

## Mats 4 Haiti

By simply cutting, tying, & weaving milk bags, volunteers are creating bug-repellent mats for children to sleep on. For the millions in Haiti who lost their homes in the devastating quake in 2010, a soft mat to sit or sleep on is priceless. These mats protect sleeping children and adults and cut parasitic infestations in children by up to 40%. This sleeping mat provides a bit of cushion and warmth for the people who are sleeping on the bare, sometimes wet ground or banana leaves, which can cut their skin. They help protect children from parasites such as hookworm, whose larvae breed in soil and penetrate the skin, causing a range of serious development problems in the young. The surprisingly sturdy and durable mats not only provide a buffer from the dirt, but also the bugs.

Angela Kesthely started this group last year by word of mouth in Caledon. She sends the completed mats to Haiti through "Doctors Without Borders". Thank you to everyone for your support and enthusiasm towards this initiative.