

# Lynn takes care of its family... with your help

One of Lynn's distinguishing traits is that all members of the campus community—faculty, students and staff—are considered family. The Haiti Crisis Fund was created to receive gifts to assist members of the Lynn community whose families suffered as the result of the earthquake.

The outpouring of generosity came from alumni, friends, neighbors, businesses, government officials and even total strangers. Nearly \$54,000 was contributed to this fund through 318 gifts.

Many Haitian staff have worked for years at the university, but their families remain in Haiti. Thirty-one of these staff experienced the destruction of homes in Haiti and injuries to loved ones. Through a simple application process facilitated by Employee Services, the funds were disbursed equally to these Haitian staff so that they could help their families in Haiti. Following are the stories of two Lynn staff members whose families were assisted.

## MARIE HILAIRE

A housekeeper at Lynn since 2000, Marie Hilaire helps keep the Eugene M. and Christine E. Lynn Library in its usual pristine state. She is the mother of one daughter and two sons. Her family home in Port-au-Prince was destroyed; family members now live in the tent city which sprung up following the earthquake. Marie's 20-year-old stepson, Olnick, suffered one broken leg; now six months later, he is walking with the help of a walker. With her portion of the crisis funds, Marie provided for his medical treatment and helped her brother and sister with their shelter needs.

With a warm smile, Marie spread her arms, making a circle, "God knows what we need. He puts it into the hearts of people to give to Lynn University. Then Lynn gives to us, and we can give to our families. *Merci beaucoup* pour toutes les choses. [Thank you for all these things.] You did a good job for us."

*Merci beaucoup*



Marie Hilaire and Marie Noël

## MARIE NOËL

Since 2002, Marie Noël has worked as a housekeeper in Freiburger Residence Hall. The mother of one daughter, Marie enjoys her two grandsons. Her mother, brother, sister and niece all live in Haiti. "The house was broken by the earthquake, and my mother, who is 89, was sleeping outside. I was able to help them fix the house, and now my mother, and the rest of my family, sleeps inside again. The money was a really big help. *Merci beaucoup*. Bon Dieu beni." [Thank you very much. Good God bless you].