

Communi-клик

Breaking News from Florida's International Volunteer Agency



OCTOBER 2004 COMMUNI-CLICK

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FAVACA PRESIDENT BRIEFS GOVERNOR'S HAITI ADVISORY GROUP
REGIONAL RED CROSS ENHANCES VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SKILLS
HAITI TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROPOSED
AMERICAS RELIEF TEAM EVENT IN MIAMI**

FLORIDA FIREFIGHTER TARGETS ST. LUCIA CRISIS RESPONSE

Dawn French, director of the St. Lucia National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) conducted a full-scale aircraft crash simulation October 20, 2004 at the Hewanorra International Airport. FAVACA volunteer-consultant Lt. Wayne Watts, Green Cove Springs, worked with NEMO, the St. Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority, St. Lucia Fire Services, the Royal St. Lucia Police Force and the St. Lucia Port Police Force to prepare first responders for the exercise with training in Incident Command Systems. Watts, a veteran volunteer, also moderated an after-action briefing to government officials including the Prime Minister and British High Commissioner. Over 200 volunteers, including school children, served as simulated victims. Watts was given the honor of lighting the faux fire.

FAVACA PRESIDENT BRIEFS GOVERNOR'S HAITI ADVISORY GROUP

On October 4, 2004, FAVACA President Julieta N. Valls provided a briefing for the Governor's newly-appointed Haiti Advisory Group. The Group is charged with producing recommendations on policy and identifying needed development initiatives. FAVACA will attend meetings as an observer and act as a resource and advisor to the Group. Also appearing before the group was FAVACA Board Member Mark Schlakman, Program Director, Florida State University - Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. Mr. Schlakman, who served as policy advisor to the late Governor

Lawton Chiles, presented “Florida’s Historical Relationship with and Role in Assisting Haiti.”

REGIONAL RED CROSS ENHANCES VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SKILLS

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies offers technical assistance to national societies to reinforce and modernize volunteer management. The Central American Volunteering Conference in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, September 23-27, 2004 brought together volunteers and volunteer program managers to discuss best practices and experiences from within and outside the Red Cross movement. FAVACA provided volunteer consultants Maria Cao-Lopez and Erolinda Budi of the Volunteer Services Department at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami. The team conducted sessions on volunteer recruitment, orientation, retention and recognition, measuring economic impact of volunteers and volunteer program effectiveness. Twenty-five participants representing chapters from Central America, Mexico and the Spanish speaking Caribbean were present.

HAITI TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROPOSED

At the request of Haiti Prime Minister Gerard Latortue, FAVACA presented a proposal October 21 to conduct technical assistance and training over the next three years to help the Haitian government prepare for disasters, protect the environment, and develop a professional, ethical workforce. Former FAVACA International Program Manager Marc Roger is now working with the Prime Minister. FAVACA also proposed to establish procurement procedures and improve the structure and administration of the pension system.

AMERICAS RELIEF TEAM EVENT IN MIAMI

AmericasRelief Team is hosting an event in appreciation of Florida’s relief efforts and assistance for Jamaica, Grenada, the Cayman Islands, the Bahamas, Haiti and the Dominican Republic after the recent devastating hurricanes. Invited speakers include Grenada’s Consul General Richard A. Nixon, Jamaica’s Consul General, Ricardo Allicock and Mr. Jorge Arrizurieta, President of FL FTAA. Invitees include Florida and U.S. governmental officials, FAVACA’s Board and volunteers, and representatives of the media, academic institutions, corporate sector and non-governmental organizations. The event will take place from 6 pm until 8 pm on Wednesday, December 1, 2004 at GOAL Inc.’s Logistics Center located at 1701 NW 84th Avenue in Miami.

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

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

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The Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas (FAVACA) is a non-profit organization established in 1982. FAVACA was founded in the belief that Florida's future is interwoven with that of our Caribbean neighbors. The organization's mission is the improvement of social and economic conditions in the Caribbean and Central America through volunteer service. FAVACA provides technical assistance and training through a diverse combination of federal, private and State of Florida funding sources. To date, more than 1,200 volunteer missions to 29 nations and territories of the region have been completed. A wide variety of training is offered in health and social issues, agriculture, education, environment, disaster mitigation, women's leadership, capacity building and more.