

Bon Nouvel

Hôpital Sacré Coeur

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Haiti Health Promise

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Miracles

in the Midst of Hell

A Thank You to the Generous and Compassionate Haiti Health Promise Community

By Harold Prével, MD, CEO Hôpital Sacré Coeur

Haiti, formerly a paradisaic island, has evolved through the centuries. From December 5th, 1492, when Christopher Columbus discovered it, this island had known some epics and, very often, some sad stories. Since eradicating the native Indians to the transportation of Africans from different tribes of Africa, my country seems to have been cursed by some unknown deal with hell.

Although the country's potential seems intact, all our indicators are in the red. We are the poorest country in the western hemisphere, with the region's worst maternal and child mortality rates. For every 100,000 live births, 529 women will die during this event, and only 36 percent of these women can deliver within a hospital. In Haiti, out of 1,000 live births in the last five years, 59 children die before reaching their first birthday — 32 die in the first month of life. Nearly one child in 12 dies before reaching the age of five (81 deaths out of 1,000 live births). Since the earthquake of 2010, this country seems to be in "Shaking Mode" constantly.

In 2022, we were shaken by the murder of an elected president, by the gangs controlling the main town of Port-au-Prince, and by the inflation rate. Cumulative

from October 2021 to June 2022, the monthly inflation rate reached 20.3% against 6.8% over the same period a year earlier. Amid this hell, women continued to deliver babies; children continued to seek care for tuberculosis and malnutrition. Middle-aged people continue to die from strokes because they cannot afford to purchase life-saving drugs. They lack social security and government support.

To operate healthcare facilities like Hôpital Sacré Coeur, we constantly turn our faces toward you for help and support. Fortunately, you had never turned your face away from us. **Through your generous donations, you have been sharing your blessings with women, men, and children that most of you will never meet physically. However, your support has connected your souls with ours as citizens of one world, as children of an almighty God. We can only be eternally grateful for such moves and keep you in our prayers.**

During this chaos last year, you helped us meet most of the financial requirements to help the hospital fulfill its mission. **We opened a 45 beds new maternity ward, a 40 beds internal medicine ward, and a new operating room. We distributed hundreds of**

thousands of meals to the people living in the hospital neighborhood. We secured a strategic reserve of 35 thousand gallons of fuel. Because the gangs in the south of Haiti continue to increase their power and take control of fuel distribution whenever they need it, many hospitals have closed, and hundreds of people have died. In 2022, the Southern Haiti gangs stopped fuel distribution for three months.

For Hôpital Sacré Coeur to have been able to accomplish all these improvements and strategic moves last year was simply a succession of "MIRACLES." But miracles do not happen by themselves, in large part, your hands, as God's hands have always been watching over us to bring some happiness into the lives of thousands of people who had sought care at Hôpital Sacré Coeur.

We are moving toward building our Women's and Children's Hospital. We will not be able to do it without you. Please keep sharing your blessings with us, and we will keep fighting the devil with the positive energy you have never stopped instilling into us.

May God bless every one of you! ■





A Message from Moji Gashti, MD, Hôpital Sacré Coeur Volunteer Surgeon

Fellow Volunteers,

We are a general surgery team and have traveled to Hôpital Sacré Coeur annually since the 1990s. Because of the pandemic and other issues, you are all aware of, we have not made the trip for the last three years.

I am happy to say that we just returned on 4/15/2023 after performing 52 surgeries in 5 days, primarily thyroidectomies, herniorrhaphies, and breast surgeries. I want to share our experience with you.

Our team members were naturally concerned about the security and health issues before our departure. Fortunately, we have two CRNAs on our team, Sisters originally from Haiti, who had traveled to Cap-Haïtien in February to visit family and assured us that the region was as secure as always. We then witnessed this firsthand during our arrival at the airport, our trip to the hospital, our stay in Milot, and our departure back to the airport. **At no time during this week did we ever experience anything out of the ordinary. Indeed, we all felt very safe, and the pick-up and drop-off, thanks to the great work by Lumarç, was**

flawless and smoother than I ever remember in more than 20 years of traveling to Milot.

The hospital continues to grow and appears busier than ever. Naturally, their need has also grown. We usually conduct clinic Saturday after we arrive and book enough cases for the week. Sunday is the day for planning our surgeries, stocking the ORs with what we will need, and for pre-op. This year, however, we spent 5 hours on Saturday in the clinic and another 5 hours Sunday morning, and still, we had to turn away countless patients who had waited to be seen, but we did not have enough time to offer them the surgeries they needed. **THE NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS IS TREMENDOUS.**

The residential area has been renovated, and it just looks beautiful. Volunteers now have private rooms with showers and bathrooms. Some rooms have AC, and others have fans. Although we did not have hot water all week because of a mechanical issue, having our rooms was great. We did not have to go to the cafeteria for our meals. There is now a fully functional kitchen in the residential area where three meals a day

are prepared solely for the volunteers. The food, of course, was as delicious as always.

Overall, we had a very productive week in Milot at Hôpital Sacré Coeur. We all felt very safe all week, and the hospital staff and the residents of Milot treated us with respect, as they always do, and were sincerely happy and grateful to see us back.

Although the hospital has grown significantly with more physicians/staff (i.e., three general surgeons on staff now), the need for volunteers with the expertise that they bring to the hospital is tremendous. **I urge you to consider resuming your excellent work at Hôpital Sacré Coeur. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can answer any questions. ■**

Moji Gashti / smgashti@hotmail.com



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
- Urgent Need for Urology 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



If you have not volunteered prior, please **USE THIS QR CODE** or **▶ CLICK HERE** to visit the Volunteer Application and Forms page.

Training Nurses as Servant Leaders

Our first task in approaching other people, another culture, is to take off our shoes. For the place we are approaching is holy. Else, we may find ourselves treading on people's dreams. More serious still, we may forget that God was there before we ever arrived.
~ Max Warren

Servant leadership and respect for another's culture undergird the Nurse Training Program at Hôpital Sacré Coeur. J. Cedar Wang, MSN, APN, GNP-BC, CHSE, Vice President of Nursing Operations at Holy Name, and Nathalie Dorcin, Chief Nursing Officer at Hôpital Sacré Coeur, direct this well-thought-out and crafted program.

The goal is simple: train nurses to become leaders and equip them to train their staff. Communication lies at the heart of the program: teaching best practices for nursing management, patient interactions, and clinical operations. And that is where the program and its direction become anything but simple.

The precepts underlying the dissemination of information between two distinct cultures — Haitian and American — beg a deep understanding of the nuances and symbolisms of both cultures and the considered self-awareness of participants.

The Nurse Training Program found roots in the development of Hôpital Sacré Coeur's Simulation Lab — another game changer for

Haitian healthcare. Wang helped launch the "Helping Babies Breathe" simulation training program alongside Hôpital Sacré Coeur nurses. The program successfully addressed a regrettably common practice among non-medical attendees assisting with a birth who assumed that if a newborn did not breathe immediately, the infant was dead.

"Helping Babies Breathe" required more than just teaching medical information and best practices. Haitian and American participants had to find and meet on common cultural ground and ensure the program reflected unique cultural values, respected personal and situational challenges, and offered opportunities for 2-way conversations.

This past year, Wang and Dorcin continued their best practices dialogue with weekly virtual meetings. Throughout their conversations, the question of how to increase quality nursing care loomed largely and eventually focused on the need for leadership training.

The program rolled out with all nursing departmental leadership. While training for best practices



Nathalie Dorcin, HSC Chief Nursing Officer



J. Cedar Wang, Holy Name VP of Nursing uses simulation training to teach Niva Myrlene Fils-Aimé François, Chief of Community Services

aimed to improve clinical operations, such as the accurate handoff of patient information between shifts to ensure continuous quality of care, the crux of the teachings focused on leadership development, using video tools accompanied by on-site coaching. Specific exercises helped nurses understand the varieties of

L'Engagement envers le développement de l'infirmière superviseure à l'Hôpital Sacré Coeur

le 11 mai 2022

leaders and their styles. Through a series of questions, nurses determined their style and the various styles within their team and found ways to apply effective leadership characteristics to typical nursing situations.

The program stressed that one of the first steps in the evolution of leaders is to get to know each other better so they can better adjust their posture to individuals and situations. The intense process of self-evaluation included self-awareness questions such as "What do people admire the most about you?", "When delegating tasks, what behavior are you most likely to exhibit?", "What upsets you the most?" Questions geared to uncover identity communication styles and biases when interacting with colleagues included "In discussions with team members, what would you most likely say" in various situations? "What do you most tend to do when you have to give feedback after a poor performance."

The program noted the successful leadership model advocated by Daniel Goleman in his 2002 Harvard Business Review article about leadership styles, in which he posited that the most influential leaders moved between 6 styles based on situations and personal tendencies. (Director, Expert, Visionary, Democratic, Affiliate, and Coach).

With the basic groundwork laid, the program moves toward developing servant leaders, a concept first articulated in 1960 by AT&T communications executive Robert K. Greenleaf. The servant leader model starts with the natural feeling that a person wants to serve and makes a conscious choice to want to lead. According to Greenleaf, the best test comes by observing whether the people served are growing and perfecting as individuals while being served. Do they become more balanced, wiser, more accessible, more self-reliant, and more likely to become servants themselves?

