



designing a world of hope

Haiti, Haiti, Haiti . . . since the earthquake, Haiti has been very much in the public consciousness. And for a country that counted among the “poorest of the poor” even before the natural disaster, it’s not surprising that Engineering Ministries International continues to send numerous project teams to Haiti. Kevin is off to Haiti again at the beginning of June . . . to an [orphanage in Mirebalais](#) that *did* get damaged in the earthquake . . . but Kevin also had the unexpected pleasure of leading an additional trip to Haiti in March on the other side of the island where there’s a small medical ministry that has been operating long before country shook. Here are some of Kevin’s reflections:

[Friends for Health in Haiti](#) is a medical clinic in a remote village of south-western Haiti that is run by an American doctor and a Haitian nurse. They have been operating for several years out of a rundown shack that is insecure, dirty and much too small. Patients walk for hours to the clinic, wait much of the night for the gates to the waiting room to open, and then wait all day, just to be seen by the doctor. The ministry has recently purchased land and wants to construct a new clinic complete with pharmacy, lab, exam rooms and offices. The vision is to add a maternity wing in the future for the many complicated pregnancies that the doctor sees. The doctor, an American lady who started volunteering in Haiti 20 years ago, has moved to Haiti full time, and sees this clinic as the base of her operations.

Dr. Katie heard about eMi a year ago, and since then had been arranging to get a team there to assist in the master planning, design, and cost estimating. Our eMi team prepared a site survey, the building plans, and a solar panel electrical system and water collection system design. By the end of the week, at the presentation, we heard through the teary-eyed story of the nurse how grateful everyone was to receive our expertise and to see this vision coming to fruition. Within 3 weeks of our team being onsite, the design was completed in anticipation of a major fundraiser. Groundbreaking is expected on June 1st.

Dr. Katie was an inspiration to the team by challenging us to go beyond our comfort zones. She had picked up everything she had as an American doctor and has now made Haiti her home. We all wondered how much of a challenge that must have been. The discomforts of sleeping in rooms without doors, being kept awake much of the night by neighbourhood dogs and roosters, riding in the backs of jeeps, frequent power and internet outages and unfamiliar food made us all more thankful for life back at home. We will remember that even those conditions are only reserved for the richest people in Haiti. Most people do with much much less.

blessings,

Kevin, Michele, Talia & Kaisa

Kevin & Michele Wiens

follow our wanderings at wienswanderings.wordpress.com

financial support can be directed to “the ministry of Kevin Wiens” at emicanada.org

Wiens Wanderings

May/June 2011



IMPORTANT DATES

May

29th TEAM EMI Calgary

Marathon Charity Challenge

June

3rd-12th Kevin in [Mirebalais, Haiti](#)

29th -1st Kevin at Christian Engineering Education Conference in Langley, BC

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for Kevin’s June trip to Haiti (see http://emicanada.org/documents/eMiC_PrayerGuide.pdf for detailed requests)
- Pray for increased awareness about eMi through the Marathon Fundraiser
- Pray that our weekly schedule here in Calgary will bring us into God-ordained relationships to further his kingdom

Kevin, Talia & Kaisa are ALL running for EMI in the Calgary Marathon Charity Challenge. Kevin will run the marathon, and the girls are running 5 K. If you would like to sponsor them, check out www.emicanada.org/marathon.shtm .

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