



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, June 17, 2016

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SUPPLIES OVER SEAS SENDS HEALTH & HOPE TO HAITI

Louisville, KY – Supplies Over Seas (SOS) loaded a 40-ft shipping container of dry medical supplies bound for Haiti today, **Friday, June 17, 2016 10:00 a.m. – 12 Noon**. The container of medical supplies is made possible through a partnership with **Food for the Poor** and is headed to **Port Au Prince** to be distributed to hospitals and clinics in Haiti.

Melissa Mershon, Supplies Over Seas President & CEO said, “Supplies Over Seas has been partnering with Food for the Poor for over seven years. Surplus medical supplies that are still useful would end up in our area landfill are now going to save lives in Haiti. Food for the Poor is the perfect partner to distribute the medical supplies to Haitian hospitals and clinics.”

Food for the Poor has been working in Haiti since 1989. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere with 80% of the population living below the poverty line. Two-thirds of children suffer from malnutrition and 1 out of 14 children die before reaching their fifth birthday. Life expectancy for men is 51 years and 54 years for women. These sobering facts are why Supplies Over Seas is proud to partner with Food for the Poor to get these lifesaving supplies to the people of Haiti.

One of the greatest tragedies in this world is when children are lost to a preventable cause. The two biggest killers of children worldwide – diarrhea and pneumonia – are easily treated when there is access to medical care. But for the millions of poor families throughout the Caribbean and Latin America who cannot afford even basic medicines, or the transportation costs to reach the nearest hospital, illnesses can quickly become life-threatening.

The shipping container, conservatively **valued at \$160,167** and **weighing 10,065 pounds** will include **26 pallets (453 boxes)** of medical supplies including anesthesia, clothing, drapes, gloves, incontinence, lab, ortho, oxygen, plastic containers, skin prep, suction, urology and wound care.

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About Supplies Over Seas: **Supplies Over Seas (SOS)** is a Louisville based 501(c)3 nonprofit that partners with hospitals and other medical institutions to recover surplus medical supplies and used equipment that would otherwise go into our landfills. The surplus is then redistributed to medically impoverished communities worldwide. In 2015, SOS received 153 tons of surplus medical supplies and equipment that would have otherwise gone into a landfill. SOS is one of only 15 medical surplus recovery organizations across the U.S. and the only such organization serving Kentucky, Southern Indiana and Southern Ohio. For more information call 502-736-6360 or visit: www.suppliesoverseas.org.

About Food for the Poor: Our mission is to link the church of the First World with the church of the Third World in a manner that helps both the materially poor and the poor in spirit. The materially poor are served by local churches, clergy and lay leaders who have been empowered and supplied with goods by Food For The Poor. The poor in spirit are renewed by their relationship with and service to the poor through our direct ministry of teaching, encouragement and prayer. Ultimately, we seek to bring both benefactors and recipients to a closer union with our Lord. For more information visit: <http://www.foodforthe poor.org>.