Hanger prosthetist deems time in Haiti a "life-changing experience"

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An excerpt from The Tallahassee Democrat by Angeline J. Taylor:



Tallahassee, Fla., May 25, 2010 – Eric Ramcharran endured 95-degree heat and sticky humidity without benefit of an air conditioner for two weeks.

He used baby wipes and trickles of water for a makeshift shower. To prevent mosquito bites, he often wore long sleeves.

He did whatever he needed to do during two weeks in Haiti that ended Sunday. It was, he said, the experience of a lifetime.

To hear Ramcharran tell it, he would ask his employer, Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics on Mahan Drive in Tallahassee, to send him again. He says the Haitian people are in dire need of prosthetic arms and legs in the aftermath of the Jan. 12 earthquake that toppled Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital.

"I didn't want to leave. It was incredible. It was a life-changing experience," Ramcharran, a licensed prosthetist, said as his eyes brimmed with tears. "I felt like I left so much undone."

To read the full article, click here.

About the Hanger Clinic in Haiti – The Hanger Ivan R. Sabel Foundation, in conjunction with the partners of the Haitian Amputee Coalition - Physicians for Peace, the Harold & Kayrita Anderson Family Foundation, the Catholic Medical Mission Board, and Donald Peck Leslie, M.D., of the Shepherd Center - founded a long-term prosthetic and rehabilitation center on-site at the Hopital Albert Schweitzer (HAS), an undamaged local hospital with a high clinical reputation located 60 miles from Port-au-Prince in Deschapelles, Haiti. Since its founding on February 22, 2010, the practitioners of the Hanger Clinic have provided customized prosthetic limbs to 300+ Haitian amputees. A training program to educate local Haitians to become prosthetic practitioners and technicians has also been established.

About the Hanger Ivan R. Sabel Foundation – The Hanger Ivan R. Sabel Foundation's mission is to enhance the productivity and quality of life for those who face physical challenges due to disease, war, or natural disasters, domestically and abroad, by supporting charitable organizations, programs, and volunteerism that improve human mobility. The Hanger Ivan R. Sabel Foundation is the 501c3 charitable organization of Hanger Orthopedic Group, Inc. For more information, visit http://www.hanger-sabelfoundation.org/.

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