Long before Greenleaf, Jesus launched the

5. Qu'est-ce qui vous contrarierait le plus?

- A. Que votre employé n'ait pas fait ce que vous aviez demandé.
- B. Que votre équipe n'ait pas réussi à comprendre votre vision du projet.
- C. Que les membres de votre équipe ne parviennent pas à communiquer efficacement entre eux.
- D. Que l'organisation ait refusé d'accorder une opportunité de développement à l'un de vos employés.
- E. Que vous n'avez reçu aucune nouvelle idée de vos collègues pour vous aider à prendre une décision importante.
- F. Que votre équipe ne partage pas votre notion d'excellence au travail.

concept by telling his disciples: 25 Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. (Matthew 20: 25-26 NIV)

What are the qualities of a servant leader? The ability and desire to listen. Empathy. The ability to work toward healing and reconciliation. A commitment to assist people in their personal development. A duty to assist in the development of the community. Qualities aligned with the core values of Hôpital Sacré Coeur and Holy Name.

Faith occupies pride of place in the success of the program. Both Haitian and American participants stand firmly on many Biblical examples of servant leadership. The innate desire to serve others naturally compels nurses to react to the needs of their patients and colleagues, withhold judgments, and do whatever is necessary to reach a positive outcome for the well-being of the patients. In this sense, faith becomes a unifying factor in the training program.

Getting to know your Haitian and American colleagues better highlights the genuine desire of all to reach a common goal: delivering quality healthcare. Knowing yourself and your team members better increases effectiveness. A willingness to listen, an openness to new approaches, and a genuine respect for knowledge learned and transmitted within various cultures creates more paths to clinical and personal success and well-being.

As the program continues to evolve and be rolled out through additional clinical staff, Wang foresees one likely and hoped-for outcome: self-sufficiency. At some point, Hôpital Sacré Coeur's nursing leadership pipeline will be so strong that the American leadership training input will be unnecessary. ■

Meet the Hôpital Sacré Coeur Team

With a hospital staff of 426 that includes 335 full time, 35 contractual, 36 temporary and 20 medical interns, Hôpital Sacré Coeur has a tremendous pool of skilled and competent individuals to run every aspect of a large hospital. Exemplary staff abound.



Jaime Tamayo Rosada

From Cueto Holguin, Cuba, Jaime has become one of the most valuable and essential parts of Hôpital Sacré Coeur's machinery in only three years. A true workaholic, Jaime sometimes leaves the office after 8 pm. Jaime is a man with a great heart and is well-known as a miracle worker. Jaime continually brings to life equipment that seemed to others beyond repair. But there is no hope if he says something is not reparable. Performing with a high level of professionalism in every biomedical engineering task, Jaime will help wherever his help is requested. He always cares and always pushes for the highest standard. **Jaime is just the best.**



Rodlin Prevert

"Sometimes in a mechanism, organism or process, some of the overlooked parts turn out to be the most critical." Thus, Rodlin Prevert is one of these silent, often unnoticed, critical parts of Hôpital Sacré Coeur.

A dream team with Jaime, Rodlin is a technician with tremendous insight, eager to learn, flexible and open; he installs, calibrates, maintains, and troubleshoots every electronic mechanism at the hospital.

Rodlin is a tremendous help to the hospital and the community because only a few people in the region are as capable as he is. **Rodlin is truly a blessing. ■**

Hôpital Sacré Coeur's Dream Team

By James Morgan, MD. US Medical Director, Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name

The original "Dream Team" was a basketball team composed of star players from the NBA who would win a gold medal in the 1992 Olympics. Impressive in their extraordinary skills, it's true, but in the end, it was a basketball tournament.

Emmanuel Jeannite (Director of IT and Community relations at HSC) has spoken to me about our very own "Dream Team," Hôpital Sacré Coeur's team of in-house biomedical engineers Jaime Tamayo Rosada and Rodlin Prevert, who keep the hospital's equipment running, and enable our doctors and nurses to save lives. I am a real basketball fan, but I'll take these two over Magic Johnson and Charles Barkley any day when systems need to be maintained to help make our patients well.

Jaime, who hails from Cuba, has a keen analytical mind and an uncanny ability to resurrect equipment otherwise deemed irreparable. Just two weeks ago, he attacked a broken EKG machine, vital equipment lying fallow. Watching him assess the machine's workings was akin to watching a sculptor looking at a piece of stone, encircling it, looking up and down, deliberating thoughtfully before setting to work. Two days later, he sent me a photo of the machine and its product: a perfectly readable EKG.

Rodlin is a Haitian national who lives in Cap-Haïtien with his wife. Locally trained at probably the top electronics program in the country, Rodlin has a combination of experience, knowledge of electronics, and a dogged work ethic that make him a terrific asset

to HSC. I recently talked with (HSC Chief Executive Officer) Dr. Prével about hospital beds that needed repairs before moving into the new maternity and internal medicine space. Dr. Prével told me, “just a few days, Jim, don’t worry.” I must have looked incredulous, but he reassured me that his team was up to the task.

Indeed, they were. Rodlin worked from dawn until dusk, readying the beds for patients.

While these two examples speak to the technical abilities of Rodlin and Jaime, what strikes me the most is their approach to their day. Always pleasant, always willing to lend a hand, always kind in spirit — whether in their close collaboration with one another or with a wayward doctor who needs “this thing fixed.”

I recently shared a cup of coffee with the two of them — Jaime made an excellent espresso — and was struck by the real *presence* I sensed they felt in their work.

Their involvement at HSC is much more than a job. Such presence is hard to learn from a book, but once learned, it becomes manifest and expressed in nuanced and overt ways. It is a kind gesture like a cup of coffee, a warm smile, a much-needed repair of vital laboratory or operating room equipment, or heating systems for our newborn babies. It is knowing when to move quickly and urgently or methodically and deliberately. It is listening, doing, and participating in the mission of something much bigger than oneself.

Through these fine men and so many others at HSC, we can participate in a very tangible way, in a process that works systematically, to help lift the poor and downtrodden, our brothers and sisters. Their work and the work of HSC are not charity; it is much more profound. Instead, it is participation in a fundamental way in the community. ■

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 noted by the Haitian proverb,
Men anpil chay pa lou
“Many hands make light work.”



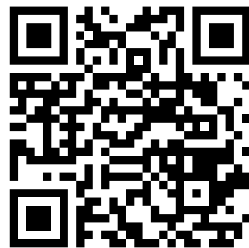
SPONSOR A SUPPORT STAFF MEMBER FOR ONE YEAR

Hospitals are busy places that require lots of trained professionals to deliver full service patient care. Support staff fill the laboratory, specialists draw blood, housekeepers keep the rooms spotless, and aides assist nurses. And that is just the tip of the long list of people who dedicate their working lives to keeping people alive and making people well at Hôpital Sacré Coeur.

Your generosity will provide a year's employment for one of the unsung heroes and heroines of Hôpital Sacré Coeur who diligently work behind the scenes to keep the hospital running smoothly.

You give the gift of employment and in turn they will devote their attention to doing the best they can to keep Hôpital Sacré Coeur one of Haiti's best run hospitals.

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SUPPORT STAFF MEMBER
FOR ONE YEAR
\$3,000**



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Hôpital
Sacré Coeur
Milot, Haiti

Haitian Children: The Profound Bearers of Divine Immanence

*By James Morgan, MD,
US Medical Director,
Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name*



To be a young child in rural Haiti is, in some ways, like being a young child anywhere. By that, I mean we are born where we are born. It's a lottery.

A few months ago, I traveled with several colleagues – Dr. Michele Hanna, Emmanuel Jeannite, Niva Fils-Aimé François, three bright stars at Hôpital Sacré Coeur – to participate in a food distribution in the countryside. When we finally stopped in the center of a small village, people quickly appeared, with perhaps scores of children among them.

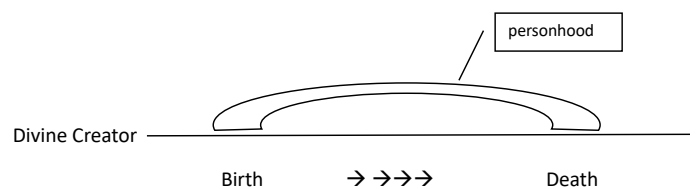
One young man, about 15 years old, asked me about his elbow, which had been badly fractured after he fell out of a tree while foraging for food. A local surgeon had repaired it, but his mobility was still severely limited, and the pins holding the bones in place were beginning to protrude through the skin. Another mother asked me if I could help her young baby, who was ill and not eating. I was happy that I could confidently refer them both for quality care at Hôpital Sacré Coeur.

Amid recalling these scenes, I have been thinking, too, about the theological concept of Divine Immanence and how that notion contrasts with an asymptotic idea of our relationship to God.

When we speak of immanence, we mean that there is a presence within, intrinsic to and not separable from,

something or someone. If I accept that there exists Divine Immanence in humanity, then I affirm that the Creator's Spirit is, in fact, honestly present intrinsically in the person in front of me. God, and my knowing God, becomes an intimate part of a personal journey.

Nearly two decades ago, a friend gave me a copy of the beautiful book "The Grace in Dying" by Kathleen Dowling Singh. One idea that has impacted my experiences, especially as a physician, is a graph wherein the author depicts closeness to God, essentially bookending our lives. The graph looks something like this:



Singh's objective in her book is to highlight the transformational grace that one can find in the final days of one's life, and this graph supports that objective. Still, I think that the graph is helpful in illustrating a common idea, namely that at times other than the

beginnings and the ends of life, humanity is separate from the Creator.

