

Architecture for Humanity fellow chosen

Partner in South Dakota firm describes opportunity of a lifetime to make a difference.

Architect Stacey McMahan has been appointed Architecture for Humanity (AFH) Sustainable Design Fellow and will lead AFH's sustainable rebuilding efforts in earthquake-ravaged Haiti.

McMahan will work directly with community members on the ground in Architecture for Humanity's Rebuilding Center based in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The program is being administered by the AFH, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

Because the rebuilding of Haiti presents an unprecedented opportunity to learn from the reconstruction work and improve disaster responses elsewhere in the world and in the U.S. through green building, USGBC, AIA and AFH sought someone who they believe can handle the massive effort.

As a partner/principal at **Koch Hazard Architects** (Sioux Falls, SD), McMahan is

the Green Studio director and has worked closely with the firm's entire LEED project portfolio.

Through the Sustainable Design Fellow program, McMahan will be working collaboratively with a team of design and construction professionals, countless volunteers and leaders of the local government to ensure that the reconstruction is high-performance, safe for occupants and abides by the highest level of zoning laws and building codes.

"Witnessing the incredible devastation in Port-au-Prince, it's only natural that hope is a rare amenity among the citizens of Haiti. The timing in my life was right to take advantage of this incredible opportunity to use my skills and experience for the good of others, and in that respect I also became aware that it was not enough to remain a bystander," McMahan said in a joint press release.

Chief among McMahan's responsibilities will be to provide tools and training for safe and sustainable construction to mitigate similar building failures in the future. ■

