



# PEACEBUILDING SOLUTIONS

*Building Peace in Times of Need*

To All:

As I sit in the office space that CH2M Hill has generously donated to Peacebuilding Solutions (PS), I can confidently say that it has been a truly amazing year for PS. At the beginning of this year, PS had just begun its relationship with Engineers Without Borders-Atlanta, we had not yet talked with Engineers Without Borders- Georgia Tech, and CH2M Hill did not even know of our existence. Furthermore, our first trip to Haiti allowed PS to visit with the United Nations, gaining valuable data and contacts on the mission in Haiti and the UN itself. With two visits to Haiti and the IDP camps under PS' belt, we managed to bring back the research to ensure that the case competition held by PS, EWB-Tech and EWB-Atlanta in October was a success not just from the students' standpoint, but ours as well. The case competition was a huge success, with over 140 students competing from 12 universities; with Siemens donating \$15,000 for prize support for the competition; and with judges participating from the CDC, the US Army, CARE, CH2M Hill and Perkins & Will. The designs that were produced are being evaluated by CH2M Hill and the students to ensure that they will be viable in the field. To this end, CH2M Hill has offered hundreds of donated hours to the project.

In other achievements, we have been featured on CNN twice, in Georgia State University's magazine, and on Georgia State's website repeatedly. Also, we are still on target to build our 250-person pilot project in Blairsville, Georgia in February. And, most exciting, is that PS will be heading to the UN in January to begin the process of gaining our ECOSOC Consultative Status which should be forthcoming in July 2012. With the UN High Commissioner for Refugees asking us for updates, next year will be incredibly exciting for PS. This was all accomplished in 2011 with less than \$3000 direct funding dollars, and a full-time staff of only 5. Imagine what could be accomplished in 2012 with full funding!

Peacebuilding Solutions has been incredibly lucky to find valuable and appreciated allies such as EWB-Atlanta, EWB-GA Tech, CH2M Hill, Fiberweb and Dr. Enrique Steiger. The growth of PS would not have been possible without these allies and partnerships, and we look forward to working with them and others in the coming year.

Here's to an even better year,

Greg Hodgin

Executive Director

**Peacebuilding Solutions**

[www.solvepeace.org](http://www.solvepeace.org)

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