Notice how the graph remains nearly asymptotic, never joining God except at either end of the curve. Taking this view, then, it allows for me to not see God as intrinsic and fully immanent in creation, at least not in the majority of a person's lifetime. It lets me off the hook, perhaps letting me focus on my own family or on those who look like me. Seeing others as mere others, not necessarily endowed in an Immanent sense.

So, how do these two ideas relate to a child's life in Haiti? For one, it offers us a chance to choose a lens through which one may wish to view the world.

Consider, for example, that in the surrounding rural villages outside of Milot, perhaps a quarter of the children will never go to school as their parents haven't the funds to support them. They will play around the house until they come of age and then become restless and perhaps work as a "kontrolé," collecting money from taptap riders. They will regularly search for food, a place to sleep, and genuine care.

Another 50-60 % percent of these children will receive some schooling, learning essential skills that can help them find a primary job, typically in manual labor or subsistence farming.

And then, for about the lucky 15%, some will go on to secondary and even university education and be able to earn enough to allow them to pursue careers and, hopefully, a less grinding life.



Such is the life of many children in rural Haiti. Too, like many of their parents, their lives are very difficult, often cut short by trauma or disease. But for countless persons living in the North of Haiti, knowing that Hôpital Sacré Coeur is in the region represents a welcome balm. They know that when they come here, they will receive quality, compassionate care. On our website (<https://crudem.org/about-crudem/our-mission/>), you can read the mission statement of Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name and Hôpital Sacré Coeur. The final bullet point reads: "Upholding, at all times, and in all endeavors, the inherent dignity of every individual."

Immanently said! ■



A Birth that Touched Many Hearts

Ciara Bromeus was born on January 31, 2023, in the Hôpital Sacré Coeur maternity department and transferred to the Pediatric ward on February 2nd. What should have been a highly joyous occasion was just the opposite. **Despite all efforts, Ciara's mother died right after giving birth from postpartum hemorrhage.** No other relatives visited the hospital to meet their newest family member, celebrate her birth, and bring her home.

As always, the compassionate Pediatrics team took the beautiful baby under their supportive wings and smothered her with attention and love. Dr. Michele Hanna, Hôpital Sacré Coeur's Chief Medical Officer, and a pediatrician, named her. Now, despite the tragedy surrounding her birth, Ciara is a smiling infant who likes to play and to be held. Efforts were made to find Ciara's family without success. ■



Keeping children healthy isn't easy.

In Haiti, it can be next to impossible.

Prenatal and children's health issues that would be considered preventable or manageable here in the US are far more serious – even life-threatening – in Haiti. There is no reliable resource in the Milot region dedicated to delivering high quality, acute and emergency pediatric health care. Holy Name is changing that.

Introducing the New Women's and Children's Hospital in Haiti



Artist rendering



Scan this **QR CODE** or **CLICK HERE** to make either a regular or a cryptocurrency donation.

Building on the success of Holy Name's hospital in Milot, Hôpital Sacré Coeur, we are constructing a Women's Children's Hospital to handle maternity care and acute, critical and healthy child care.

Features include:

- 5 labor and delivery rooms with 2 ORS and 6 recovery beds
- 36 maternity beds with bassinets
- 49-bed Pediatrics Department, 25 newborns and 9 preterm beds, 6 recovery beds
- 4 critical care rooms and 2 private rooms
- 4,600 sq. ft. Emergency Department
- Allied health services: laboratory, blood bank, histology
- Large outdoor and indoor covered play areas



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eCommerce Retailer Little Bipsy® Donates \$400,000 of new clothes to Hôpital Sacré Coeur for distribution to the neediest.



When the call came announcing Little Bipsy's extraordinary and generous donation, Haiti Health Promise and Hôpital Sacré Coeur staffs were stunned and elated. The prospect of brand-new clothes — tags still on — for newborns, children, youths, and adults, was a dream come true. "During this challenging time for Milot's residents, the gift meets a physical need and boosts morale. When the clothes reach Milot — in late May — receiving such fine and stylish clothing from strangers will cause a swell of gratitude. The neediest in town, who will benefit, will be singing the praises of Little Bipsy for a very long time," shared Joni Paterson, Executive Director of Haiti Health Promise.

Reaching out in a tangible way to people in hardship — particularly mothers and their young — exemplifies Little Bipsy's core values.

Little Bipsy's roots were planted in April 2015, in Everett, WA, after the birth of owner Brittani Little's son Connor. While shopping for adorable outfits for Connor, Little discovered a dearth of modern, stylish, and comfortable clothing for infants: a passion was born. After two years of hard work, negotiating the manufacturing process, and constant faith in God leading her on this path, a notable retailer was established in 2017. Little adopted her late Grandfather's nickname for her as the company's name: Little Bipsy®.

Little created a "Classic Romper" design and a line of flexible sole H-Tops for developing feet and new walkers. Her designs created quite a buzz in the marketplace, and the company grew by leaps and bounds. Little Bipsy continues offering affordable, quality clothing selections for newborns through adults.

Little explained, **"My passion and true love for what I do is built off the foundation of authenticity, quality in our products and overall customer experience, creating valued relationships and empowering those around me. I strive to make a difference in multiple areas of our community by serving local non-profits and donating where there is need."** The company's goal is to create a foundation offering support and resources throughout the journey of pregnancy, providing love and a safe place for babies and little ones, and being a stepping stone for healthy family development.

Paterson concluded, **"Thank you, Brittani and Eric Little, and the Little Bipsy® staff. Your generosity has profoundly impacted the lives of thousands of desperately poor Milot, Haiti residents. God bless you!"** ■

We encourage you to visit Little Bipsy® and see their quality, affordable, comfortable clothing line.

Please **CLICK HERE** or **Scan this QR CODE** to visit littlebipsy.com ►





Msaada | architects

Design Phase Completed

for New Women's and Children's Hospital and the Hospital-wide Conversion to Solar Energy

Through multiple video and in-person meetings in the US and in Milot, medical personnel and chief administrators from Hôpital Sacré Coeur and Holy Name met with the architects to fine-tune every detail of this critical new project.

Following AIA standards that detail the design and construction process, Hôpital Sacré Coeur, in conjunction with the Operations Department of Holy Name, and Masaada Architects, has completed the all-important Programming/Functioning and Schematic Designs Phase and is now in the Step 3 Design Development/Refining the Design stage. This stage includes more detailed drawings of the project as well as a greater assessment of the internal structures, such as electrical, plumbing, and HVCA aspects. **The project is now a small step away from completing the construction drawings that guide Hôpital Sacré Coeur's facilities staff in building the women's and children's hospital and the conversion of Hôpital Sacré Coeur to solar energy.**

"In repeated conversations with medical, laboratory, and biomedical staff, the architects have drawn the optimum designs for functionality, adaptability, ease of flow, equipment placements, and most importantly patient well-being," said Holy Name President and CEO Michael Maron. "Various features throughout the hospital that support clinical objectives of child development and enhancement including colors, textures, sight, sound, and healing fresh air. Indoor and outdoor child-themed play areas, murals, and other wall depictions are a high priority. The outdoor area will feature both covered and open-to-the-sky designs to support maximum use."

Founded in 1980, Masaada Architects pursues their calling to assist the Developing World by providing architectural and related professional services to organizations committed to improving the human condition. Masaada, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization and is 501(c)(3) registered. Their dedication to their calling is reflected in their name. In the East African language of Kiswahili, Msaada means "assistance." Since 1980, Masaada has served over 47 countries on four continents and designed projects that respect their partners' cultural and building traditions.

Masaada Architects follow three core values that align with Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name: Sustainability, Stewardship, and Servanthood.

Following traditional values of good design and craftsmanship invariably leads to the long-term success of a project. Masaada understands that good design is not synonymous with cost prohibitive. "In the Developing World, detailed planning results in designing the best building for the lowest possible cost," said Maron. "Masaada through attentive listening and engagement with Dr. Prével and Dr. Hanna, designs have according to the project location's social, cultural, and environmental contexts as well as medical excellence and capabilities."

