



**Jaimee Schmidt, a civil engineer-in-training from Brandon, interacts with children at the Heart to Heart project site in Grand-Goâve, Haiti. Schmidt joined a team of architects and engineers from across North America, who spent a week recently preparing the design for a church reconstruction for Heart to Heart Haiti. (Submitted)**

# Local engineer-in-training uses skills to help Haitians

CALGARY — A civil engineer-in-training from Brandon has just returned from her fifth stint volunteering her skills on projects in developing countries.

Jaimee Schmidt was part of a team of architects and engineers from across North America who volunteered their time with Engineering Ministries International Canada.

The team of volunteers spent a week in Grand-Goâve, Haiti, preparing the design for a technical school campus for Haiti ARISE Ministries and a church reconstruction for Heart to Heart Haiti.

In both cases, the original buildings had been irreparably damaged by the 2010

earthquake which destroyed 90 per cent of Grand-Goâve.

Schmidt spent most of the week investigating the existing water and sanitation services on both sites to provide observations and recommendations.

At the end of the week, the team was able to present master plan concepts and schematic building and infrastructure designs to both Haiti ARISE

and Heart to Heart.

The volunteers will continue to work on more detailed designs, and will provide the organizations with the final plans in the coming months.

This is Schmidt's fifth trip overseas with Engineering Ministries International. She has previously volunteered in India, Uganda and Haiti.

» Submitted

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