

Sharing the Gospel with the people of Haiti through evangelism, education and medical care in partnership with the Mission Communautaire de l'Eglise Chrétienne des Cités. (MICECC)

A Publication of Haiti Outreach Ministries



SCHOOLS REOPEN, CLINIC COMBATS CHOLERA

After four long months, it was a Monday full of joy as the HOM-sponsored schools reopened their doors on January 9! The courtyards once again joyfully echoed with the sound of morning prayer and the Haitian flag flapping as it was raised on its stand. Students and faculty alike were thrilled to be back in the classroom. Staff member Ismaelene Aristilde shared, "We give thanks to God for allowing us to work." Schools' Superintendent Jacky Dorleans said, "May the Lord bless this school year greatly!"

Although the 2022-23 school year was slated to begin last September, increased violence and insecurity in Port-au-Prince prevented the schools from opening. During this time, however, all was not lost: Jacky and her faculty team came up with a plan to prepare and send home lessons that the students could complete at home. Emergency food was also packaged and sent home with the lessons, providing some of the nourishment that the students would typically have received in the daily school lunch meal. Recognizing that parents would benefit from support in helping their child with at-home lessons, parents were invited into the classroom so that teachers could explain the schoolwork that was being sent home. The response to this initiative was very positive, with a high number of parents participating in these sessions. Certainly, this was only a stop-gap measure, and parents are also thrilled that their children are back in the classroom this January.

The HOM-sponsored medical and dental clinic is also thriving and has resumed normal operations. During October and part of November, the clinic had reduced its hours to just two days per week (due in part to fuel shortages as well as insecurity). However, the clinic is once again open five days per week, and in December, the staff cared for 1,904 patients, the highest patient volume of the entire 2022 year.



Clockwise from top: Parents receiving instruction from teachers; Clinic patient receives emergency food/cholera prevention kit; Happy students back in the classroom.

Since last October, the clinic has been on the frontlines of addressing the cholera outbreak in Haiti. The Haitian Ministry of Health has reported over 22,000 cholera cases, with the majority of these located in Port-au-Prince and notably the impoverished area of Cité Soleil and surrounding neighborhoods. With generous donations from HOM supporters, the clinic has distributed over 2,000 cholera prevention kits. These kits contain chlorine and water purification tablets, as well as oral rehydration salts to address the effects of contaminated water.

In mid-December, the Haitian Ministry of Health launched a cholera vaccination campaign, and the clinic served as a key immunization site. The clinic staff worked with ministry officials to provide this life-saving vaccine to over 8,500 individuals.

Despite challenges, the staff at our schools and clinic continue to show amazing dedication and perseverance. Bondye ap travay!

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Thoughts from HOM Board Chair Carol Vassey



Bonn Ane, friends! The New Year is here and our hearts can be full of the joy that comes from the knowledge that The Spirit is alive and continues to

work in Haiti! Fifteen years ago, I traveled with Chris Northup and others to Port-au-Prince for the first time, and thus began my journey with Haiti Outreach Ministries. I met Leon & Jacky, Luc and many other church members during that visit. Thankfully, the Holy Spirit led me back to Haiti many times over the years and I joined the HOM Board as Secretary in 2015. Even though we haven't been able to physically be in Haiti since 2019, my heart continues to know joy with this ministry and my friends who are living amid all the turmoil that currently exists. This year I was humbled to be asked to serve as the next Chair of the HOM Board of Directors. I follow in the footsteps of giants, who have worked alongside Leon and others, to build brighter tomorrows with our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

As you are aware, these have been very difficult times for Haitians. Yet the wonderful programs in place at our campuses in Cité Soleil, Terre Noire, Repatriote and Espwa have made adjustments and are continuing to support the people in their communities. Churches are holding services, the medical/dental clinics see patients, clean water is available, and students are continuing their lessons. And there is something YOU can do as well – pray with us for the people of Haiti and for their leaders. God will hear our prayers for justice, mercy, peace, and restoration in this world.