W. Jerry Murray AIA LEED AP and Executive Director of Masaada Architects and architect Andy Ripp, lead the project for the Hôpital Sacré Coeur's Women's Children's Hospital project. ■



Harold Prévil, MD Hôpital Sacré Coeur CEO



Michele Hanna, MD Hôpital Sacré Coeur Chief Medical Officer



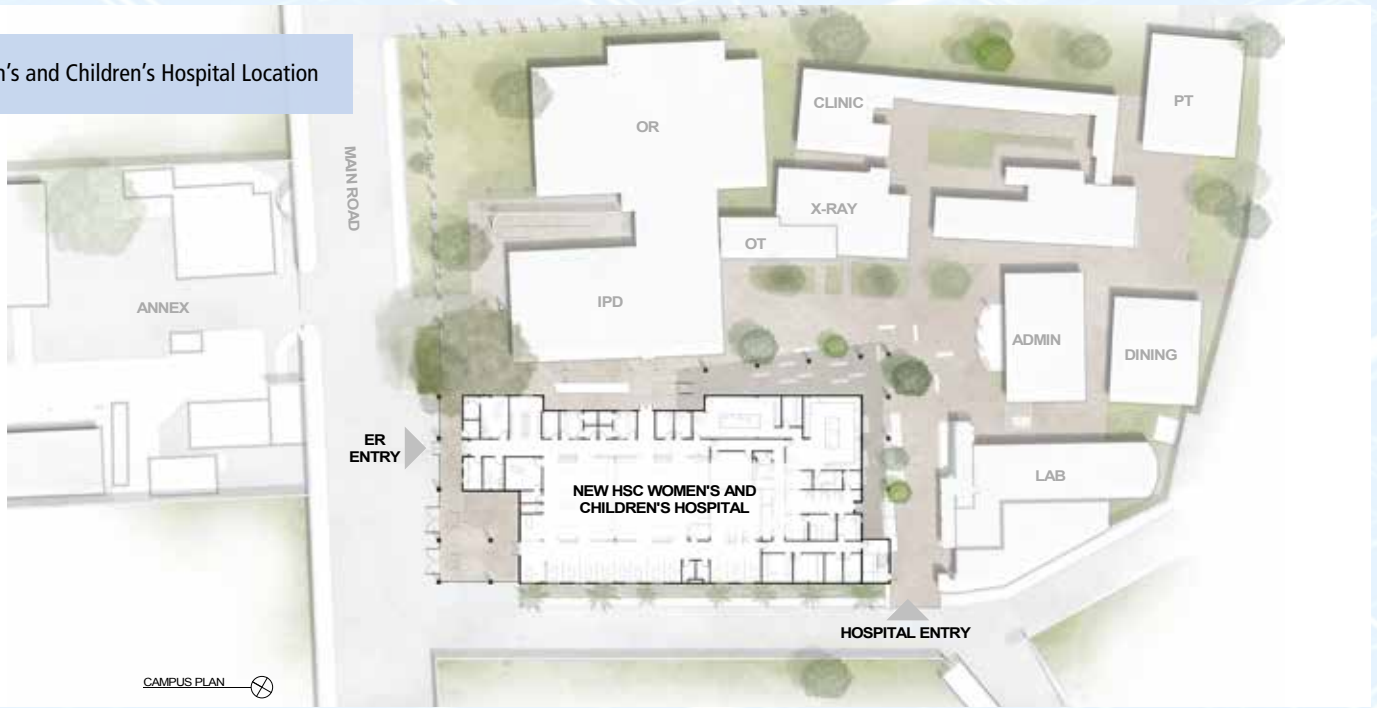
Steve Mosser, Holy Name Executive Vice President, Operations



To learn more about **Msaada Architects** and their excellent work around the world, please visit their website at: **www.msaadaarchitects.org**

◀ Scan this QR Code or **CLICK HERE.**

Women's and Children's Hospital Location



Emergency Entrance



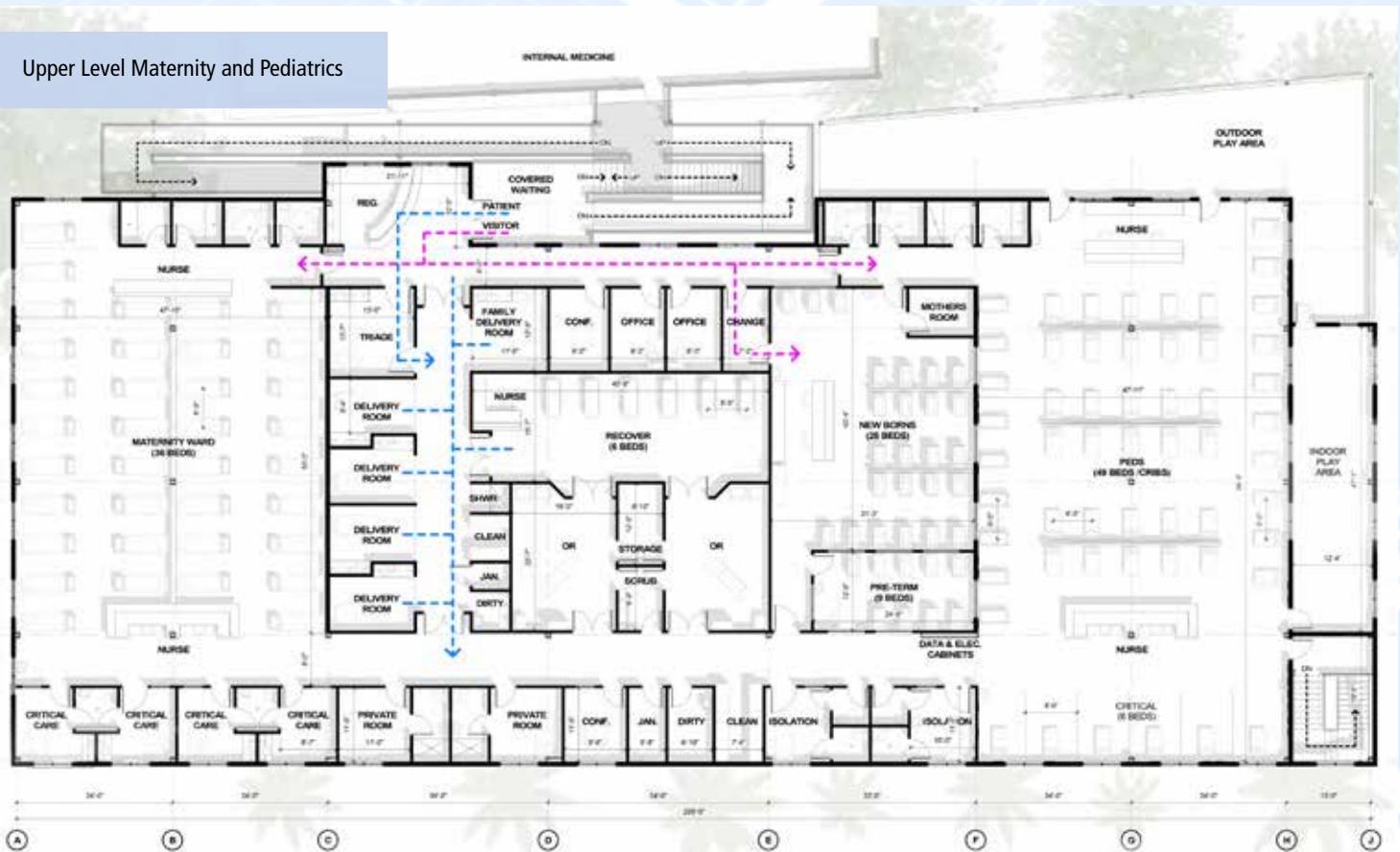
Courtyard Entrance

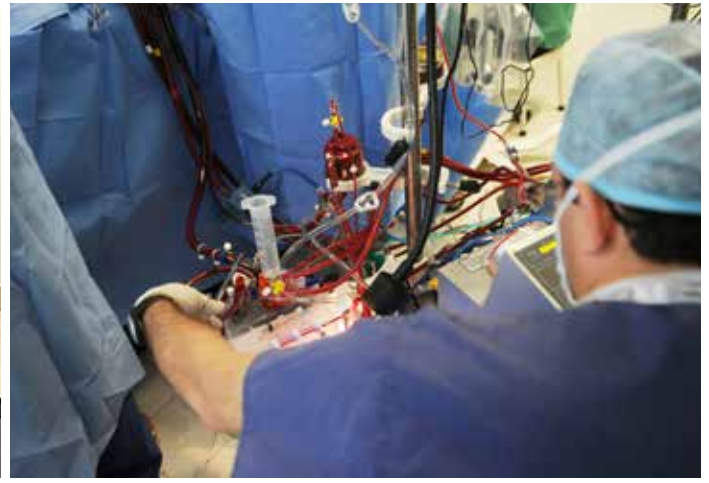


Main Level – Emergency Department and Clinical Lab



Upper Level Maternity and Pediatrics





Vision to Establish Hôpital Sacré Coeur as a Premier Cardiovascular Center takes Form

For over a decade, teams of more than 16 cardiologists have brought excellent cardiology services to Hôpital Sacré Coeur. William Battle, MD, took the lead, made countless trips to Milot, and helped develop the cardiology department and services. Upon Dr. Battle's sad passing, Boston cardiologist and long-time medical volunteer Carl Turissini, MD, took on the task of primary cardiology volunteer.

Like his predecessors, Turissini has a dream. He wants to save Haitian lives. Dr. Turissini knows that cardiovascular diseases unnecessarily ravage Haiti's 12 million population. Cardiovascular disease (CVD) accounts for 40% of hospital admissions and 29% of deaths. That's only part of the reality because of a lack of access to quality medical care. Current statistics peg coronary heart disease and Cerebrovascular Disease as the top two leading causes of death in Haiti — diseases often correlated to the social aspects of poverty: poor diet, food insecurity, inactivity, depression, and inflammation. At Hôpital Sacré Coeur, hypertension and diabetes rank high on the list of diagnosed conditions.

More prominent access to cardiovascular services would reduce that high percentage, improve life quality, and even save lives. Turissini's familiarity with Hôpital Sacré Coeur's long history of offering some cardiovascular services, even intermittently, showed promise. **The hospital's excellent facilities, stability, longevity, and receptivity to expanding medical services made Hôpital Sacré Coeur the logical candidate**

for establishing the hospital as a premier cardiovascular center.

