

PROJECT **MEDISHARE**

2016 Year In Review



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Letter from Executive Director

Dear Friends,

In 2001, I arrived in Haiti for the first time as a Peace Corps Volunteer. I knew very little about the country that I was about to call home for next 24 months or the amazing people who were about to become my family. What I did know was that I wanted to help Haiti in any way that I could.

One of the first, and most important, lessons I learned in the Peace Corps was the importance of empowering people to help themselves and take ownership of efforts to improve their communities. I have carried that lesson with me throughout the 16 years I've worked in Haiti, and it's why I'm so proud of the work that Project Medishare does every day to empower Haitians to provide and receive access to healthcare.

October 2016 brought the unexpected arrival of Hurricane Matthew, which caused massive destruction and loss of life in Haiti. With our past experience responding to crises in Haiti, Project Medishare was able to immediately provide support via a field clinic in Jeremie – one of the areas hardest hit by the storm. Through partners with similar missions to our own, we have started to help families rebuild their communities and their lives. While I encourage you to read the full year in review, here are a few of the positive ways you helped us support Haitian families and communities throughout 2016:

- Treated more than 4,000 patients injured during Hurricane Matthew
- Produced over 1,000 gallons of chlorine to distribute to schools, families and health facilities
- Started construction of a new maternity center and staff residence in Lahoye
- Hired a full-time Pediatrician and 10 new community health agents
- Developed five new local partnerships

Our accomplishments would not be possible without your generosity and support. I truly appreciate each and every donor, volunteer, board and staff member who helps us provide life-changing healthcare in Haiti. Thank you for your support. Thank you for making a difference!

Mèsi Anpil,

Bene

Renee Lewis Executive Director



Building Healthy Communities

Project Medishare provides nearly 80,000 people in the Central Plateau communities of Marmont, Lahoye and Thomonde with direct access to healthcare. Through our partnership with Hospital Bernard Mevs in Port-au-Prince, we provide healthcare to thousands of critically ill and injured patients, and training to medical staff.



Our Mission

We believe healthcare is a fundamental human right. We empower Haitians to provide and receive access to quality healthcare. We share our knowledge and resources with local partners to improve health infrastructure and grow the skills of medical professionals.

Our Approach

We work with communities, government institutions, local organizations and global medical professionals to enhance the quality of life of Haitian families by strengthening local healthcare capacity and infrastructure. Our programs are community-based and locally led.



Hurricane Matthew Response

Program Overview

On October 4, 2016 Hurricane Matthew ripped through Haiti, causing massive destruction and leading to the country's worst humanitarian crisis since the January 2010 earthquake. Winds of 130–145 miles an hour, storm surges and heavy rains caused catastrophic damage to homes, agricultural crops, livestock, roads and bridges. It is estimated that more than 1,000 people died, and hundreds of thousands more were left homeless with limited access to food, clean water and medical care.

Key Activities

- Hygiene and Food Kit Distribution
 - Primary and Wound Care
- Medical Supplies and Medication

2016 Impact

4,000+ PATIENTS TREATED IN 3 WEEKS

1,000

FAMILIES GIVEN FOOD & HYGIENE KITS 27 PATIENTS EVACUATED FOR CRITICAL CARE

110

TONS OF GOODS DISTRIBUTED **31** VOLUNTEERS & HBM STAFF DELIVERED CARE

55,000 WATER PURIFICATION

TABLETS DISTRIBUTED

Healing the Wounds Left by Matthew

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Matthew, Project Medishare provided over 110 tons of supplies to affected families, including water purification tablets, mosquito nets, medications, medical supplies, and food and hygiene kits. In addition, our medical staff and volunteers delivered care to more than 4,000 patients, treating a variety of conditions from infected wounds to fevers to spinal cord injuries.

In the Central Plateau, the hurricane also affected Project Medishare's communities, though to a lesser extent. Strong winds caused damage to a few homes, and flash flooding wiped out crops and triggered small landslides.

With anticipated migration from storm-affected communities to other areas of the country, along with concerns about a rise in waterborne diseases, we took measures to minimize risk to our communities. Initiatives to improve water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure, and reeducate communities and health workers about the threat of cholera began in November and continued through the end of the year.







Reaching the Ravine

During the hurricane, a piece of steel roofing blew into 14-year-old Maxo, leaving a deep, gaping wound in his calf. A week passed before he could visit the field clinic in Jeremie where Project Medishare helped treat patients injured by the storm. The wound became infected.