My heart and soul are full of hope and love for Haiti – and I look forward to working with Caroline, the staff of HOM and MICECC, the Board of Directors (including 3 new Board members!), and all the volunteers and donors of this spirit-filled ministry. Let us pray that God will lead us together in the year ahead. Amen.

Carol Vassey
Board Chair

Carol visited Haiti for the first time in 2007, looking for a pathway to Christian service after the loss of her husband. Since that time she has led and participated in multiple mission trips, including 19 to Haiti. Her passion for reaching out to others has inspired her to devote time to both community and global projects. She is an elder at White Memorial Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, NC and serves on their Haiti and Outreach Committees. Recently retired, Carol enjoys reading and hiking and she has completed the Appalachian Trail. Carol's professional career spanned 43 years in various managerial law firm roles. She has been blessed with 3 children, 3 stepchildren, 10 grandchildren and 5 great-granddaughters.

A LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CAROLINE CHAMBRE HAMMOCK



Several years ago, I had the opportunity to walk the Camino de Santiago. The Camino, as it is commonly called, is a 500-mile pilgrimage across northern Spain. I walked for

a total of 34 days carrying a 14-pound backpack on mostly sunny days, some extremely hot days, and (mercifully) only a few truly rainy, unpleasant ones. The Camino was a test of my physical and mental endurance. In the early stages of my walk, I dreaded seeing steep climbs and hills ahead of me, knowing I would feel every step of the incline in muscles that I previously didn't know existed. I would sometimes tell fellow pilgrims befriended along the way, "You go ahead. I need a few minutes to think about getting up this hill."

But after a while, a funny thing started to happen: I began to actually look forward to seeing those hills approaching in the distance! Because I came to know that with every painful step upwards, awaiting on the other side was a glorious descent. I would savor that downward motion, giving thanks with every step for another successful climb, the rewards of having persevered, and the resiliency to keep going.

Haiti – and especially Haitians – remind me a lot of the Camino. The past 12 months in Haiti have been fraught with challenges, but Haiti isn't new to challenges. From fighting for its independence in 1804 to dealing with political conflicts to enduring natural disasters, you could say that Haitians are experts at facing and overcoming steep climbs. After all, the name Haiti itself means "land of high mountains."

Enclosed in this newsletter is our latest Impact Report highlighting the "peaks" achieved in 2022. The report is a testament to the fortitude and resiliency of our Haitian colleagues – teachers, doctors, nurses, pastors, administrators, construction & trades workers, and laymen and women - who demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to improving the lives of their communities.

There will continue to be hills to climb in Haiti. Thank you for tackling them with us. And praise be to God for faithfully getting us, always, to the other side.

Peace,

Caroline

Caroline Chambre Hammock
Executive Director

WINNING TOGETHER

by Ben Mitcham



Spend a little time at any one of the elementary schools of Haiti Outreach Ministries and you will be exposed to a full dose of the energy and vitality of its students, Pre-K through Grade 6. Experts at chase, tag, and not just a few made-up-on-the-spot games, uniformed children are a blur of activity. While it would be easy to accept that you were observing future skilled craftsmen, charming sales professionals, and a preacher or two, you might be surprised to realize that some were headed into academic pursuits and at least one would earn a Master's degree in the development of critical systems for a more effective use of the technological advances of our modern age. Yet were one to have enjoyed a ringside seat for the early years of Peterson Jean of Cité Soleil, that is exactly what she would have seen.

Peterson and the schools of Haiti

Outreach Ministries were birthed within a few months of each other in 1990 and when Peterson was the age to enter Pre-K, his parents decided to enroll him, his brother, and their sister in the primary school at the Cité Soleil ministry led by Leon and Jacky Dorleans. Peterson remembers that he and his brother would walk 18-20 minutes from the Jean home in the sprawl of Cité Soleil to school in the church at which Jacky Dorleans was such a firm and eloquent leader.