Turissini put pen to paper, and his ideas took form. The plan was twofold. First, identify a Haitian physician to be trained outside of Haiti at French-speaking Le Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Martinique and return to Milot to work. In a relatively short time, Turissini and Haiti Health Promise Board Member, cardiologist Joseph Kannam found a donor to cover the \$50,000 cost of training. After careful vetting, Dr. Harold Prévil, Hôpital Sacré Coeur's CEO, tapped Dr. Alford Blaise as the first recipient of the prestigious fellowship.

Dr. Turissini checked the box of part one of his plans.

The next step involves improving and growing the cardiac services program at the hospital. The list includes finding donors to support the establishment of a cardiac catheterization laboratory for coronary angiography, stents, and permanent pacemakers, upgrading services for transesophageal echocardiography, mitral valvuloplasty, and providing pacemakers/ICD. Also foreseen is establishing a pediatric and adult congenital heart clinic, expanding the peripartum cardiomyopathy clinic, and establishment of Hôpital Sacré Coeur as the cardiac referral center for Haiti.

Ambitious? Yes. Doable? Most certainly, with the proper financial and medical expertise backing. And we have little doubt that Dr. Turissini's dream will come true. ■



If you would like to learn more, please get in touch with Carl Turissini, MD, at: **CTURISSINI@mgh.harvard.edu**

◀ Please scan the QR Code or **CLICK HERE** to donate to this program and note "Cardiology Program."



Dr. Butler and his family



Drs. David and Mary Ann Butler



Drs. Chris Englert, David Butler and Timothy Finely

Congratulations Dr. David G. Butler:

Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name Chairman, Recipient of 2023 Spirit of Healing Award

On April 1, Holy Name Foundation held its annual Founders Ball on a magical evening at Pier Sixty in Manhattan. The event celebrated the contributions of Spirit of Healing honorees Dr. David Butler and Senator Paul Sarlo, and another year of remarkable achievements across the Holy Name system.

Dr. Butler is a physician beloved by his patients, a leader esteemed by his peers, a humanitarian revered for his sacrifice and compassion, and a philanthropist of great caring and generosity — the life of Dr. David Butler is a study in altruism and productivity.

Dr. Butler's career spans 50 years. Having joined the medical staff at Holy Name in 1973, he has cared for thousands of women, delivering as many babies. He held various leadership roles, including Director of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology for many years and Chairman of Holy Name's Board of Trustees. **It was his longstanding devotion to the people of Haiti, which inspired Holy Name's mission there and helped to launch a nationwide movement to serve the impoverished citizens of Milot.**

"Dr. Butler's more than 30 years of devotion to Hôpital Sacré Coeur and the people of Milot, Haiti, improves the quality of life and saves countless lives daily. He firmly plants hope and possibility in a land of despair," shared Holy Name Foundation President, Cathleen Davey. "Dr. Butler's ongoing work has instilled Milot in the hearts and minds of compassionate people across the United States and the world. "



Steadfast. Extraordinary. Inspiring. Noble. Kind and humble beyond measure. All words that aptly describe Dr. Butler. His faith tradition perhaps describes him best: Dr. Butler truly lives up to the Jesuit ideal of being "a man for others." ■

An Extraordinary and Rare Surgery with a Successful Outcome

By Louima Bendson, MD, Chief of Surgery, Hôpital Sacré Cœur. Photos by Dr. Louima Bendson, MD

INTRODUCTION Hibernoma is a rare benign tumor originating from the persistent brown fatty tissue of the fetus. Brown fat has a function of thermogenesis, especially in the first years of a child's life, but it regresses with age. In general, the tumor grows slowly, leading to the appearance of a soft tissue tumor. In adults, the most frequent residual areas of brown fat are generally located in the interscapular region, the mediastinum, the retroperitoneum, the back, the thigh, and, sometimes, the head and the neck.

In this article, we report on an unusual case of hibernoma in a patient with a painless mass in the left arm. We review the epidemiology, clinical course, diagnosis, and treatment.



CASE PRESENTATION A 55-year-old man presented for consultation in the general surgery department for a mass located at the upper 1/3 level and external face of his left arm. The patient had this mass for 3 years, but suddenly it began to grow exponentially.

The clinical examination showed a soft, very bulky, relatively mobile mass located in the left humeral region. No cervical or axillary lymph nodes were found. Ultrasonographic and radiological examinations suggested a soft tissue mass. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) was not performed in the Nord department due to unavailability.

Fine needle biopsy was performed but not contributory. Thus, surgery was performed to excise the mass completely.



The immediate postoperative consequences were infection at the operating site, anemia, and hypoproteinemia due to a lack of nutritional means.

Gross examination revealed an encapsulated tan brown polylobulated tumor, weighing 28.8 pounds and measuring 48 x 25 x 30 cms.

The definitive pathological examination retained the diagnosis of hibernoma characterized by mature fat cells, abundant eosinophilic cells with small cytoplasmic vacuoles, and regular, small, round cell nuclei.

The patient is now nine months postoperative with good evolution.

CONCLUSION Hibernoma is a rare benign tumor resembling other benign soft tissue lesions such as



liposarcoma. This article reports an unusual presentation of left arm hibernoma characterized by rapid and painless growth. Fine needle biopsy and surgical excision were performed. The evolution is satisfactory.

Thanks are due to the medical and administrative management of the Hôpital Sacré Coeur, the General surgery staff, and especially the surgeons on duty: Dr. Pharline Joseph Seraphin and Dr Allan Raphael, and the operating room staff.

Most importantly, tremendous thanks are due to the Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name community, whose continuing support and prayers have made Hôpital Sacré Coeur a center of medical excellence and who have given this patient relief and aid beyond compare. ■

References: Alexandra Rodriguez Ruiz, Sven Saussez, Thibaut Demaeschalck, and Jérôme R. Lechien, (2017). Hibernoma: a rare case of adipocytic tumor in head and neck. Articles from BMC Ear, Nose, and Throat Disorders are provided here courtesy of BioMed Central. Published online 2017 Dec 15. doi: 10.1186/s12901-017-0046-8

Patient Survey Spotlights Hôpital Sacré Coeur's Excellent Care



A recent patient survey by Hôpital Sacré Coeur highlighted the tremendous appreciation and gratitude for the hospital and its staff. Please take a moment and read the heartfelt testimonials about the importance, quality, and responsiveness of Hôpital Sacré Coeur.

“Wow, the hospital is so clean. I like the quality of the service. I came from Cap-Haïtien to come here. I have skipped several hospitals to come here. I do not regret it. It was worth it. I am satisfied. Keep going.”

“What I like about the hospital. They always give everyone the same value; they care about people. Everyone at the hospital understands people well. I am satisfied with you.”

“Since 1999, I came to the hospital. When we come, they give us quick care. They don't ask for money first. I am satisfied. I like that. I have come several times already. I always consult in the hospital.”

“I love all the ways they deliver the service. They keep the inside [of the hospital] clean. They take care of the sick whether you have money or not.”

“Frankly, I like the hospital a lot where you get good care compared to other hospitals. I wish they always keep the way they are. Because I always get service.”

“I have come many times already because my mother is in this hospital; she is also nursing. What I like about the hospital is the service, the care you need, you will find it, and the structure of the hospital is good; the way they clean the environment is reliable, the space is always clean, and the personnel always do their best to fulfill their tasks. And they ensure the safety of every patient in the hospital.”

“I have come several times; I love the way the hospital is presented, the services are good, they take care of the patients. If someone comes in an emergency, they provide care.”

“I have come several times. This is my third time coming. There are nurses who speak well to you, some who are very good, who take people's cases. There are doctors who never give up. I am satisfied.”



SPONSOR A PHYSICIAN FOR ONE YEAR

Without skilled medical care, people in Haiti suffer needlessly, face life with physical compromise and often die.

Your gift will ensure that a highly skilled physician works full time for a year at Hôpital Sacré Coeur delivering life-saving medical care to the poor.

Whether in the field of pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, ophthalmology, cardiology, orthopedics, emergency medicine or internal medicine, the MD who benefits from your generosity will serve an average of 150 patients a week – that's 150 people each week who have a chance to have a healthy life!

Your gift will provide employment for a highly trained professional and will give Haitian men, women and children the chance to regain the physical wellness needed to put food on their family table, pursue an education, and give back to their communities.

The cycle of needless suffering and death can be abated through your meaningful and impactful giving!

