

PROFOUND HEALING re. the DISASTER in HAITI

SUMMARY:

A great deal of effort has been put into Haiti before the recent earthquake, with very little long-term benefit. Our goal is to take a broader perspective that includes mind, body, spirit, and relationships. Based on this, the goal is to help to resolve the causes of the difficulties, rather than simply focus on the symptoms, to assist them to lead healthier and more productive lives.

The goal of the current project is for Rémi Thivierge MSW RSW RMFT to go to Haiti to provide trauma healing work among the population. The plan is also to provide training to local people on how to help others resolve their trauma, and to do an assessment of the community's unmet needs. The goal at this point is to go for a month in June / July, 2010. A number of people who have received training from Remi on profound healing of trauma want to go and assist as well. There is the possibility that Rémi may go for a couple of weeks this spring if funding becomes available. The ideal is for a group to go at least three times over the course of the year, with the possibility that a professional helper from here remain in Haiti for a longer period of time to assist in furthering the work.

THE CONTEXT: Blacks, whose ancestors were slaves, make up 95% of the population. The remainder are Caucasian, and there are no indigenous people left here. The conditions were so harsh for the slaves that they died very quickly and new slaves needed to be brought in very regularly. Voodoo is a common practice here, and ritualized curses are fairly common. In addition, hurricanes pass through here regularly. These issues have resulted in extensive trauma to the people and to the land.

WHY SO LITTLE PROGRESS IN HAITI: No real progress has been made despite the fact that groups such as the United Nations and the Red Cross have poured billions of dollars into the country. In my view, there is so little possibility of growth here because of the extensive negative energy in the land and the people. These difficulties must be resolved if real progress is to be made here. I believe that the following types of negativity and trauma must be healed for progress to be made in this country.

- Historical trauma in the people's DNA and attitudes passed through the generations due to slavery
- Extensive cursing from voodoo
- Distrust of life and learned helplessness due to frequent political and natural disasters
- Current trauma from the earthquake
- Secondary and vicarious trauma among helpers, which is very extensive not only among helpers in Haiti but in the various helping professions around the world
- Destructive energy on the land. For example, all indigenous people have disappeared here and only 1% of the forests remain.

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS:

THE BARE BONES PROJECT: The project must be sustainable and be relatively inexpensive. God willing, Rémi Thivierge plans to go to Haiti for four weeks in June / July 2010. The reason for going at that time is that many people work through their trauma naturally within the first few months following a traumatic incident. Going six months after the incident will make it clear what trauma still needs to be resolved. Rémi plans to provide trauma treatment as well as training to interested professionals, teachers, and volunteers. At this point, it is anticipated that the primary focus group will be on women and on orphans, although this may change as we gather more information. The treatment is to make use of methods from the field of energy psychotherapy, a combination of ancient healing methods from India, Tibet, and China, with cutting edge methods from the West. This will include methods related to EMDR, EFT, WHEE, TAT, and healing visualizations, along with others to be determined on location.

THE INTMEDIATE PROJECT: In addition to the above-noted efforts, we hope to do the following if we obtain the needed support:

- Consider going to Haiti in March or April to assess the situation and what works before going with a group in June/July
- Volunteer counsellors, including helping professionals, to provide trauma treatment to a large group of individuals. These helpers would be required to receive training from Rémi Thivierge before going to Haiti to assist with this project.
- Rémi has learned from experience that many in the Third World need to be provided with a carrot to participate in the treatment of trauma. Hence, a stipend or other material goods or services will be given to local participants.
- Training to local professionals, teachers, and volunteers is to be provided
- Do a community needs assessment, re. health, therapy, basic services, employment
- Do research on the effectiveness of the healing work and provide a report on the effectiveness of the program
- Do a video of the work done in Haiti during this project

THE FULLER AND BROADER VISION: Assuming we obtain the support we need, we also plan to take the following steps:

- Ongoing training to be provided to Haiti by the team during three or four visits over a one year period
- Training of counsellors, youth, and trainers to provide ongoing services to the community
- Ongoing consultation with appropriate trainer
- Trainers and healers with a variety of skills to assist with the project
- A manager to be hired for this program in one year terms to develop and serve the local community. Community development and coordination of various types of local and other helpers and trainers. The healing centre developed here would also bring in other types of helpers, as needed.

- Develop a program where local people learn to do arts and crafts or something else that will earn them money over time. They will need to learn to manage businesses, assisted to develop web sites to sell online, and have distributors overseas. People with various types of expertise from the West, as well as locals, will be required to assist with this.
- Research to be done on an ongoing basis to demonstrate that the holistic approach is essential for effective disaster relief.
- Develop an organization in Vancouver to be prepared to deal with disasters and difficulties in various locations in the Third World. Ongoing fundraisers, managers, and support staff to be available for this project, tentatively called the Phoenix Vision
- A board of directors to be set up for this program.
- The plan is for this holistic organization to gradually branch out to other parts of the Third World, as crises develop, as well as in chronic locations such as Africa.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Our vision is very ambitious, and we need your help. At this point, what we need are the following:

- Assistants / secretaries
- People to do research online
- Funding – people to provide funding, apply for grants, seek funding from businesses and others, etc.
- Ideally, develop a connection with an NGO to be our umbrella for the first year of the project

Feel free to suggest other ideas, but only if you're willing to be part of making them happen. We're already overwhelmed with great ideas. What we need is helping hands and funding to help bring them to fruition.

Rémi Thivierge MSW RSW RMFT
 Director of Training
 February 5, 2010

WHO IS RÉMI THIVIERGE? Director of the Dynamic Harmony Training Program (www.dynamicharmony.com). Extensive training and 34 years experience in the helping field, including various types of trauma. This includes providing post-trauma debriefings to groups. Has written a book on profound healing for children and another on family breakdown. Clinical member and approved supervisor with the American and Canadian Association and Marriage Therapy, the accrediting body in the field. This requires a minimum of a Master's degree and extensive course work and clinical training. Rémi has also been trained by the Red Cross to work overseas, and has done some work for them assessing the trauma resulting from the fires in the BC Southern Interior. Has provided volunteer assistance in the following areas: Sri Lanka after the tsunami; two years of healing work with homeless men in Vancouver, and healing work with a group of the lowest caste in India. Rémi's healing work with these groups was very effective to help them lead healthier lives.