

La Promisse

A former dancer is reborn at Hôpital Sacré Coeur

By Arsène Junior Ifrene, MD, HSC Orthopedic Surgeon, and Brown Rony Theodore, MD, Head of HSC Ortho/Trauma Department.

In Haiti, the abysmal state of the roads, the marked indiscipline of the drivers, and the irresponsibility of the leaders in charge of maintaining the roads expose the population to accidents all the time. Because insurance companies are almost non-existent, victims are forced to finance themselves the costs of medical services.

Add to this gloomy picture, the lack of a nationwide hospital infrastructure, which makes it even more challenging to provide adequate care for patients. Faced with this lamentable situation, **Hôpital Sacré Coeur changed that picture by becoming a true reference center in traumatology. Patients from the country's most remote corners meet at Hôpital Sacré Coeur, hoping to regain mobility.**

Indeed, from January 1st, 2021, to September 6th, 2023, 1,335 patients have already benefited from surgery in the trauma department of HSC. Of the operated cases, some not only attract our attention but, above all, allow us to put hope and a smile on the face of their loved ones.

Thus, on July 1st, 2022, we welcomed from Port-au-Prince, the capital of Haiti, a 58-year-old patient, a former dancer with functional limitation. Varus deformity of the right leg following a public road accident dating back approximately three years. She had no success from the first surgery in another center.

After the clinical and paraclinical examinations, the diagnosis of malunion on the background of a fracture of the middle third of the 2 bones of the right leg was retained and the preoperative assessments automatically indicated.



On August 11th, 2022, under the direction of our courageous orthopedic surgeons, she finally benefited from a correction osteotomy and locked Centro medullary nailing type SIGN NAIL 340 x 10 to relax the limb and, at the same time, regain mobility. 72 hours post-operative, the physiotherapy sessions began in the room. **After a year of regular outpatient follow-up, she was discharged from our institution with a beaming face, an enigmatic transformation of her right leg, and with the ability to dare to dance once again.** ■



Artesian wells to supply water to the population of Milot: a necessary alternative

By: Abdel Alexis, Director of Human Resources, HSC, and John Clark, HSC Construction Manager

Water is an essential and inseparable element of life. It is vital to every living being because no one can live without it. It contributes to health and well-being as well as environmental protection. On the other hand, a water shortage complicates life, negatively impacts food security, and gradually destroys livelihoods. This is why **the efficient management of water and its accessibility has become a priority objective for any responsible organization concerned with the well-being of its population.**

We have seen that long periods of drought (the el niño phenomenon) due to global warming tend to reduce the available quantity of this essential natural resource.

In Haiti, the phenomenon of water shortage

is increasing yearly. The frantic felling of trees in decades past, combined with prolonged episodes of drought, has sadly led to the drying up of water sources, ravines, rivers, and other inland bodies of water. As a result, water has become increasingly inaccessible, and rural and urban populations facing great economic difficulties now also struggle to obtain water.

In Milot (a northern commune in Haiti with more than 250,000 inhabitants and three communal sections), the state water supply system (DINEPA) is not functioning. Not because the source feeding it is drying up. Worse, almost all the rivers, ravines, and manually dug wells serving residents, watering animals, and gardens are drying up. This means that water has become

scarcer, and the population's daily life has become more complex.

Many people in Milot, like those in other municipalities in the country, face the painful difficulty of finding this precious liquid. Some travel long distances to fetch water. **Many flock to Hôpital Sacré Coeur's hydraulic installations, already at low capacity due to the drought, to obtain the minimum necessary of this vital resource.**

Aware of this very problematic and challenging situation, some organizations have drilled a few artesian wells, including one in the locality of Bérard and a few in other neighborhoods to serve the inhabitants of Milot with water. However, most of these wells are dysfunctional due to a lack of depth and maintenance of manual pumping accessories. Given the cost to drill an artesian well (over \$15,000), almost no resident of Milot can afford the luxury of owning one. This means that the problem of water scarcity in this municipality remains virtually unresolved.

In a small, informal survey of employees and Milot residents, 90% favored drilling deep artesian wells throughout the commune. In this sense, it could alleviate the problem of the severe lack of water Milot is experiencing. **This is why the management of the**

Hôpital Sacré Coeur thinks that a project to drill artesian wells in the entire municipality of Milot would be a worthy and life-saving means to offer community support.

Some of these wells can be drilled in locations to enable collective gardens (a system of cooperative gardens) capable of producing foodstuffs and vegetables. Food is sorely lacking in the markets. The hospital-sponsored gardens would help feed the population — the majority who are starving. We know that “giving fish to a person is good. But showing him how and giving him the means to fish is even better.”

For all these reasons, the management of Hôpital Sacré Coeur seeks the funding necessary to purchase the equipment (machine and accessories) for drilling artesian wells to facilitate access to water and help the population of Milot.

We need your help to fund quenching the thirst of a village.

