

AmeriCares  
Peggy Atherlay  
Communications Director  
203-658-9626  
[patherlay@americares.org](mailto:patherlay@americares.org)  
[www.americares.org](http://www.americares.org)

Containers to Clinics  
Kathleen Fleming  
Program Director  
631-553-3707  
[kathleen@containers2clinics.org](mailto:kathleen@containers2clinics.org)  
[www.containers2clinics.org](http://www.containers2clinics.org)

Management Sciences for Health  
Barbara Ayotte  
Director of Strategic Communications  
617.852.6011  
[bayotte@msh.org](mailto:bayotte@msh.org)  
[www.msh.org](http://www.msh.org)

ICC/Grace Children's Hospital  
Dr. Rudolph Magloire  
Executive Director, ICC/Haiti  
(509) 3727-5579 & 3401-2269  
[rudy.magloire@yahoo.fr](mailto:rudy.magloire@yahoo.fr)  
[www.icc.org](http://www.icc.org)

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#### The Power of Partnership:

#### Working Together to Restore Maternal and Pediatric Health in Haiti

**Port-au-Prince, Haiti** On November 3, 2010, three non-governmental organizations (NGOs), AmeriCares, Management Sciences for Health and Containers to Clinics, unveiled an innovative clinic to restore quality healthcare services for women and children at Grace Children's Hospital in Port-au-Prince. Grace Children's Hospital (GCH) lost about 80% of its buildings plus medical records and equipment due to the January 12<sup>th</sup> earthquake; these NGO partners seek to restore the hospital as a leading healthcare provider for women and children. To that end, they are supporting the installation and operation of a new maternal care unit.

Containers to Clinics (C2C) built the new clinic out of recycled shipping containers and outfitted the facility with furniture, medical equipment and utilities for primary and preventive health interventions. The clinic's services include health screening, vaccinations, pre-and post-natal

care, pregnancy care, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS (PMTCT), nutrition counseling, and health education courses.

The use of shipping containers as the primary building material ensures the clinic's durability, adaptability and security. "Containers to Clinics is excited to collaborate in this robust partnership with Management Sciences for Health and AmeriCares to provide an innovative clinical delivery system for the patients of Grace Children's Hospital," said Elizabeth Sheehan, Founder & President of C2C. "The partnership is proof that NGOs, local Haitian institutions and the Ministry of Health can collaborate to successfully deliver the highest quality of primary health care and health education to the women and children of Haiti."

AmeriCares will deliver medicines and medical supplies to support both the clinic pharmacy and help restock the hospital's main inventory, and Management Sciences for Health (MSH) will oversee monthly data collection and evaluation. GCH doctors and nurses will staff the clinic, and C2C will manage a site coordinator to ensure proper functioning of operations.

"AmeriCares is excited about working together to help restore health services to Haitian mothers and their children. Restoring health care capacity and providing medical assistance for maternal-child health is a core piece of our ongoing Haiti relief efforts," said Christoph Gorder, Senior Vice President of Global Programs for AmeriCares. "AmeriCares vision is to help many more people live longer, healthier lives, a vision I know is shared by our partners, MSH and Containers to Clinics. This innovative program is a critical component to helping strengthen Haiti's health care system."

"The MSH team in Haiti is proud of this exciting new partnership with C2C and AmeriCares. The installation of the "ready-made" clinic in containers at Grace Children's Hospital not only

meets a need for a facility that was destroyed by the earthquake, but is also a first step toward providing basic health services, especially to women and children, some living in areas with little or no access to such services,” said Agma Prins, Chief of Party, SDSH-MSH.

“This partnership is very important because it will be a significant value-added to ICC/Grace Children’s efforts to maintain services to the needy population during this overwhelming moment in Haiti’s history,” said the hospital’s Executive Director Dr. Rudolph Magloire.

Through this partnership, the clinic will provide high-quality, sustainable and well-resourced services to maternal patients while the hospital’s campus is being rebuilt. C2C clinics are constructed for low-resource settings and replication. After evaluation of the pilot clinic, the NGO partners will assess future growth opportunities for the clinical and operational models.

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#### **About AmeriCares**

AmeriCares is a nonprofit global health and disaster relief organization, which delivers medicines, medical supplies and aid to people in need around the world and across the United States. Since it was established in 1982, AmeriCares has distributed more than \$9 billion in humanitarian aid to 147 countries. For more information, log onto [www.AmeriCares.org](http://www.AmeriCares.org).

#### **About Containers to Clinics**

Driven by the belief that basic health interventions can save the lives of millions in the developing world, **Containers to Clinics** developed a new clinical model for health service delivery. C2C retrofits portable shipping containers into health clinics designed with diagnostic, lighting, and climate-control technologies appropriate for low-resource settings. The clinics are transported to underserved areas of the developing world to administer primary healthcare to women and children.

## **About MSH**

For over 30 years, Management Sciences for Health (MSH) has been working in partnership with Haiti's Ministry of Health and local partners to strengthen Haiti's health system. A global nonprofit health organization working in over 60 countries worldwide, MSH saves lives and improves health of the world's most vulnerable people by closing the gap between knowledge and action in public health. Together with our partners, we are helping managers and leaders in developing countries to create stronger management systems that improve health services for the greatest health impact.

The SDSH Project managed by MSH and funded by USAID collaborates with the Haitian Ministry of Health and local NGOs to provide a basic integrated package of health care services to 43% of the Haitian population, targeting the poorest and most vulnerable populations.

## **About GCH**

Grace Children's Hospital is a private Haitian non-profit organization providing health services in Haiti for more than 40 years. Grace Children's Hospital is the only hospital dedicated to children with tuberculosis and has developed expertise in tuberculosis tracking and treatment. International Child Care – the NGO that runs the hospital – has added other services such as general adult and child clinics, an obstetrics/gynecology clinic, and community health services for a population estimated at more than 60,000. As a main partner for the Ministry of Health, ICC-GCH is also responsible for tuberculosis services with integrated services with HIV/ARV in 4+ departments with extensions into an additional four. Most recently, GCH offers psychological support to clients and staff. This partnership is very important because it will be a significant value added to ICC/Grace Children's efforts to maintain services to the needy population during this overwhelming moment in Haiti's history.