Following graduation from the sixth grade at the Haiti Outreach Ministries Cité Soleil school, Peterson headed to "collège," the Haitian term for middle and secondary schooling, at Louverture

Cleary School, a boarding school in Croix de Bouquet, which was recommended by Madame Jacky. A student of remarkable acumen, he was the beneficiary of scholarship assistance from a number of sources as his academic horizons broadened, culminating in his 2016 graduation from university studies in downtown Port-au-Prince at École Supérieure d'Infotronique d'Haïti. Heavily involved in several internships following graduation, his interests were drawn to systems designed to help people utilize the tools of technology, initially for students in their educational pursuits.

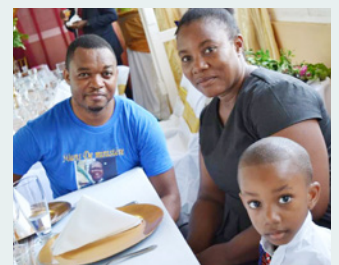
October 2021 found him studying at Swansea University in Wales, United Kingdom, after his receipt of a scholarship from the British government. To the particular attention and pride of Madame Jacky, Peterson was awarded his Master's degree in December 2022 as he continued his studies toward a PhD in "human computer interaction." As his intellectual pursuits evolved, he returned to the examples of his early years and began to focus on helping people. Most recently, he has focused on critical systems to assist the elderly to "assist the elderly in the management of their own healthcare." Further study and creativity await him as he has set his sights on the PhD degree.

Looking back, Peterson reflects that all of the opportunities which he has been afforded were enabled by the solid foundation which he received in the Cité Soleil school. He is committed to make the most of those opportunities as a way of "giving back" to those who have assisted him along the way. Asked whether he had a particular memory from the early years of his schooling he remembers Madame Jacky's emphasis on the privilege of education, her message that the success available through education was "not about winning by oneself, but about winning together." That is the message of Peterson Jean, and a message for us and all of humanity, as we seek the Kingdom of God in our midst.

MICECC SPOTLIGHT: ANILUS JEAN

Anilus Jean, is the nurse pharmacist and administrative assistant for the MICECC clinic. He also serves on the MICECC Board of Directors and is instrumental in helping Dr. Plaisir manage the day to day operations of the clinic. One of 8 children, Anilus was born and raised in Anse-a-pitre, in the South-East department in Haiti. He left at the age of 13 to go to Port-au-Prince to continue his education. There he studied communication and journalism at ISCOF, and nursing sciences at the École Supérieure d'infirmières et Infirmiers Jeanne Mance du Canada. After graduating, Anilus worked as a teacher, a trainer, then head nurse at the Heart Foundation for Haiti. Anilus says he was blessed; he wanted to study medicine but did not have the means to do so until "God put on my path Pastor Leontes Dorleans who helped me and encouraged me to study nursing sciences. Through him I got to know HOM and MICECC and was happy to go to work with MICECC in 2014 as a nurse pharmacist."

Anilus, his wife Gina, and 5-year-old son Angi-Samuel live in Meyer, near Crois du Bouquets. When he is not working, he enjoys being with his family, is active in the Terre Noire church and likes to sing a little (and he is better than "a little," as we've heard him sing!) Anilus is studying English so he can improve his communication skills. He is currently working on preparing training courses and lessons on different health topics. When asked what else he'd like us to know, he said "I love the people in the community and stand by my commitment to help them."



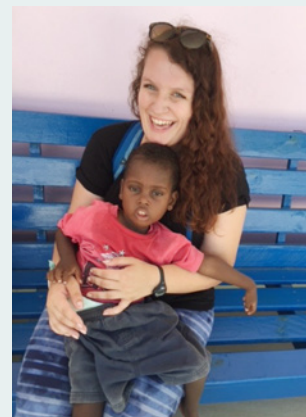
In Memoriam

A PASSION FOR HAITI: MARIBELLE SCOGGINS

Maribelle Scoggin, a vibrant 23-year-old who loved Haiti and the Haitian people, died after a brief illness in March 2022. She was very active in her faith and was never afraid to show it. Her love for Haiti began in July 2016 when she traveled with the youth from White Memorial Presbyterian Church (Raleigh, NC) and fell in love with the children of Cité Soleil, Terre Noire and Repatriote. She worked with a team to begin construction of a basketball court on the school campus. She sat with younger children and patiently taught the fine art of assembling Peace Puzzles. Maribelle was a hard worker; however, more than anything, she loved interacting with the young students who would come to play soccer in the afternoon. She would kneel on the ground, eye-level with these children, flash her infectious smile, and the kids would respond in kind – no language barrier noticed!

