth trip, to conduct the final stages of the US Southern Command Humanitarian Assistance Program (HAP) impact evaluation and to facilitate a Civil Protection workshop. At the conclusion of this final workshop, the Emergency Operation Centre Organizational Plan and its associated protocols and annexes were adopted by the workshop participants. Southcom also is building the first Intensive Care Unit/Trauma Center in Haiti. The ICU, Emergency Room and Emergency Entrance is almost complete awaiting the arrival of hospital equipment to be donated through HAP. Training of the Civil Protection and Haitian Community Hospital staff is scheduled for early 2006.

FAVACA REPRESENTED AT MIAMI CONFERENCE

Interim president Jeff Sharkey, program managers Demian Pasquarelli and Will Guzmán, and development director Rebecca Reichert attended the 29th annual Caribbean Central American Action (CCAA) Conference December 5-7. This year's theme "A Prosperous Third Border" focused on key Caribbean issues, including disaster preparedness and relief strategies, the high cost of energy and its impact on the region's competitiveness; and maritime security. FAVACA met with long-time partners as well as explored new development opportunities.

FAVACA - The Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas

Tallahassee Office

**1310 N. Paul Russell Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
850 410 3100**

favaca@favaca.org

Miami Office

**1330 S.W. 22nd Street, Suite 207
Miami, Florida 33145
305 377 5500**

favaca@favaca.org

Promoting social and economic development in the Caribbean
and the Americas through volunteer service.

www.favaca.org

