

# La Promisse



## Honey Production at Hôpital Sacré Coeur: For Food and Medicinal Purposes

*By Abdel Alexis, Manager, Human Resources, Hôpital Sacré Coeur, and Honey Producer*

Hôpital Sacré Coeur is an organization that seeks to use all the resources at its disposal in innovative and diverse ways to survive in a country where almost everything becomes extremely difficult. With this in mind, **for the past four years, hospital management has been planning how best to set up a model agricultural farm capable of supporting its employee cafeteria and then distribute the surplus to the most vulnerable in the Milot community.** The hospital has purchased and bred cattle, goats, broiler chickens, and bees for honey production and planted fruit trees and crops. The production of honey at Hôpital Sacré Coeur is an exciting project. How did this project come to be, and what are our motivations?

In 2017 the management of the hospital acquired a portion of land located on the mountain bordering the northern edges of the residences of the CRUDEM compound. **To understand how best to develop this land, the hospital invited a Cuban agricultural technician to conduct a study** to identify which types of crops (yams, peas, pineapple, plantain, etc.) would be the most appropriate given the climate and characteristics of the acreage. **From his first evaluation, the Cuban technician noted something the hospital had not even considered: a solid potential to produce honey.**

According to his observations, given the elevated position, the vegetation cover, and the different honey flowers of the Milot basin, this land would be an ideal place for producing honey. Also, several people from the area testified that a former occupant used this land for bees and produced much honey in the past. Based on these observations, Abdel Alexis, HSC's Director of Human Resources, endorsed this idea.



**As the administration explored this novel concept, Dr. Harold Prével, HSC Executive Director, wondered how this program might be implemented and who would be recruited as the beekeeper. The answer was already in place at Hôpital Sacré Coeur.**

Abdel, who developed a natural love for beekeeping, having grown up in the countryside in a family of farmers, stepped up to the plate. From childhood on, Abdel sat at the feet of his beekeeper uncle and learned how to raise bees. He convinced the Executive Director of the merits of seizing this opportunity and his ability to manage this program. **Thus, at the beginning of 2021, after much thought, Dr. Prével approved the honey production project and entrusted it to Abdel.**

Abdel set his passion into action with great gusto. **Today, Hôpital Sacré Coeur has 27 colonies of bees. The first production yielded 125 liters of honey. Abdel has set a goal of reaching 100 colonies by the end of 2024 and producing at least 5,000 liters annually.**

**Currently, the honey produced is used by the hospital cafeteria. But, given the well-documented therapeutic effects of honey, the institution's Director of Nursing plans to use some of the honey produced at the hospital in certain types of dressings to help heal complex wounds and improve the quality of care for patients.**

**In short, from a vague idea, if everything works as planned, the hospital will have found an innovative and effective way to create wound dressings and treatments and produce desperately needed nutritious food. ■**

## A Life-Changing Surgery

A 53-year-old woman suffered a fracture of her tibia about one year ago. Although the fracture had healed, the bone had not appropriately consolidated, and she was left with a deformity. For the past year, the woman had been walking on the side of her foot, which would have led to an even more severe deformity and likely other stress fractures.

**Thankfully, she sought medical help at Hôpital Sacré Coeur.**



Dr. Theodore Brown Rony, Chief of Orthopedics

Orthopedic surgeon Dr. Theodore Brown Rony quickly assessed the situation and recommended immediate surgery. During the successful operation, Dr. Brown Rony straightened the tibia and implanted a rod to strengthen the leg.



Now, for the first time in a year, the woman walked normally and no longer experienced all the physical curtains and emotional trauma wrought by a deformity.



**Many thanks to the fantastic staff at Hôpital Sacré Coeur, who routinely improve the quality of lives and save lives! ■**

## Thank You, Joseph M. Sanzari, Inc.

For over 50 years, Joseph M. Sanzari, Inc. has been the industry icon for highway and heavy construction, specializing in site work, highway and bridgework, and providing demolition, installation, and maintenance services. Located in Hackensack, New Jersey, the company, and its big-hearted CEO Joseph M. Sanzari, Jr., have given back to the local community in generous and significant ways. And now... their stunning generosity extends to making a significant difference in Milot, Haiti.



Recently, Sanzari donated to Hôpital Sacré Coeur a high-quality, rugged construction excavator truck — a gift worth its weight in gold. As Holy Name, EVP – Operations, Steve Mosser attests, “the truck is used all the time, and the general services staff take pride in keeping the Sanzari red and yellow looking fresh and clean.”

**Thank you, Joseph M. Sanzari, Inc. As the Haitian proverb, *Men anpil chay pa lou* notes, Many hands make light work.**

## Packathon Fever in Albuquerque, New Mexico!



Lindsey from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Rotarian, Helen Martinez, Holy Name Director of Annual Giving, Meghan Oh, Co-Chair Dr. Shelly Fritz, Co-Chair Dr. Bill Sale, and June Sale, PT.

**On March 18, Albuquerqueans joined together to pack 53,040 meals during their first Feed Milot, Haiti Packathon.**

Albuquerqueans responded to catastrophic food insecurity in northern Haiti by co-hosting their first Feed Milot, Haiti Packathon on March 18 during two sessions at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, at 1100 Montañño Rd NW.