After having his wound cleaned and stitched, Maxo walked home from the clinic through streets littered with fallen trees and other debris. He grimaced in pain along the way. When he finally reached his house near a large ravine, his grandmother was out front washing clothes.

"These clothes I'm washing are the only things we have left," she said. The wind took part of our roof. The rain ruined the few things we had, and the rocks took half our walls. We have nothing."

Knowing that Maxo was able to receive free medical care lifted one of her many burdens.



Partnering to Rebuild Lives

Project Medishare has partnered with two local organizations, Smallholders Farmers Alliance (SFA) and Caris Foundation, to provide support to more than 1,000 families in the Grand'Anse and South departments.

Through our partnership with SFA, 800 farm families across eight communities near Les Cayes have been selected to participate in an agricultural recovery project. Each farmer received the seeds, tools and training needed to make their farms productive again. The farmers will also establish and operate tree nurseries, which are expected to generate a minimum of 40,000 trees in 2017. Project Medishare will provide community health services to improve the health of families enrolled in the program.

With a grant from Project Medishare, Caris Foundation will launch a pilot poultry farming project in the hard-hit community of Jeremie. As part of the project, 250 vulnerable families will each receive 10 egg-laying hens, along with tools and technical support. The chickens can produce up to 70 eggs per week, which the families can consume or sell to generate income.



Community Health & Development

Program Overview

In partnership with the Haitian Ministry of Health, Project Medishare operates two fixedfacility clinics in Lahoye and Marmont. Through a network of 70 community health agents and weekly mobile clinics, we extend healthcare access to remote, difficult to reach communities in Lahoye, Thomonde and Marmont. Our mix of institutional and communitybased care is crucial to assuring that the most vulnerable populations have access to lifesaving treatment, medications and vaccinations.

Key Activities

- Disease Awareness and Education Campaigns
 - Primary and Preventative Health Care
 - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

2016 Impact

31,663 HOME VISITS

47,871 CLINIC VISITS 1,449 RALLY POSTS

10 NEW HEALTH AGENTS HIRED & TRAINED **163** MOBILE CLINICS

1,188 GALLONS OF CHLORINE PRODUCED



Encouraging Self Care for Busy Moms

Forty-one year old Luciani and her 9-month-old son were patients at a mobile clinic in the remote village of Palmary. The mother of six regularly visits our mobile clinics – their primary source of healthcare – to make sure her children are healthy and up-to-date on their vaccinations.

As a recent widow whose husband died during while she was pregnant, life has become difficult for Luciani and her children. With her focus on the health and well-being of her children, she neglected her own health in the process. Luciani came to the clinic suffering from neck and back pain; the effects of the hard physical labor she endures as a farmer. She also complained of headaches.

The doctor determined that Luciani was dehydrated – a common condition in Haiti for breastfeeding moms. To treat her dehydration and pain, she was provided with oral rehydration salts, nutritional supplements and pain relievers. She also received an important reminder to care for herself the same way she cares for her children.

Preventing the Spread of Cholera

After several days of heavy rains following Hurricane Matthew, the community of Lahoye experienced a cholera outbreak. Fourteen cases were reported. Two people died: a 10-year-old girl and an 80-year-old man. Project Medishare staff transported the other 12 people to a cholera treatment center in Thomonde.

Our community health team immediately implemented a series of activities to contain the potential for a widespread cholera outbreak. This included educational activities, the installation of hand washing stations, and the distribution of water purification tablets, oral rehydration salts and chlorine produced in-house.

Project Medishare has been producing chlorine since 2010. It is distributed throughout our communities to provide schools, families and health facilities with access to clean, safe water.





Maternal Health

Program Overview

At our maternity center in Marmont, Project Medishare delivers maternal health services to help moms have a healthy pregnancy and safe delivery. We provide training to traditional birth attendants to make home deliveries safer, and offer emergency transportation during labor to ensure moms receive the care they need. Community health activities targeting pregnant and lactating women complement the care provided at our maternity center.

Key Activities

- Prenatal, Postpartum and Neonatal Care
 - Labor and Delivery Services
 - Family Planning Counseling

2016 Impact

549

DELIVERIES AT MARMONT MATERNITY CENTER

600+

NEW USERS OF FAMILY PLANNING 0

MATERNAL OR STILLBORN DEATHS

2,800

WOMEN RECEIVED PRENATAL CARE 100 MATRONS TRAINED MONTHLY

1,000

MOSQUITO NETS DISTRIBUTED FOR ZIKA

Expanding Rural Maternal Health Services

In 2012, Project Medishare opened a maternity center in Marmont, providing thousands of women in the surrounding communities with convenient access to prenatal and postnatal care, delivery services with trained personnel and family planning counseling. Prior to this, many women had to travel more than an hour away to receive these services – if they could afford them.

