

**Bringing Light to
Northern Haiti**



Haitian Christian Ministries

**Preaching and teaching
the Word of God**

Planting Churches

**Meeting the Physical
Needs of the People**

October 20th, 2025

Dear Friends and Family,

I am reaching out to you to provide an update on the Maternity Project at the Pillatre Christian Clinic. Several months ago, I wrote an email to all medical team members who had served on a mission trip to Haiti asking for financial support to fund a brand-new medical service that we will be offering at the clinic. The amount we needed to raise to completely fund the project which includes construction at the clinic to provide a space for laboring and delivering moms along with equipment to stock the maternity area plus the start of costs of hiring 2 certified nurse midwives, a maternity nurse, a maternity clinic administrator plus a housekeeper was \$86,000. An amount that seemed overwhelming in human terms but not for the God of the Universe. As of today, we have raised \$28,000. Thank you so much to those who have provided gifts to get this project off to a great start. Construction has started and is continuing at the clinic. The plan is to build a brand-new patient waiting room that includes a bathroom for all patients that are waiting to be seen by the clinic staff. The present waiting room will be closed in to provide space for the new maternity area. HCM has already been approved by Project Cure (a mission organization that provides durable medical supplies to hospitals and clinics in countries where the population of the country is underserved free of charge, only charging for shipping and custom charges.) Construction started several months ago, the new patient waiting room is almost complete!



Here is the new patient waiting room. The first phase of construction should be complete in the next couple of weeks. We do have some funds to start construction for closing in the existing waiting room. The community of Pillatre is so excited for this new service to be offered. Presently the clinic provides prenatal and post delivery services for pregnant moms but moms who are ready to deliver must travel many miles to safely deliver their babies in a hospital or risk serious complications or death if they deliver at home. Here are some sobering statistics concerning pregnancy in Haiti.

1. 70% of Haitian women deliver their infants at home attended by a “wise woman”, someone who has learned their craft by watching other women deliver babies. That number raises to 90% in rural poor communities.
2. The maternal death rate in Haiti has risen over the last several years it presently stands at about 521 deaths for every 100,000 live births, 1 out of every 80 women will die in childbirth in Haiti. The number one cause of death is post-partum hemorrhage followed by Eclampsia, Hypertension and infection.
3. The current death rate for infants in Haiti is the highest in the Western Hemisphere at 46.9 deaths for every 1000 births. Deaths that are preventable when births are attended by trained medical personnel.

4. This article provides more detail on the need for maternity services in rural Haitian communities: <https://www.wekids-haiti.com/post/haiti-s-maternal-health-crisis-an-overview>

Haitian maternal death rates are the highest in the Western Hemisphere and are preventable with pre-natal care and medically attended births.

Some of the challenges the community of Pillatre faces are hospital births are expensive, and most rural women cannot afford to go to a hospital to deliver their infants. Even if the money is available (in the population that we serve it is not) the closest hospitals are 30 minutes to an hour away on extremely bad roads with no ambulance service available to the Pillatre community. Women usually must take a motorcycle taxi “Tap Tap” to get a hospital while in labor. There are cultural beliefs that are at odds with obtaining a hospital birth where moms believe that evil will come to a child who is not born at home.

The Pillatre Christian Clinic has been a beacon of hope for the community for close to 25 years. They have been providing medical care regardless of the ability to pay for services to the community for the last 25 years. In Haiti all medical care must be paid for prior to care, services will be denied if there is no money to pay for services, at our clinic that is not the case. The clinic not only provides excellent medical care, lab services and medication to patients, but they also provides medical education that combats cultural beliefs. Once all the start up costs have been raised ongoing monthly costs to staff the clinic will be \$1000 a month to provide this life saving service. Such a small amount to provide safe maternity care for moms and their infants in the Pillatre community. Can you help make this vision a reality? A gift of any amount will bring this vision that was started under the leadership of Pastor Bob Luceus



a reality. Pastor Marc-Aurel Fenelus our new Field Director is also an avid supporter of

providing maternity care to the community. Please visit <https://hcm.in.org/give> and click on the “Maternity Donations” button to provide your gift to the HCM Maternity Project.

All donors to the Maternity Project will be provided with a receipt for tax purposes.

Thank you so much for your prayers and consideration concerning helping to bring safe maternity and delivery services to the community,

Vicky Steele RN CEN

American Medical Director of the HCM Medical Clinic