Her love for children was not the only gift Maribelle possessed – she had a lovely voice, played the guitar and loved to sing with others. With an artist’s eye, her photographs would capture much of the beauty she saw around her. Fortunately, fellow travelers were able to capture her radiant beauty as well.

What began as a mission trip for 8 days became a life-changing week for Maribelle, and not only with her work at the HOM campuses. She also visited the Family Health Ministries clinic in Tom Gato and a home for disabled children (Wings of Hope) in Jacmel. Those experiences had a profound effect on her young life. She was drawn to return to Haiti with her church and then traveled solo to Haiti for weeks at a time, helping to care for young children in need. Her passion for God’s children in Haiti was amazing to witness. She worked tirelessly to provide them with daily meals and to attend schools. While Maribelle is no longer with us, her love for God’s children has continued to have profound impacts – in Haiti and here at home, where her kindness will live on in our hearts.



BARYÈ FÈ GRADUATE: BRUCE LEE JOSEPH

HOM and MICECC were greatly saddened by the loss of Bruce Lee Joseph, a graduate of the Baryè Fè secondary school, who lost his life to local violence on December 1. Bruce had attended the HOM-sponsored schools since pre-K. He completed his primary school education at the Terre Noire school and was in the inaugural class of 13th grade students at Baryè Fè, completing his studies last June.

Bruce’s mother talks fondly about how loved and well-educated he was in the schools during the 15 years he spent there. She said that his life at home reflected “all the goodness and love he received at the schools.”

While his name is reminiscent of the famed martial arts actor, Bruce’s passion rested in basketball. He was a talented player with success in local basketball leagues, and his dream was one day to play in the NBA. In honor of Bruce, his teammates and family held a celebration of life event in the Gymnasium Vincent in Port-au-Prince on Dec. 24th. Assistant School Director Jimmy Honore shared this reflection at the celebration, “Bruce was a friend, a brother, a buddy. His friends use these words to describe him: courageous, thorough, understanding, talented, and slow to anger. He was an adviser, a person who had the gift of encouraging others. He was a role model, determined to put those around him before himself. One of his most remarkable qualities was that he had a knack for liking even those who seemed to be stronger than him. He knew how to encourage them to hone their strength to perform better in any field.”

Jacky Dorleans, Superintendent of Schools, notes, “The motto of our school is ‘We prepare students for today, tomorrow, and eternity.’ Bruce’s death is a great loss for everyone, especially Haiti, and we take comfort knowing that he was prepared for eternal life.”



HOM HELPS WITH HOUSING, HEALTH CARE IN EARTHQUAKE-AFFECTED AREAS



Top row: Home construction in progress, early stages of a new well, and a completed house. Bottom row: A busy mobile health clinic in action, and a happy new home recipient.

The earthquake which hit southern Haiti in August 2021 caused serious damage and destruction. Not long after the quake hit, Pastor Leon, Pastor Luc, and construction manager Marcelin traveled to the community of Cavaillon to assess the damage. Cavaillon is located 45 miles from the earthquake's epicenter, and MICECC has an existing relationship with local leaders in the community. Subsequently Pastor Leon returned several times to further determine how HOM and MICECC might provide support.


With donations from HOM supporters, it was determined that the most effective interventions were in the areas of housing and clean water access. A local crew was hired and deployed to construct six new houses for families whose homes had been totally destroyed. Leon personally met with these families, who were more than willing to provide sweat equity, contributing to their homes' construction. The homes were completed in late December, giving the families a fresh start for 2023.