In the five years since the maternity center's opening, demand for its services has grown significantly. On average, 46 births per month took place at center throughout 2016. Several of the women who choose to deliver their babies at the center live in villages in Marmont and nearby Thomonde. Others travel longer distances from communities including Lahoye.

To meet the growing demand for our maternal and reproductive health services, and improve access to these services for thousands more women, Project Medishare started construction on a second maternity center in Lahoye. The opening of the new maternal health center will reduce the number of home births that still occur in the Lahoye community due to its remote location.

The Lahoye maternity center is scheduled to open Spring 2017.







A Mother's Dream

It's 3 o'clock on a Friday afternoon in Marmont, Haiti, a rural community 60 miles and a three-hour drive from Port-au-Prince. The midwives at Project Medishare's maternal health clinic are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the next baby. On one of the beds lies 29 year-old Clautilde – a mother of two children ages 11 and 9. She's in labor with her third child.

Clautilde lives in the Dominican Republic with her boyfriend and two children. They were visiting her mother in Hinche when Clautilde started to feel her first contractions. At her mother's suggestion, she took an hourlong motorcycle ride from Hinche to the maternity center in Marmont.

It didn't take long for Clautilde's contractions to become stronger, longer and closer together. Project Medishare's midwives were at her bedside, holding her hand and keeping her cool with a cold compress. At around 8 o'clock, Clautilde delivered a healthy baby boy.

The next morning, Clautilde was up and about, full of energy and excited to show off her newborn. When her boyfriend arrived at the clinic, a huge smile spread across his face when he saw his son for the first time.

Before returning to Hinche, Clautilde proudly expressed her dreams for her children, including her thoughts on what makes a good mother.

"The way I educate my children, so that they are able to know how to act and be apart of society, makes me a good mother. I will do everything for them to be able to go to school and hopefully later, to university," she said.



Child Health & Nutrition

Program Overview

Project Medishare provides children with access to healthcare to support their growth and development. For orphans and vulnerable children, we provide supplementary services such as child protection, family support and tuition assistance to ensure they have the tools and support needed to reach their full potential. Beyond healthcare, we provide students with a daily, nutritious lunch – for many the only meal they eat all day.

Key Activities

- School Health and School Lunch
- Malnutrition Screening and Treatment
 - Vaccinations and Micronutrients

2016 Impact

17,718

CHILDREN TREATED AT MOBILE & HEALTH CLINICS

43

SCHOOL HEALTH VISITS

15,019

CHILDREN < 12 MONTHS VACCINATED

45,815

MEALS SERVED TO SCHOOL CHILDREN

291

CHILDREN DIAGNOSED WITH MALNUTRITION

450

ORPHANS & VULNERABLE CHILDREN SUPPORTED



Nourishing Haiti's Future

During the 2015-16 academic school year, Project Medishare piloted a school lunch program benefitting 496 students. The program provided a wonderful resource for parents who did not have the means to send their children to school with a lunch. Moreover, it served as an incentive for children to attend school on a regular basis, improving educational outcomes.

Due to the success of the pilot, the program was expanded to an additional two schools for the 2016-17 school year, nearly doubling the number of students who receive a daily, nutritious lunch. For many of these students, it's the only meal they eat all day.

We also employ women from the community as cooks, and source fruits and vegetables from local "Madame Sara's", extending the benefits of the program.



Empowering Moms to Raise Healthy Children

"Health is important to life," said 26-year-old Guerline while standing outside of our health clinic in Lahoye. She brought her 3-year-old daughter Guerlandie Camille to the clinic for an examination. Guerlandie was complaining of a stomachache and had a fever lasting several days. It took the mother and daughter 90 minutes by motorcycle taxi to arrive at the clinic – the nearest health facility to their remote village of Ikak.

Guerline is a mother of four. She gave birth to her first child, a boy, at 12 years old. She had her second child at 14, the third at 17, and the youngest, Guerlandie, at 23. With the meager earnings she receives selling peanuts, it has become increasingly difficult for her to care for her children and send them to school. Despite, or perhaps because of, those challenges, Guerline feels a sense of pride in being able to take her children to see a doctor whenever needed.



Capacity Building

Program Overview

An integral part of Project Medishare's mission is to help build a self-sufficient, sustainable healthcare system in Haiti. We provide local medical professionals with access to advanced training and education opportunities to enhance their skills and knowledge. We leverage international volunteers to provide our team with formal and informal training, and to expand our capacity to deliver specialized healthcare services.

