



In the early months of 2010, a colleague put forth a question which set in motion a cascade of seeming improbabilities. The inquiry regarded a means of providing basic x-ray services for a rural, underserved community in Borgne, Haiti. While the cholera epidemic placed strategic, capacity-building endeavors on hold, we continued development of a diagnostic medical imaging initiative called IMPACT! (**Im**proving Access to **Care** by **Teleradiology**). IMPACT! is comprised of hardware (x-ray imaging equipment) and software (cloud computing teleradiology platform) components. The hardware is a digital radiography system and the software is a internet-based custom teleradiology portal. Aside from the requisite hardware and software components, the strength of IMPACT! is the network of volunteer radiologists who have pledged to contribute their professional skills to this humanitarian effort. Their philanthropy simultaneously encourages and inspires. The Synthesis Collaborative serves those in need knowing that we stand alongside many like-minded individuals.

We realize that community-level interventions can take many forms. While IMPACT! can address the need for improved diagnosis and treatment of physical maladies, there is also a need for emotional uplift. In order to achieve this goal, we will incorporate the creation of a mural in the communities served with the intent of addressing the spirit of the communities. Our inaugural mural project took place during July 2011 and was a collaborative effort between artists from Cape Town, South Africa and Rochester, NY. The theme of the project was to inspire the youth and the community to believe in a future that is brighter than the present. Many of you in our local community played significant roles in making this multi-site mural project a success. Your *belief* in the merits of our endeavors is ultimately what allows The Synthesis Collaborative to achieve our goals as an organization. Although the ideas begin within the minds of individuals, it takes a team to bring those concepts to fruition. Our success will rely on the concerted effort of many. To that end, we strive to build our team locally and internationally.

During our recent trip to Bangladesh with our charitable partners, The Hope Foundation for Women and Children of Bangladesh, we saw firsthand the provision of quality care in a resource-poor setting. Ingenuity and a boundless capacity for caring notwithstanding, the 40-bed hospital

founded by our partners is in need of our assistance. Aging x-ray equipment and inconsistent access to interpretation by radiologists is a scenario in dire need of a remedy which The Synthesis Collaborative aims to provide. Prior to putting our feet on the ground in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, such a statement would be purely academic—theoretical. Upon hearing of the arrival of teams from the US, France, and elsewhere within Bangladesh, the community arrived in droves to seek care at their community hospital which began as an open-air clinic in 1999. What we witnessed inspired us. Our resolve was bolstered. Our commitment was reiterated. Where their resources end is where our assistance will begin.

The Synthesis Collaborative is based in Rochester, New York. We are a 501(c)(3) tax exempt public charity which endeavors to improve the health of communities in need using the tools of teleradiology and cloud computing. We also sponsor and support arts projects which have a community-wide scope. The spirit of disenfranchised communities often requires treatment as well. Our sponsorship of art in the public space will be our means of intervention.

The stark reality is that are direct costs which are unavoidable. However discounted, the costs are real. However remote, the need for interpretation of x-ray images is real. We cannot accomplish our endeavors alone. The Synthesis Collaborative has forged partnerships with technology companies, equipment providers, and other non-governmental organizations to provide the tools needed. As mentioned previously, it takes a team to make a difference.

As a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charity, donations to The Synthesis Collaborative are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. The initiatives of The Synthesis Collaborative, described herein, cannot be brought forth without help. Essentially, what's being asked is your assistance to help us help others. If any of our initiatives resonates positively within you, I humbly ask you to consider supporting us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian J. Wilson' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ian J. Wilson, M.D.
Co-Founder

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason A. Fair' in a cursive style.

Jason A. Fair
Co-Founder