If you can help, please get in touch with Joni Paterson, Executive Director of HHP at paterson@crudem.org

Thank you! ■



HSC digs wells



Solar Powered Wells

Charting a Compassionate Course

Hôpital Sacre Coeur's new logo features a compass, heart, and the Holy Name dove. Together, they mark a unique, abiding partnership between a leading US hospital and an ever-growing Hôpital Sacré Coeur set on charting a heartfelt and heart-led course of medical excellence and humanitarian care, now and in the future.



A sense of trust, confidence, and enthusiastic dedication to performance excellence imbues the hospital staff. Hôpital Sacré Coeur's reputation in Haiti for quality care, favorable outcomes, and professional development continues to grow. **As noted by many medical volunteers, the Haitian surgical staff of today is equal to many American hospitals.** A similar sense of trust runs through the community as more and more residents experience Hôpital Sacré Coeur as a cherished lifeline and vessel of hope.



HSC Chief Medical Officer, Michèle Hanna, MD



Dr. Igmarr Omar Limonta Pérez, Maxillofacial Surgeon



Dr. Theodore Brown, Head Orthopedics department

Providing compassionate care and treating each patient as a unique and valued person is always on the minds of the medical staff. Stories about staff who have taken orphans into their own families abound. Staff routinely go the extra mile to provide whole-person care tenderly and thoughtfully, adding relief and comfort. ■

Moweaqua, Illinois Packathon: a Stunning and Inspirational Success

On October 22, volunteers from the kind-hearted and generous community of Moweaqua, Illinois, came out in force to support Jamesly Jesse's Eagle Scout project — a Feed Milot, Haiti Packathon. **436 people — nearly 25% of the town — packed 100,080 meals for some of the most vulnerable in Milot.**



The Jesse family sees a lot of similarities in the communities of Milot and Moweaua and are excited to bring the two communities that have been a huge part of Jamesly's life together.



HHP Vice Chair and National Packathon Chair Dr. Bill Guyol from St. Louis joined the packers.



Jamesly and Mother Mary Wills Jesse

Jamesly Jesse, 15, was orphaned as a toddler in the 2010 Haiti Earthquake. He was taken to Hôpital Sacré Coeur to be treated for injuries including a severe spinal injury. HSC volunteer Mary Wills Jesse, PT, worked with Jamesly at HSC and fell in love with his gregarious and resilient spirit. Mary and her husband, Nathan of Moweaua, adopted Jamesly. Now, Jamesly wants to give back to the residents of Milot and Hôpital Sacré Coeur, who cared for him in his time of need by sponsoring a packathon. ■

► [Video Link to Jesse Jamesly's story](#)



Jamesly and Dr. Harold Previl at Hôpital Sacré Coeur after the 2010 earthquake

UPCOMING PACKATHONS

DATE	LOCATION	MEAL GOAL
18-Nov	Dubuque, Iowa Feeds Milot	100,000
18-Nov	St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Wykoff, NJ	50,000

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

October Food and Clothing Distribution in Milot

On October 10, Hôpital Sacré Coeur staff distributed 84,000 meals to the most vulnerable in Milot. They also distributed 200 children's clothing packs that e-commerce retailer Little Bipsy generously donated. ■



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:

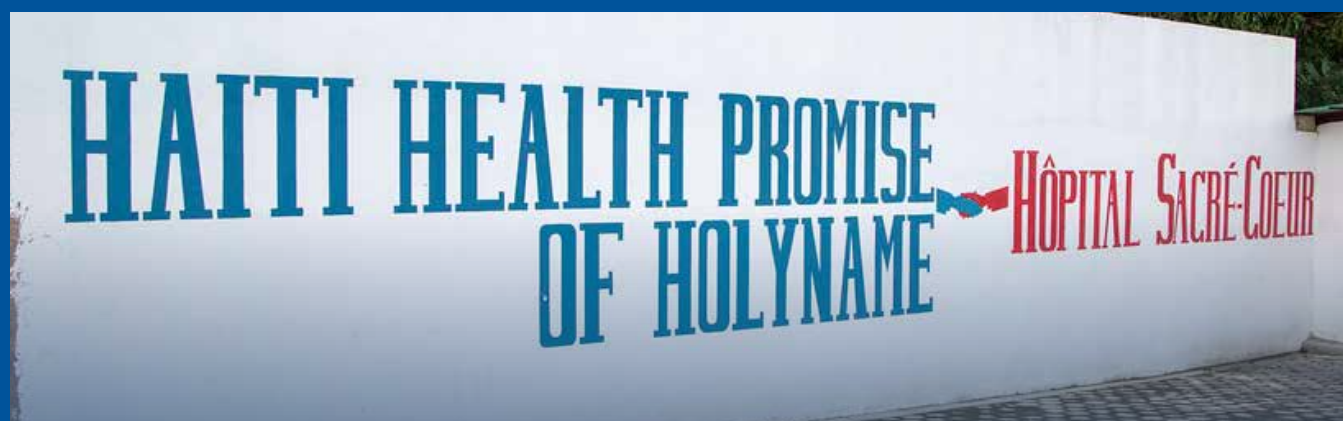
- Urgent need for Ob-Gyn teams
- Urgent Need for Urology Teams.

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@holynome.org

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



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

PLEASE DONATE TODAY
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