Four wells are also in the process of being constructed in Cavaillon, so that community members will have access to safe and clean drinking water. The holes have been dug, and the next phase involves masonry work to add the needed concrete

slab for proper water flow and drainage. It is expected that the communities will also provide sweat equity, contributing to the completion of this project.

Another hard-hit area was Les Cayes, and HOM is partnering with FIDA-pch to provide basic health care services in this community. FIDA-pch is a non-profit organization that has worked in Haiti since 1984 and has developed expertise in providing mobile health clinics and training local staff. HOM is providing funding so FIDA-pch can offer quarterly mobile health clinics over a 12-month period, which are expected to serve 3,000 individuals. Services will include basic health care, immunizations, appropriate medication, and access to surgery as needed. Patients will also be linked to more permanent health care services. Betsy Wall, Executive Director of FIDA-pch, says, "We are all so deeply grateful for this opportunity that HOM have given us to advance the people of Haiti to be able to participate in a new vision of health care."

Thanks to all those who made donations to support HOM's earthquake-relief efforts! We are grateful to be able to support Cavaillon and Les Cayes with housing, clean water, and health care.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

by Bob O'Brien

OVERVIEW

This year, 2022, following a year lost to COVID and 2 years of violence has been very challenging for the Construction Group. While tasked with two major projects and several minor projects this year, Haiti's continuing unrest and massive inflation of 15-25% annually provided a challenging backdrop. With the absence of all visiting construction teams, we were blessed that several teams and individuals continued to send funds but missed valuable person to person interaction and the ministry lost a significant amount of funding for maintenance work that teams would accomplish during the summer months.

ESPWA CAMPUS

- Development of the master plan continued with plans being finalized for phase I of the Bible College.
- Construction of the Bible College should begin this month with the preliminary layout and construction of the Phase I pad and the associated toilet facility.

BARYÈ FÈ CAMPUS

- As noted in the last update, the phase I kitchen facility was completed this past summer.



Baryè Fè, from left classroom building 3 (10th & 11th grade) classroom 4 (12th & 13th grade) and kitchen.



Picture of newly painted building 1, building 2 in right foreground and newly painted generator/toilet building in left foreground.

- The fourth classroom building, a one story building housing the computer lab, principal's office, break room and four classrooms was completed in September.
- Preliminary design work will begin shortly on the multi purpose cafeteria building which will be located adjacent to the phase I kitchen.



Building 1 painted, awaiting returning students.

- A major maintenance project was the exterior painting of building 1 and the associated toilet facility. This was the first campus building constructed in 2015.



High water outside the Baryè Fè Campus, necessitating the new pedestrian gate.

- Due to excessive rainfall and storm drains being clogged on the main road outside the campus, a second pedestrian gate was constructed on the northwest corner of the campus to allow students to enter without wading through knee high water. The ministry is continuing to engage local leaders to alleviate high water issues.

REPATRIOTE CAMPUS

- Major maintenance was accomplished during the summer by the Haitian maintenance and construction group.



Maintenance work at Repatriote building 1 & 2.

Work included patching and painting ceilings and metal railings/windows in building 1, repairing and painting screens on all windows and major maintenance of the student toilet facility.



Installing library shelves in Youth Building.

- Funds were provided to complete the interior of the second floor Youth Building except for the electrical work. This floor will house a library and study area for the youth of all ages.

CITÉ SOLEIL CAMPUS

It is with pleasure to announce that the clean water team repaired damage to the clean water system, provided protection to the rooftop tanks and was able to begin distributing clean water to all in the neighborhood.

CLEAN WATER REPORT

All four campuses report a total of 573,000 gallons of clean water to the schools and the communities we serve. Maintenance was ongoing and repair parts sent from the US were received in a timely manner. The clean water system for the Espwa campus was shipped and received in Haiti. The installation of this system will be accomplished during the construction of the Bible College.