SPONSOR A
HÔPITAL SACRÉ COEUR
PHYSICIAN FOR
ONE YEAR
\$24,000



Scan this QR CODE or
CLICK HERE to donate, or visit:
<http://bit.ly/Sponsor-a-Physician>



Hôpital
Sacré Coeur
Milot, Haiti

Hospital Sacré Coeur 2022 Statistics

230 Beds

51,803 Outpatient Visits

6,412 Hospital Admissions

2,839 Surgical Procedures

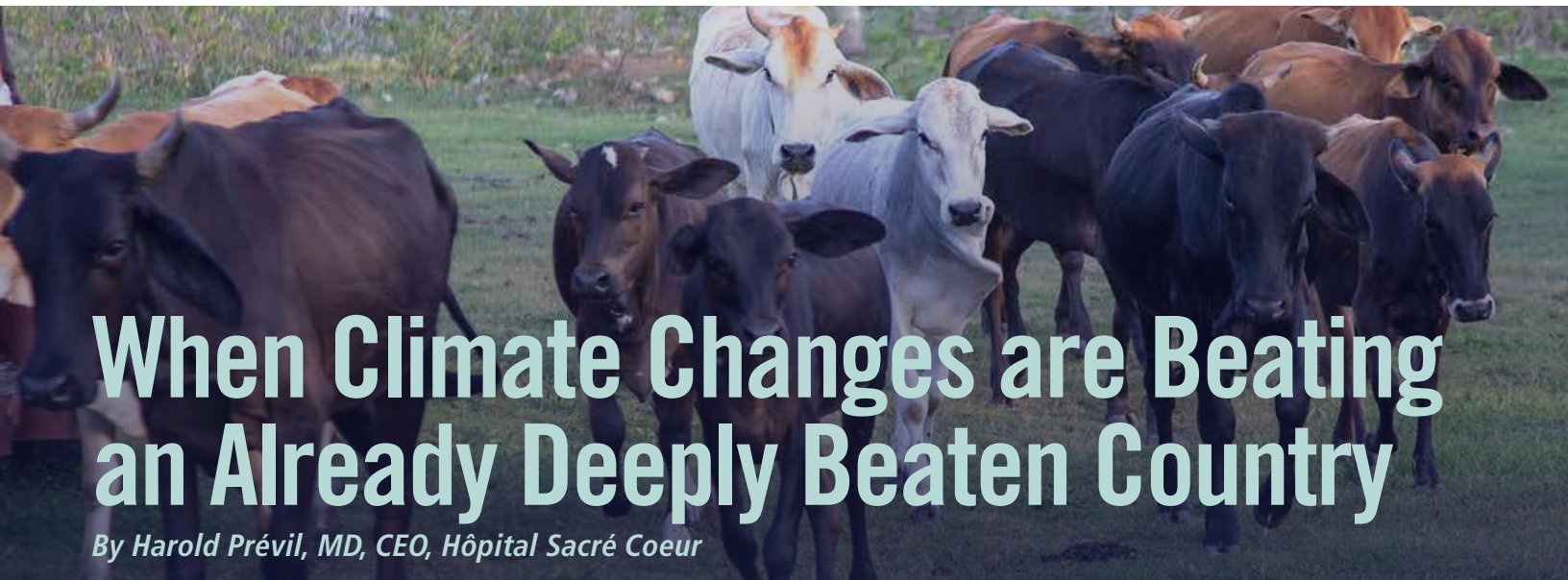
13,682 Diagnostic Tests

237,392 Prescriptions Filled

2,243 Newborn Deliveries

127,551 Lab Tests

3,698 Emergency Room Visits



When Climate Changes are Beating an Already Deeply Beaten Country

By Harold Prével, MD, CEO, Hôpital Sacré Coeur

We have included farming activities as one of the strategies to support our hospital operations. Over three years ago, we converted over 95 acres of land to raise cattle and other livestock, produce vegetables, grow fruit trees, and produce honey. Like other farmers around us, we started this project relying on God's will to send rain. **Since November 2022 to now, our farm has not seen a drop of rain. Our soil, our crops, and our cattle are starving for those drops of water that will resuscitate them.**

Since December, our farm staff has been all over the land and area to look for even small branches of leaf, and sugar cane loaves to feed those starving cattle whom the hospital relies upon to produce milk, cheese, and meat to support our employees and the community. **In the past years, our country has had defined seasons. Now, rain is a miracle. And when it does rains, it is only for a few minutes.** This dire situation has led to a point where we are constantly bending in front of God, praying to Him to send those blessed raindrops.

This year, we decided to help ourselves by looking for the water wherever it is. Our goal is to plant 16 thousand trees; among them will be mangos, avocados, passion fruits, oranges, cedar, and other tropical trees — trees for food and trees that hold water in their leaves and fruits. To accomplish this, we need to dig 6 deep water wells with solar pumps. We have started the digging of 3 wells, but without our own equipment, the cost is greater.

My heartfelt request for help is a matter of life or death. In my

country, food is the most needed medication and water is the new gold. Please, help us feed our people.

With my deepest thanks and appreciation for your kind consideration.



We are profoundly praying that God will send a generous donor who could help us acquire a well-digging machine to help the hospital dig more wells on the farm and on lands throughout the community to provide many of the 35,000 residents with water and irrigation systems. We also need another tractor to help with moving our soil and the soil of the poor farmers of the town.



If you can help with the farm project, please contact Joni Paterson, Executive Director, Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name at: paterson@crudem.org

HONEY PRODUCTION

at Hôpital Sacré Coeur: for Food and Medicinal Purposes



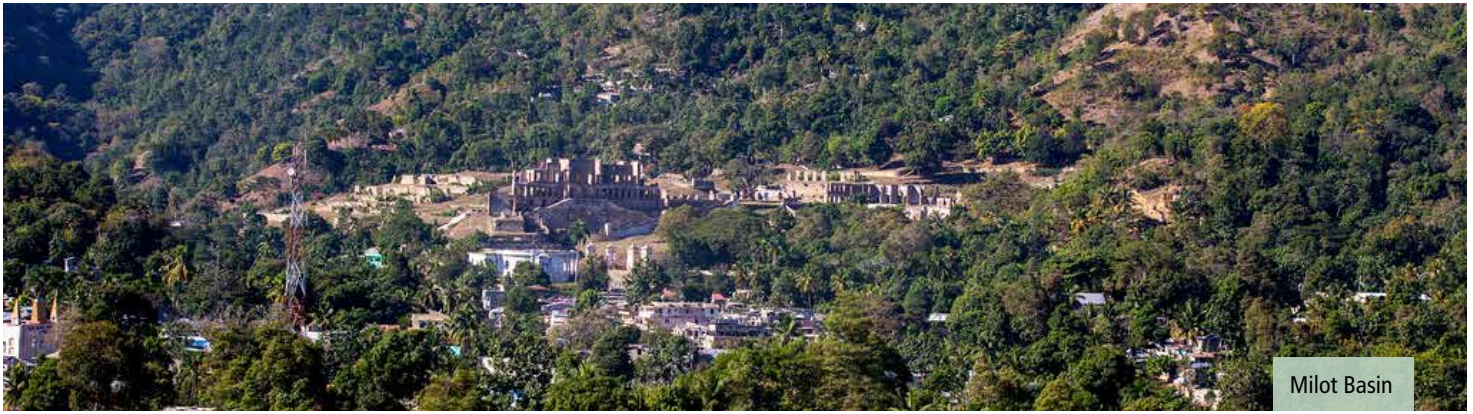
Head Beekeeper, Abdel Alexis and (right) Altès Saint John tend to the hives.

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 Prévil, 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. Prévil approved the honey production project and entrusted it to Abdel.**



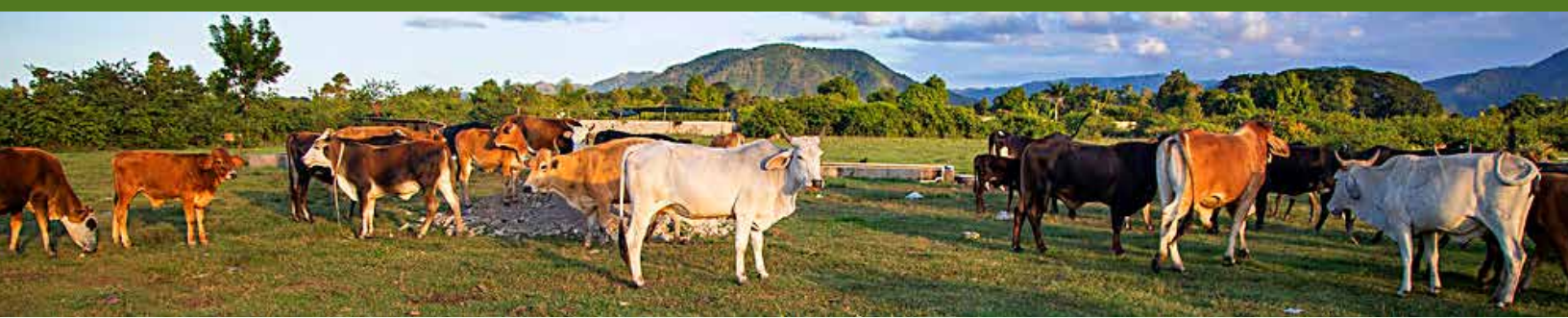
Milot Basin

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. ■



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 95 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

**CLICK HERE OR
SCAN THIS QR CODE ►
to donate to the Farm Project**





St. Joseph's Parish Sets New Packathon Record!

From left to right: Packathon organizers Ellen Benoit, Cathy Zimmerman, Michael Gillis, Holy Name Director of Annual Giving, Meghan Oh, and Director of Engagement and Food Packathon Program, Nancy Thomas.

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.” John 15:12

In ten sessions spread across April 28 to April 30th, more than 500 people from St. Joseph's Parish and schools, the Knights of Columbus, and the Needham, Massachusetts community showed their love of God and neighbors at a packathon for the Hôpital Sacré Coeur Food Packathon Program. **They packed a record-breaking 158,680 meals** for the desperately poor and hungry in the Milot region of northern Haiti. Despite already working a busy week, they persisted with that special joy from putting love into action.

