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## Tammy Babcock is helping Haiti

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When Tammy Babcock learned of the conditions in Cite Soleil, Port au Prince, Haiti, a designated “Red Zone,” and one of the most dangerous slums in the world, her instinct was to help however she could. She worked with the community to build a water-tower, and provide first-aid to the locals, risking her own safety in an area overrun by gang violence.

After her first foray into Cite Soleil, Ms. Babcock founded the humanitarian organization, Help Tammy Help Haiti (HTHH), a grass roots, nose to the grindstone operation that works directly with the people affected by disease, homelessness, crime and serious health issues brought about by oppressive poverty.

When an earthquake hit Haiti this past January, Ms. Babcock was on a plane to the ravaged country shortly after, anxious to help with rebuilding efforts and continue her latest HTHH initiative – construction of a self-contained medical clinic that would provide free health care to the community in Cite Soleil, a project she hopes will be completed by January 2011.

Help Tammy Help Haiti has provided vitamin distribution on street level, facilitated food distributions with the United Nations, and educated the local population on water purification with the help of Global Medic. The organization has set up an education program for local youth, ages 7 to 18, and is providing jobs for 35 local adults.

Over the years, Ms. Babcock has also volunteered in Thailand, rebuilding houses following the 2004 tsunami in South East Asia. Locally, she has volunteered with Big Sisters, Touchstone Youth Centre for the homeless and at risk youth, and with the Frontenac Victim Assistance and Referral Service.

**Nominator:** Bonnie Fleming

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