2022 CONSTRUCTION BY THE NUMBERS (\$)

- Total 2022 construction dollars put in place by the group: **\$813,000 US**
- Labor paid to all HOM employees: **\$118,699**
- Number of daily employees this year: **178+**
- Number of man days work for HOM employees: **12,115**
- Labor paid for subcontract work: **\$97,560** (All Haitian subcontractors)
- Amount of money spent on local goods and services: **\$589,990**

CLINIC CORNER

by Janet Horton, FNP

- The Clinic at Terre Noire is again operating at 5 days/week after periods of closure in Fall '22 due to safety issues and fuel prices. Dr. Suzie Plaisir, our pediatrician and new Medical Director, says it best: "Life goes on and the Haitians know how to get through bad times and do what needs to be done." Clinic staff with cars have been helping other staff members get to the clinic - most do not live close by and tap taps and motos are not as easily available due to the lack of affordable fuel. We are blessed to have a great staff!
- The clinic saw over 10,000 patients last year plus 2,400 dental visits, excellent considering some months we were closed for several weeks and for almost a month we only operated 2 days a week along with being short staffed for much of the past 6 months.
- The new MD is Dr. Louis Jacques Charleson. The clinic is also looking for a part time pediatrician to complete the staff. Currently we operate with 1 pediatrician, 1 ob-gyn, 2 generalists and a dentist each day.
- MSPP (Ministry of Public Health and Population) has provided vaccines to the clinic for cholera and they are holding cholera clinics to vaccinate the folks in the community. Almost 8,600 people have been vaccinated against cholera as of the end of December.
- No change in team trip status. We are very grateful that many teams continue to support the clinic through ongoing donations.
- The struggle is still finding the supplies the clinic needs, at a reasonable price - and of course fuel is still hard to get and very expensive.
- The clinic needs a better equipped lab to perform testing needed to provide quality care for our patients. We are evaluating what is needed and how best to meet that need. Our hope is to have a fully operating lab for the clinic by early summer.
- The Curamericas/HOM project to provide community-based maternal/child health education in the Repatriote community continues to progress. Several health care information classes have been held in the neighborhood with good attendance and favorable responses. Classes are being provided on cholera prevention and treatment. Future lessons will focus on good nutrition and importance of clean water.



Cholera immunizations in progress.

Clinic Equipment "Wish List"

- Dental suction machine (\$250)
- Pediatric scale (\$50)
- True metric glucometers and test strips (\$80/\$15)
- Adult scales (\$25)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CLINIC?

Contact Janet Horton, FNP at medtrips@haitiom.org. Clinic donations are always appreciated at haitiom.org/donate.

AN UPDATE ABOUT HOUSE OF HOPE

Many friends and supporters of HOM are aware that House of Hope has been home for 15 girls since 2011. Our friends at Redemption Christian Church built a lovely home and partnered with Leon Dorleans and Nadege Gay Haney to provide stability for these young girls while they attended the HOM-sponsored schools. Over the last year with the rising civil unrest in Haiti, it has been difficult to maintain a safe environment for

the girls and the staff. In December a decision was made to 'pause' operation of House of Hope and the girls have relocated to nearby homes with extended family. Looking toward the immediate future, the girls will continue as students in the HOM schools. We all pray that the situation in the community will improve in the months ahead and that House of Hope will be able to resume providing a safe and stable home for these girls.

DONATIONS

Contributions may be made securely at haitiom.org or by mailing a check to:

Dawn Walker, HOM Financial Secretary
PO Box 942
Matthews, NC 28106

Designate your funds on the check memo line.
Undesignated funds will be added to our general fund.



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Loving God,

Accustomed to so many storms, Haiti is in the eye of the hurricane of violence. They wait with caution, too afraid to leave their homes, even to find their daily bread.

They are hungry for so much more than bread.

We ask you, O Lord, to bring long awaited peace to your people there. Be with each and every one, whispering encouragement to draw on their deep faith in you.

They walk through the valley of the shadow of death, and though they fear, they know you are with them.

Your rod and your staff comfort them.

Give wisdom to leaders to care for the weak and ill, to lift up the poor and powerless, to seek justice for all.

Make room in the hearts of those with power to seek your wisdom in all their actions. And above all, hold each of your children in the palm of your hand.

We pray all of this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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