The packathon program is a tremendous opportunity to introduce people to the stellar



work at Holy Name's Hôpital Sacré Coeur, the plight of Haitians in the Milot region, and the recruitment of new volunteer medical teams. As a result of packathons held across the US, Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name has been blessed with hundreds of new supporters for the hospital.

The people in the Needham area, like nearly 6,000 packathon



attendees, evidenced an unselfish act of kindness that will allow people suffering from severe malnutrition to eat — often for the first time in days — and to feel the grace of God through the miracle of meals provided by compassionate strangers.

God bless you, Needham! Thank you. ■

UPCOMING PACKATHONS

Scan the following QR CODES or CLICK on the links below to learn more, donate and register.



July 21 & 22

Congregation of Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace Seattle Packathon, Seattle, WA

CLICK HERE ►



August 26

St. Louis, Missouri Packathon

CLICK HERE ►



October 22

Jamesly Jesse's Moweaque, Illinois Packathon

CLICK HERE ►

Meeting the Needs of the Milot Region

By Cathleen Davey, President, Holy Name Foundation

“When a poor person dies of hunger, it has not happened because God did not take care of him or her,” declared St. Mother Teresa. “It has happened because neither you nor I wanted to give that person what he or she needed.”

A sobering thought, indeed. For more than a decade now, Holy Name’s health system in Teaneck, New Jersey, has been addressing the social determinants of health care for our brothers and sisters in Milot, Haiti. While other medical centers see this as a new, innovative approach to health care, Holy Name has been addressing non-medical needs such as access to healthy food, safe housing, education support, and employment opportunities. Long before it became a topic for a national conversation, Holy Name and its founders, the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, knew this was critical and the only way to move forward to improve health outcomes and offer human dignity to the 35,000 people living in Milot.

A matter of mission

Holy Name’s humanitarian role in Haiti began in 2010 when our physicians began volunteering there following the devastating 7.0 magnitude earthquake. Since then, our mission has called us to learn more about this country, which is plagued by hurricanes, floods, landslides, droughts, and epidemics; where most residents have no electricity and clean water is scarce, where many people eat once every two or three days... A place just 750 miles from the luxury hotels of Miami.

As the economic engine for that community, Holy Name’s Haiti Health Promise has made significant inroads toward improving the quality of life for the people of Milot. Holy Name assumed financial, medical, technical, and leadership support for our sister hospital, Hôpital Sacré Coeur, the best and most reliable source of health

care for the 250,000 people living in the Milot region and the 3.4 million in the Northern Haiti region. Thus, Haiti Health Promise is a four-pillar program to address quality health care, housing, education, and food/nutrition. This commitment will only continue to grow as we plan for the construction of a new Women’s and Children’s Hospital to provide a higher level of acute and critical care for maternity and pediatric patients.

Our Holy Name President and CEO, Michael Maron, and our Hôpital Sacré Coeur Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Harold Prévil, have consistently recognized that medical care alone is insufficient; nutrition is critical to the larger healthcare picture. People cannot take care of themselves without good nutrition. St. Mother Teresa beautifully said, *“Make us worthy Lord to serve our fellow men throughout the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands this day their daily bread and by our understanding love, give peace and joy.”*

Haiti Health Promise has created a unique Food Packathon Program that allows us to come together most meaningfully to make a difference. As a small community, you have an immediate impact... create unforgettable memories... help to engage other volunteers... inspire others to learn of the work taking place at Hôpital Sacré Coeur... and pack as many as 150,000 meals to be shipped to Milot.

Packathons save lives

In just three years, we have grown our Feed Milot, Haiti Packathon Program into a highly successful national effort to help starving men, women, and children live another day — in hopes of seeing a better day. During a Packathon, Holy Name partners with another organization or group of individuals to pack and box thousands of nutrient-rich meals in the span of a few hours. But equally important, participants will see a

DESTINATION: MILOT, HAITI: *Itinerary of a Packathon Meal*

1

Meals are packed and boxed at the Packathon location.

2

Meals are trucked to Burlingame, North Carolina, or Argyle, Texas.

3

Meals are moved to Holy Name’s warehouse in Bergen County, NJ, where the pallets are placed in a shipping container.

4

Container is trucked to Port Elizabeth, NJ, and loaded onto a cargo ship.

short video and hear about the plight of Haitians to better understand the complexities and challenges they face daily. Many leave the event energized, eager to be an advocate and provide greater support.

In an exciting atmosphere with music playing, the crowd in matching t-shirts proclaiming the number of meals they will pack that day, the participants form an assembly line type workstation as they measure out four ingredients — rice (carbohydrate), beans (protein), dehydrated vegetables with spices, and a concentrated vitamin powder — into a labeled bag. The bags are then boxed and readied for shipping. **(See *Destination: Milot, Haiti Itinerary of a Packathon Meal*).**

As of this July, more than 6,300 volunteers nationwide have participated in Holy Name's Feed Milot, Haiti Packathons, packing 1,716,300 meals.

Packathons are transformative

Packathons can happen anywhere — a church or school auditorium, a hospital parking garage, a storage company, or out in the community. We've partnered with many organizations — Rotary chapters, Knights of Columbus councils, local parishes, parents/alumni and students from a school community, and employee networking groups — all have experienced the magic of making a difference.

One of my favorite aspects is seeing reality sink in among the volunteers, especially the teenagers. It's a real aha moment. They think, *What and where am I going to eat tonight?* And then they realize this meal they're packing will feed someone who eats maybe two or three times a week, and the next time they eat, and the time after that, it will be the same meal. When people experience this as a family, when they reach this realization and do this combined effort together, it's transformative.

The parishioners at Church of the Presentation (COP) in Upper Saddle River, NJ, which happens to operate a medical clinic in southwestern Haiti, as well as soup kitchens and a homeless program in New Jersey, had an overwhelming response from their parishioners, which

was truly inspiring. Our two-day event drew 528 volunteers who packed 81,600 meals that fed 526 Milot children over the next school year. The kindness, energy, and joy of this enthusiastic group were palpable. We were truly blessed.

"If you don't do outreach, you're killing the spirit of the parish," Father Robert Stagg, the church's pastor, told us. "And there's no greater need than in Haiti, where they're ravaged by every issue in the world. This is genius what you're [Holy Name is] doing here. It's a spectacular way to get families involved and so nice to see little ones working side-by-side with mom and dad."

Yvonne Mayo of Mahwah is a mother of two. "Knowing other kids are hungry makes me want to do this," she said. "I signed us up not knowing what we were doing. It's humbling. Kids here have no idea what kids their age are going through in Haiti or elsewhere."

Packathons inspire and spread awareness

Our Feed Milot, Haiti Packathon effort truly empowers individuals to make a difference in the lives of thousands of impoverished Haitians. The joy of giving back motivates participants to do more, and we always hear, "I want to do this again! When is the next one?"

By the end of this year, we will have traveled across the country with events in Albuquerque, NM; Jacksonville, FL; Needham, MA; Wilbraham, MA; Wenatchee, WA; Seattle, WA; Moweaqua, IL; Washington, DC; and several in Bergen County, NJ. We will continue to add more cities between now and then.

Be assured that this program is so much more than just packing much-needed meals for impoverished people; this program is altering how we promote health equity and human dignity. ■

PLAN YOUR PACKATHON.

Call Nancy Thomas, Director of Engagement and Food Packathons or Joni Paterson, Executive Director, Haiti Health Promise, at 413.642.0450.

5

Ship travels two to three weeks to the Port of Cap-Haïtien, where customs officers inspect its contents.

7

Container is trucked to Holy Name's Hôpital Sacré Coeur, in Milot.

8

Holy Name's New Jersey medical and administrative staff members oversee the meals' distribution by Holy Name's Outreach Department.

RECENT PACKATHONS

The Answer to the Prayers of Many Milot Residents

TOTAL MEALS PACKED TO DATE:

1,716,300

CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION PACKATHON: God's Work in God's House

On January 27 – 28, 528 parishioners and their families from Church of the Presentation, Upper Saddle River, NJ, packed 81,600 nutritious meals.



Church of Presentation Outreach Director Maureen Murphy and family.



Holy Name President & CEO Michael Maron plunges in and packs meals.



PACKATHON FEVER IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO!

On March 18, over 300 people packed 53,030 meals



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.



EPISCOPAL SCHOOL OF JACKSONVILLE PACKATHON ROCKS!

On March 21, over 300 high school students and 30 advisors packed 52,320 meals.



(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



Bursting with enthusiasm, packathon team rocks to the music and create lasting memories.

Haiti Health Promise is pleased and excited to announce the appointment of Nancy Thomas as the Director of Engagement and Food Packathon Program.



Director of Engagement and Food Packathon Program, Nancy Thomas.

Nancy brings to the position over 30 years of hospital and healthcare administrative experience and a deep knowledge and passion for the people of Haiti. She will schedule and run packathons, support the chairs and committees in their fundraising efforts, and spread awareness of the multifaceted needs of Hôpital Sacré Coeur and Holy Name's commitment to the Milot community.

Nancy was the only member of her family born in Florida; her siblings, parents, and husband are native Haitians. She currently lives in Cap-Haïtien and regularly travels to Florida and Massachusetts. Nancy received a Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management from

St. Leo University, a Roman Catholic university in St. Leo, Florida. During her long healthcare career, she was a Supervisor, Patient Access at the University of Miami School of Medicine, Manager of Outpatient Radiology at Baptist Health/Boca Raton Regional Hospital, and a Manager of the Vital Monitoring Program for various managed care entities at Valued Relationships, Inc.