Key Activities

- Medical Training and Education
 - Critical Care and Trauma
- Volunteers and University Partnerships

2016 Impact

500+

VOLUNTEERS (HOSPITAL BERNARD MEVS) 275+ VOLUNTEERS (CENTRAL PLATEAU) **30** PEDIATRIC & SOCIAL SERVICE RESIDENTS

Developing the Next Generation of Pediatricians

With few trained pediatricians in Haiti, many children do not receive the care they need, resulting in death rates caused by easily treatable and preventable illnesses.

In 2013, Project Medishare in partnership with Saint Damien Pediatric Hospital and Notre Dame University Medical School in Haiti, launched a pediatric residency program at Hospital Bernard Mevs. The three-year program trains residents to become specialists in the care of children ages 0 to 17. It's one of few pediatric residency programs approved by the Haitian Ministry of Health.

In the fall of 2016, after presenting their final research projects at a symposium hosted by the Haitian Society of Pediatrics, the first group of pediatric residents graduated. All six were able to find employment, including Dr. Frantzy Dieudonne who was hired by Project Medishare.

Dr. Dieudonne has already made a big impact in the communities we serve. He has filled a critical need in rural Haiti and helped Project Medishare achieve our longtime goal of providing specialized care to children – all thanks to the success of pediatric residency program.









Partnerships that Build Skills and Knowledge

It was more than 20 years ago when the first group of medical students and faculty traveled to Haiti's Central Plateau with Project Medishare. Since then, thousands of medical students have helped us deliver healthcare to vulnerable families.

Through our partnerships with universities, medical student groups, under the supervision of licensed medical professionals and faculty, spend at least one week working alongside our team at mobile clinics.

As an extension of our team, medical student volunteers help increase the number of patients we treat, and provide invaluable learning opportunities for our staff.



Veteran Volunteer

Dr. Sam Abelson is an Emergency Room doctor from Minnesota who is passionate about Haiti. He has been a longtime volunteer with Project Medishare. Since 2010 he has volunteered at Hospital Bernard Mevs in Port-au-Prince about 20 times. He has also volunteered with us in the Central Plateau and in Jeremie following Hurricane Matthew. During one of his 2016 trips, Dr. Abelson shared his firsthand perspective on the transformation he's witnessed at HBM over the last several years.

"Overall, I have seen dramatic improvement in the care and progress at the hospital. When I first arrived [in November 2010], we were still in disaster mode. There were very few Haitian Doctors or nurses available to care for patients. Since that time, things have improved dramatically," he said. "The EMTs at HBM are secondary to none anywhere I have worked. The nurses are outstanding, all over the hospital, and many have developed excellent critical thinking skills through their experiences and through outstanding leadership."

He continued: "When I began, there was not a single ER doctor at HBM capable of staffing the ER alone. On my trip [in August 2016] the ER is now staffed 24/7 with excellent, kind caring and compassionate Haitian physicians, capable of running the ER 24/7 with no volunteer backup. That is tremendous progress!"

Team

Arnold Absalon **Renaud Adelson Garry Alexis Joceline Alexis Farah Alfred** Bernadette Ambroise Jean-Claude Antoine Jean Roneld Audate Malio Audate **Odilaine Augustin** Jamcy Balde **Déronel Bazile** Marckendy Bazile **Roger Belizaire Rose-Laure Bellan Christaniel Benjamin** Luxonne Bernard **Nephiarry Bernard** Jean Moïse Bertrand **Benita Borgely** Wilbert Borgely Marie Carmene Brun Lucner Bruny Nivanna Cadichon **Eliona Cadichon** Milet Caillot **Paulin Cantave** Wendy Wladimir Casimir Lidieu Casnac **Marielle Casseus** Peterson Cazeau Suzette Celeger Andremène Celestin Limage Cherenfant Fabiola Chery Joaquin Cobo Roselle D'aout Nanètte Dassas Assez-Fille Dauphin **Chantale Delocente Riphat Demar Elouis-Bonheur Derause** Jean Garry Derosier **Duquesne Derosier** Janette Deshommes

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Timothy Solberg Hospital Financial Consultant

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JHPIEGO

Meds and Food for Kids Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP) Operation Blessing International* Smallholder Farmers Alliance Rättvis Fördelning Foundation Rotary International Sow a Seed* Vitamin Angels Zanmi Project

* Jeremie Relief Group

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