Bringing Light to Northern Haiti

Haitian Christian MinistriesNovember Issue - 2020



Preaching and teaching the Word of God

Planting Churches

Meeting the Physical Needs of the People

20th Anniversary Celebration of the Pillatre Christian Center Medical Clinic

Thank you to Vicky Steele, Pillatre Medical Clinic Director and HCM Board Member, for providing the following update.

October of 2020 marked the 20th anniversary of the Rose Johanson Memorial Medical Clinic at Pillatre Christian Center. The celebration also included the 20th anniversary of employment for our head nurse, Susanne. The event



was marked by a celebration program and recognition of Melus Pierre Marie-Susanne's service. The clinic has grown from a small rural clinic that provided basic care to a clinic that now has a fully functioning lab, a stocked pharmacy, a full-time physician, excellent prenatal and infant care which includes vaccinations. These are just a few of the services offered.

The clinic has become known throughout Northern Haiti. Often times patients travel many miles to be treated at the clinic. I was fortunate to hear the story of one patient when I was in Haiti last year. The roads were blocked due to riots and none of the medical staff could make it to

work. I saw all of the patients who managed to make it to the clinic seeking care. One woman I treated told me her story with tears in her eyes; telling me that she had traveled for two days to seek treatment at the clinic. You see, this was her return follow up visit, so it was the second time she had made the two day journey. She preceded to tell me how she had been to several doctors and none of them could figure out what was wrong with her. She heard about the Pillatre Clinic and traveled two days to seek treatment. Tears filled her eyes as she explained for the first time in two years, she felt better and thanked God and the staff for the care she received.

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This is just one of many stories you hear while working in the clinic. Care in the clinic is given for a flat fee that equals about \$1.50 (a very small amount even in Haitian Goudes). For that fee, the patient receives a medical evaluation, all laboratory services, plus any prescribed medication that the clinic stocks. No other clinic or hospital in Haiti operates this way. All charge a fee per service.



HCM supports the clinic through a budget of \$2200 a month. HCM also pays the salaries of each staff member employed in the clinic. The clinic averages around 525 patients per month. The budget provided by your generous monthly support works out to a cost to HCM of \$4.33 per patient. Can you imagine getting all your care for \$1.50? Medication and lab costs are similar to the costs in the US. The clinic is truly a ministry. A ministry that not only provides medical care to the community but also points patients to Jesus Christ.

The clinic has been recognized by the Haitian Board of Health as being outstanding. Receiving that designation brings monetary rewards along with a recent gift of an ultrasound transducer and tablet to provide advanced diagnostic capabilities. The gift came with training to our clinic Physician, Dr. Evans.



Please join me in celebrating 20 years of medical care in Haiti and congratulate our staff on the excellent job they are doing! Thank you for your continuous support of HCM. Because you give, lives are changed. Even though medical mission teams are unable to travel due to the pandemic, ministry continues. We are prayerful that teams will once again be able to travel sometime in 2021. Please continue to pray for all HCM pastors and staff and the HCM Board of Directors as we attempt to do ministry in these challenging times.

Two notes

Our PO BOX changed last year. USPS has forwarded our mail to our new mailbox, but that service is coming to an end. Please send all mail to PO Box 1244. This address is also at the bottom of page 1.

Christmas Gifts for sponsor children are ok to send to the field address listed at the bottom of page 1. We do ask that you reimburse HCM for the shipping cost from Florida to Haiti at \$1.50 per pound and that the gifts fit into a shoe box. Please include the students name and ID on a slip of paper inside the box. Merci beaucoup!

"Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being likeminded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others." Philippians 2: 1-4