Want to stay in a Haitian tent city while you attend our 2011 national conference in Phoenix? Well, here is your opportunity!

If the people of Haiti had to sleep on the ground, so would she.

Britney Winn, a 2009 graduate of Centenary College of Louisiana, was in Haiti serving at an orphanage when the earthquake hit. After being evacuated the next weekend and sleeping 12 hours in the shelter and comfort of her own home, Britney woke with the plight of Haiti’s orphans weighing heavily upon her. She was determined to do something more for them. So, Britney decided to establish a tent city: if Haiti’s children had to sleep on the ground, so would she.

So, on Wednesday afternoon, January 20th, 2010, Britney and others (mostly college students and young adults from the area) set up Cité Lespwa (Creole for “City of Hope”) on the campus of Centenary College. Their goal was to raise awareness and $1 million for Haiti’s orphans. Britney blogged about their experience here.

The Shreveport Times published two stories about Cité Lespwa:

- Shreveport tent city to raise money for Haiti relief
- Tent city short of $1M goal but could go national

We are pleased to announce that we are providing you with a two-fold opportunity to serve Haiti’s orphaned and vulnerable children and to live in solidarity with our Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ for the duration of our October 21-22 conference in Phoenix. We are setting up a tent city right on our conference grounds (see map below).

Instead of paying $99 per night to stay in a hotel, you could pay $75 per night to stay in our tent city. Why would you want to do that, you ask? Because 100% of the proceeds will be used to serve Haiti’s orphaned and vulnerable children (see Frequently Asked Questions below for details). You will be serving Haitian orphans just by staying in in our tent city!
What Tent City Residents are to Bring?

- only 2 changes of clothes
- a tent (Walmart carries the following tents: 2-Sleeper, $39; 3-Sleeper, $48; 5-Sleeper, $50)
- sleeping bag
- any medication needed

Leave Behind?

- comfort

Expectations:

- registration begins 6pm Thursday night, October 20th
- folks are allowed to stay on grounds until 1:00 PM Sunday if they wish
- all meals are provided and will be limited to portions that Haitian orphans would receive: a special recipe of rice, beans & water.

Special Events at Tent City:

- greeting from a Haitian pastor
- exclusive Shaun Groves unplugged concert (Thursday night)
- exclusive Aaron Ivey unplugged concert (Friday night after Main Session Concert)
- communal living and dining
- centralized gathering spot that provides opportunities for community and conversation
- interview opportunities with local and national media

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **Will we be able to take showers?** Great question! Since showers are a luxury that the 300,000 Haitians who still live in tent cities do not enjoy, showers in our Haitian tent city will be a luxury that our 200+ tent city residents will not enjoy (unless you can talk a hotel-dweller into allowing you to use theirs!). You will have access restroom facilities (women’s and men’s restrooms) and to running water from a couple of different hoses, though. Sounds wonderfully fun, doesn’t it?

- **Can we stay just one night in the tent city?** Absolutely. You could stay in the tent city Thursday night and in a hotel Friday night (or vice versa). Or you could stay Thursday and Friday nights or Thursday through Saturday nights. It’s up to you.

- **To what organizations will our $75 per night go?** All proceeds will go to Compassion International, World Orphans, and ABBA Fund (to provide financial help for ABBA Fund families that are adopting from Haiti). Each of those organizations will receive a 1/3 of all the proceeds to aid them as they serve Haiti’s orphaned and vulnerable children. Think about it this way: a night (or three) in our tent city serves orphans in Haiti!

- **Does it cost $75 per night regardless of the size of your tent?** Yes. It will cost $75 per night whether you have a pup tent or a 5 person tent.

- **How many tents will the tent city accommodate?** We will be able to accommodate between 200 and 250 tents.
• **May we bring a cell phone and/or laptop if we really want to?** Yes, you may. We’re sure that you’ll want to be sharing your tent city experience with others through twitter, facebook, and your personal blog. You will have access to the internet in our large conference cafe, which is located next to the tent city (see map below). We will also have bloggers and video bloggers interviewing tent city residents throughout the conference. We want you to be able to share your experience in the tent city with others if you are so inclined to do so. It’s a story that needs to be told and heard.

• **How do we reserve a spot within the tent city?** You can reserve your spot when you register online for the conference. You will find it listed as one of our accommodation’s options. You won’t pay until you check-in at the conference, though.

If you have any other questions, shoot an email to dan.cruver@TogetherforAdoption.org.