

# Mission of Love ready to go to Haiti

By J.T. Whitehouse  
Town Crier

The volunteers of the Mission of Love (MOL), based in Austintown, is hard at work preparing for their next mission, delivering aid to Haiti's children. MOL founder Kathy Price said everything is falling in place to deliver aid to those in need.

"Right now it is all geared up for the government to move in and help the people by delivering rice and water," Price said. "But down the road, when everyone else forgets about the disaster, we will be going in to help the children."

Price and her army of volunteers never stop. They just returned from the orphanage in Casa Guatemala where they installed the first toilets for the children. They also took a medical crew to help bring care where there is literally none to be found.

"We just returned from the Casa Guatemala Orphanage, to find out that Haiti is in need and is within our reach," Price said.

Wasting no time, Price contacted the air base in Vienna and spoke with the commander. She also contacted the Denton Program that permits humanitarian aid to be transported by military aircraft. The program is a win-win situation with aid reaching anywhere in the world while military aircraft crews get some real-life training.

"Everyone is waiting," Price said. "All we have to do is send in the Denton application."

Part of the application requires what materials are being shipped. Price said that is what the hold up is at this point. The MOL must wait until donations are in to see what they have to ship to Haiti. Price said the needs are as follows: monetary donations to make it happen-written out to the Mission of Love, 2054 Hemlock Court, Austintown, Ohio, 44515,

towels, sheets, plastic cups and plates, water, diapers, purel, rice, canned food, can openers, oil, flour, dehydrated milk, sandals, motrin for children, Advil, Gatorade, gauze, gloves, benadine, T-shirts, children summer clothes, ( slightly used or next to new ) tarps, bungee's, five-gallon plastic buckets, propane cooking stoves, crutches, walkers, flashlights, cooking pans, utensils, cots, paper towels, toilet paper, blankets, alcohol, and peroxide.

"I would encourage and challenge schools, churches, civic organizations, businesses and those who are so blessed to show their kindness to the Haitians in need," Price said. "Be an example of what can be done to be of service."

Already Price is getting responses. some coming from the most unusual places. When she got back from Guatemala, she was contacted by a dear freind and strong supporter of the Mission of Love. Her name is Luana Rubin, owner of eQuilter.com. Rubin was on a trip with 30 other quilters to Kyoto, Japan. When she saw the devastation in Haiti, she knew Price would be preparing to help the children involved in it.

"We are following the terrible news about Haiti from here, and everyone here feels the same way I know you do - what can we do to help?" Rubin wrote.

Since, she has prepared to return to the U.S. and with her fellow quilters prepare quilts to be sent to the many homeless in Haiti.

On the local front, Price has set up temporary drop-off collection sites at all the Handel's Ice Cream stores in the Youngstown area. The sites will be open for collection of the needed items until January 27.