

# Helicopter Operations Report

## Hurricane Matthew / Response and Recovery

November 7, 2016



On Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, Airlink, All Hands Volunteers, Hope for Haiti and Bell Helicopter delivered 16,821 pounds of food to unserved areas in the southern peninsula of Haiti. The ops team on the ground has created an efficient delivery system that involves quick refueling of helicopters while they are being reloaded with boxes of food, and the team is seeing dramatic results. Through coordinated operations, the team is delivering an average of 16,750 lbs of food per day to remote areas.



Michael Brown, Airlink’s Logistics Manager, joined a flight to deliver boxes of food to a school in Cammy. There were at least 40 ecstatic people ready to receive help from Airlink, All Hands Volunteers, Hope for Haiti, and Bell Helicopter when the team touched down and began to unload the helicopter. He remarked, “For me, this was a thrilling experience to be able to bring relief to people who have not received any aid to date from

other nonprofits or the UN.” The remote areas create limited access for vehicles, keeping many affected by Hurricane Matthew from receiving much-needed relief.

After the boxes of food were unloaded, the team got back into the helicopter and surveyed villages on the tip of the southern peninsula. This was an area that was especially hard hit as evidenced by widespread devastation. The field operations team continued to see the importance of Airlink’s mission, as remote areas have received little to no aid since the hurricane hit in early October.

The team then moved on to a delivery of more food in Lievre. During their time on the ground, the Bell Helicopter pilots greeted the people receiving food. In a heartfelt moment, Will Williamson from Bell spoke to a little girl who said, “thank you, thank you, I live, I live, I live.” When Will asked the interpreter about her story he was told the girl was an orphan, found after her parents had perished in the hurricane.



Airlink will continue its relief operation in Haiti with the assistance of Bell Helicopter pilots and our many partners on the ground. Stay tuned as we are updated on Michael’s travels in Haiti.