Nancy's enthusiasm and positive attitude are infectious. "Born in the United States to Haitian-born and raised parents, I'm excited to be part of a beautiful mission that allows me to give back to my generation and generations of others. Being fortunate to be raised by both cultures makes it much more rewarding. The smile, the hug, or even the stillness of one in joy makes it much better. My compassion is a mission for those in need. Healing, feeding, and creating better lives!"

Interestingly, Nancy already has a solid connection to Hôpital Sacré Coeur: her step-son, who is studying to be a surgeon, conducted a medical residency at Hôpital Sacré Coeur.

Nancy began on Monday, March 20th, and was immediately able to support Haiti Health Promise Board Member and long-time medical volunteer Dr. John Lovejoy, Jr. at our March 21st Episcopal School of Jacksonville Packathon. ■



FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN MILOT



A Heartfelt *Mèsi Anpil* to the Institute of Technology in Health Care for their Generous Grant of \$62,230 to Fund Phase 3 of the EMR Program.

For a third year, the Institute of Technology in Health Care awarded Haiti Health Promise with a generous grant to support establishing an Electronic Medical Records program at Hôpital Sacré Coeur.

The final phase objectives include expanding the EMR system to other clinical areas and PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System) integration with the radiology upload. Bahmni supports two ways of managing Radiology workflows: via radiology upload and PACS Integration. Bahmni can integrate with PACS to send radiology orders and access fulfillments (radiology images) via a link to the DICOM web viewer. The integration with PACS has two main functions. Firstly, to send the radiology order created in Bahmni to the PACS server and then to provide the ability to view the image stored in PACS against the corresponding radiology order. The physician uses the DICOM viewer to click on the link to the radiology image.

An optimum feature of the radiology capacity is the print-free radiology report. Radiology is among the most labor-intensive departments. Bahmni has digitized and significantly simplified the process. With Bahmni, the doctor prescribes the required radiology for a patient and is presented with all the different x-ray options. Once the doctor clicks on the option he/she prefers, the radiology department processes it and sends it back to the EMR.

The doctor can access the ordered radiology on his/her screen instantaneously. He/she can also zoom in, get a detailed view of the x-ray, and add notes for later reference. The entire process takes minutes to complete, unlike earlier when the doctor and patient had to wait hours. Moreover, this process has eliminated the hazardous print of x-rays. **In Phase 2, the EMR system allowed physicians to order radiology tests such as x-rays and ultrasounds. Phase 3 will now allow for the test results to be viewed.**

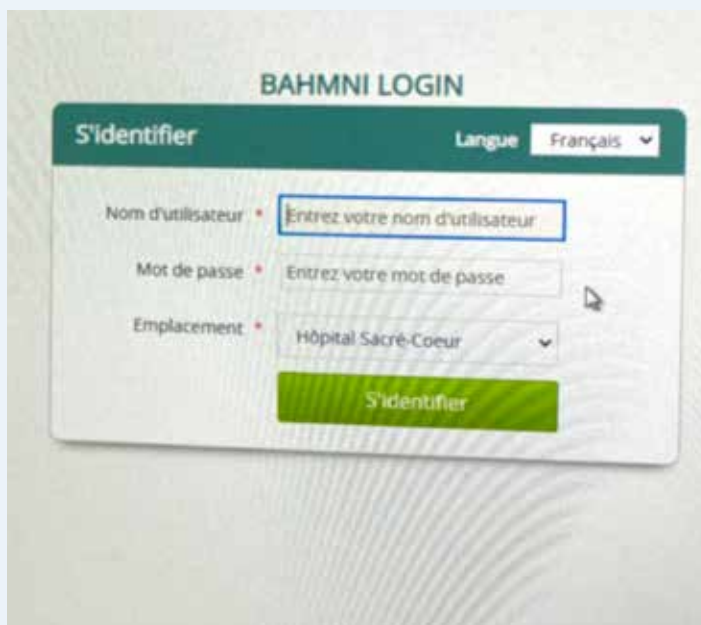


Dr. St. Phillipe

The Institute for Technology in Health Care, is a non-profit organization, located in Washington, DC. The Institute for Technology in Health Care is concerned with the use of technology to benefit and stimulate others in health care. For more information about The Institute for Technology in Health Care please visit their website at www.ithcawards.org

In low-resource environments like Haiti, the problem of incomplete and missing patient history is highly prevalent. Even in cases where the patient carries a folder of records and diagnoses, it is time-consuming to peruse and find relevant information from all the sheets of paper. With Bahmni, the doctors have instant access to a patient's entire history by simply entering their patient ID into the system. In addition, they can use Bahmni's display controls to scan through the information quickly and efficiently.

Phase 3 will expand EMR access to outpatient orthopedics, surgery, and general clinics. Once outpatients are accommodated into the system, inpatients will be added. In addition, lab results will be included in the types of diagnostic tests that can be viewed and held in the patient's record. Appointment scheduling modal will also be activated during this phase. ■



An Angel in Pediatrics

Violene Jeannot joined the Hôpital Sacré Coeur pediatrics team in January 2010 as part of the Environmental Services staff. Immediately, her position became a personal calling: mother of abandoned children. **Not only does she ensure a hygienically clean environment, but she also takes care of each parentless child as if they were her own.** Since her first day, it was clear that Violene and the children shared a strong bond.

Violene feeds them, bathes them, and, above all, gives them love. As soon as the children's milk runs out, Violene panics and looks for someone to sign the disbursement order for her purchase. Thanks to Violene's adaptability and intelligence, she understood the various technical gestures relating to the assembly and operation of the bubble CPAP, the installation of the cannula, setting the flow of oxygen, and nebulization for children with dyspnea.

When newcomers arrive in the department — whether nurses or physicians — Violene is their teacher.

Twelve years after her first day at work, Violetta has evolved and is one of our heroes and angels in pediatrics. ■



HÔPITAL SACRÉ COEUR OVERVIEW

Hôpital Sacré Coeur is the largest private (i.e., non-government) hospital and public health provider for the more than 250,000 people living in the Milot region of Northern Haiti. Hôpital Sacré Coeur was established as a mission of the Montreal Province of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart in 1968.

At the invitation of the Archbishop of Cap-Haïtien, U.S. based CRUDEM Foundation assumed supervision of and financial responsibility for Hôpital Sacré Coeur in 1986. For more than 30 years, a unique collaborative relationship grew and strengthened between CRUDEM and Hôpital Sacré Coeur. In 2012, the Holy Name Foundation of Teaneck, NJ became the sole corporate member of CRUDEM. In 2020, this critical mission was renamed: Haiti Health Promise of Holy Name, an alternative name or dba (“doing business as”) of The CRUDEM Foundation. (The underlying EIN or tax id number remains under The CRUDEM Foundation, Inc.)

In addition to substantial financial support, Holy Name provides the full range of technical, operational, training, and administrative assistance to Hôpital Sacré Coeur. Management of Hôpital Sacré Coeur is the responsibility of its Haitian leadership team, who are assisted by several US technical advisors provided by Haiti Health Promise.

Hôpital Sacré Coeur has experienced unprecedented growth in recent years and is now a government designated reference hospital for the Northern Department of Haiti — an area of 2.5 million people. The hospital expanded from 10 beds in 1986 to 72 beds pre-earthquake. In the aftermath of the January 12, 2010 earthquake, the hospital surged to 420 beds. Currently, the number of in-patient beds at Hôpital Sacré Coeur is 200 (but during cholera outbreaks, the hospital’s average daily census can go higher).

In addition to in-patient services (including an Intensive Care Unit and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit), HSC has a



24/7 emergency room, outpatient clinics, maternity services, pediatric service, dental services, a prosthetic clinic, blood bank, pharmacy, a clinical laboratory, and a pathology service (the only pathology service in northern Haiti). The hospital also provides the full-range of HIV/AIDS services, including a prevention of mother-to-child transmission program. Outreach is done through the Community Health Service, with public health nurses and community health workers serving a number of sites in the region and reaching 150,000 people with vaccinations, pre-natal care, basic hygiene and nutrition training, and HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and lymphatic filariasis treatment.

In 2010, 1,600 volunteers helped Hôpital Sacré Coeur care for earthquake and cholera victims. In 2019, over 350 volunteers traveled to Milot to see patients and teach. Indeed, the Haiti Health Promise mission at Hôpital Sacré Coeur is equal parts patient care and education. Volunteers teach by example on the wards and the operating rooms, but also by giving lectures and mentoring staff. In 2015, Hôpital Sacré Coeur, with the support of the Holy Name Foundation,

launched a comprehensive continuing education program for the hospital's more than 100 nurses. Hôpital Sacré Coeur is also a training center for the USAID supported Maternal and Child Survival Program.

The generous financial support of donors allows us to continue to provide quality healthcare that improves and saves lives. We witness the significant impact of our donors' compassion daily. As our need and services have expanded, so have our need for resources. We are doing all we can for as many as we can, making a big difference in the lives of so many Haitian families. We are incredibly grateful for all who are a part of this successful effort. ■

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Hôpital Sacré Coeur in Milot, Haiti

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