**Over 300 people packed nutritious meals, including 30 Salvation Army rehabilitation residents who wanted to give back to the**

**community in a tangible way. The event also received billing as a “hands-on service project” of the Albuquerque Rotary Club that provided volunteers and financial support. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints generously donated the use of their gymnasium and many volunteers.**

Albuquerque orthopedic surgeon Dr. William “Bill” Sale, a longtime medical volunteer at Hôpital Sacré Coeur, chaired the event. “My medical team and I have volunteered at Hôpital Sacré Coeur for over a decade,” says Dr. Sale. “The hospital does fantastic work and is the lifeblood of the community. In my experience, the Haitians are hard-working, intelligent, and generous people caught in dreadful situations. These meal packathons will save lives.”

Shelly Fritz, DDS, a retired Albuquerque dentist and co-chair of the event, is no stranger to providing medical care to deserving people around the globe. “During Lent, this a perfect way



to have families help families, to show our gratitude for what we have, and to do something for those who don't have," said Dr. Fritz.

**Without a doubt, Albuquerque showed an immense spirit of compassion, congeniality, and a can-do attitude. New Mexico is indeed "The Land of Enchantment."**

**Thank you, Albuquerque! ■**



## Episcopal School of Jacksonville Packathon Rocks!

**On March 21, over 300 high school students and 30 advisors packed 52,320 meals in under 2 hours!**

For its annual Community Service Day, the Episcopal School of Jacksonville (FL) chose to hold its first Feed Milot, Haiti Packathon. Alumni Dr. John Lovejoy, Jr., a retired orthopedic surgeon, long-time HSC volunteer, and Haiti Health Promise Board member, chaired the event and recruited generous donors to cover the cost of the meal ingredients. The Reverend Teresa Ryan Seagle, Dean of Spiritual Life and Service and Chaplain of the school rallied the students and advisors with great zest and purpose.

Students from the upper grades and their advisers brought immense enthusiasm and energy to packing nutritious meals for desperately hungry children, women, medically compromised, and their families. The packathon began with all the attendees vigorously singing the band Journey's classic hit, "Don't Stop Belivin'." Their enthusiasm carried through the next two hours as they made short work of packing an astonishing 52,320.

**Thank you, Episcopal School of Jacksonville! ■**



(L to R) Cathy Davey, Holy Name Foundation President, Student Packer, Dr. John Lovejoy, Jr., ESJ Alumni, and HHP Board member, The Rev. Teresa Seagle, ESJ Chaplain.



# Upcoming Packathons

Join a packathon in your area, or show your support by donating [HERE](#) ►

April 27, 28, 29: St. Joseph Parish, Needham, MA

May 19: St. Cecilia Parish, Wilbraham, MA

June 17 & 18: Wenatchee, WA

July 21 & 22: Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph of Peace, Seattle

If you would like to sponsor a packathon, please contact us at [info@crudem.org](mailto:info@crudem.org)

## Hospital Sacré Coeur 2022 Statistics

**230 Beds**

**51,803 Outpatient Visits**

**6,412 Hospital Admissions**

**2,839 Surgical Procedures**

**13,682 Diagnostic Tests**

**237,392 Prescriptions Filled**

**2,243 Newborn Deliveries**

**127,551 Lab Tests**

**3,698 Emergency Room Visits**



## Volunteers Needed

Hôpital Sacré Coeur's medical director, Dr. Michele Hanna, and US Medical Director, Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name Dr. Jim Morgan work closely to manage the teams' travel to Milot. The hospital's current needs determine the timing and specialty of the teams.

The following specialties are needed:

- Urgent need for Ob-Gyn teams

Other specialties needed include:

- Emergency Department
- ENT
- Oral Surgery
- Plastic Surgery
- Internal Medicine

If you are interested in volunteering, please get in touch with Dr. Jim Morgan at [jamorgan@holyname.org](mailto:jamorgan@holyname.org)

If you have not volunteered prior, please visit the Volunteer Application and Forms page [HERE](#) ►



# Volunteer Veterinarians Needed!

The Hôpital Sacré Coeur Farm began in response to the extreme food insecurity the Milot region now faces, like all of Haiti. Food stocks are in short supply, and inflation has driven prices up over 50%. Hospital administration knew that eating nutritious food was essential for maintaining good health.

After careful study, the hospital realized the best use of its current resources to meet the food crisis included converting 22 acres of land suitable for food production into a farm.

**The hospital's agricultural project now includes 61 cows, 38 goats, and the production of 800 chickens every six weeks. Livestock supports the hospital**

**cafeteria and provides surplus meat to the neediest in the community.**

Animal health infrastructure, including vaccinations and epidemiological assistance, is nearly nonexistent in Haiti. Veterinarian care in the Milot area is sparse. The livestock on the hospital's farm receive primary care, but much more is needed.

**If you are willing to volunteer for a few days or a week, please get in touch with Jim Morgan, MD, US Medical Director for Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name, at: [jamorgan@holynome.org](mailto:jamorgan@holynome.org)**

**► CLICK HERE to donate to the Farm Project**



**100%** OF YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS PATIENT CARE AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AT HÔPITAL SACRÉ COEUR

**PLEASE DONATE TODAY**  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

