

La Promisse

Dr. Yamiceida Torres Arzuaga: Hôpital Sacré Cœur Cardiologist

By Abdel Alexis, Director of Human Resources

Hôpital Sacré Cœur's Cardiology Department remains on track to become a nationally designated "Cardiology Reference Hospital." For over a decade, teams of US cardiologists volunteered several times a year as practitioners and staff teachers. The competency of Hôpital Sacré Cœur staff grew, and the addition of cardiology equipment quickly distinguished Hôpital Sacré Cœur as a center of excellence for cardiac care.



Staff cardiologist Dr. Yamiceida began her tenure at Hôpital Sacré Cœur in February 2019, joining her husband, a staff cardiologist. She trained at "Hospital Saturnino Lora" in Santiago de Cuba. From July 2008 to September 2010, Dr. Yamiceida worked as a cardiologist in the French-speaking Republic of Mali and spent the next ten years as a cardiologist in Cuba and Venezuela.

Dr. Yamiceida's technical prowess has significantly enhanced the range of cardiac procedures offered and ensured their permanent availability in Hôpital Sacré Cœur. Her skills, including transthoracic echocardiography, Doppler, stress on the treadmill, Eco-Stress, Holter, Pacemaker pause (in the company of Dr. Turissini's team), and its monitoring, have not only expanded the scope of the department's offerings but also instilled a sense of confidence in the quality of care we provide. Her dynamic and disciplined approach has earned her admiration from patients and colleagues alike, making her an asset to the development and sustainability of the Hôpital Sacré Cœur's cardiology department. ■

Hôpital Sacré Cœur Medical Milestones: Decades of Setting the Bar for Haiti Health Care

1994 – Established Child Survival Program with USAID and Project HOPE to reduce infant and maternal mortality rates.

November 3, 1997 – First open heart surgery in Northern Haiti performed. VSD repair on 7-year-old and MVR on 18-year-old.

1998 – Joined Center for Disease Control (Atlanta) in a venture to eliminate Filariasis in Haiti.

2002 – Clinical laboratory built, touted as "best lab in Haiti."

2003 – Blood bank established.

2003 – Mobile Clinic Program initiated.

2003 – Established Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Program in partnership with the Catholic Medical Mission Board ("CMMB").

2003 – Established AIDS Relief Program with CMMB and Catholic Relief Services.

2006 – First hospital in Haiti with video endoscopy system.

2007 – First laser surgery for glaucoma performed in Haiti.

2007 – First NGO medical facility in Haiti to have 100% Haitian-led administration.

January 2010 – Lead responder for the 2010 Earthquake, performed over 850 surgeries, and managed a relief camp for 1,000 people.

March 2010 – Prosthetics Lab established, first in Northern Haiti.

2010 – HSC named an official Cholera Treatment center, the only one in Northern Haiti.

2010 – Cardiac Ultrasound Program established.

2010 – SIGN orthopedic surgery begins. HSC now performs over 90% of all SIGN surgeries in Haiti.

2012 – The first intensive care unit in Northern Haiti built, one of three in the country.

2013 – Pediatric Diabetes Program established. First in northern Haiti.

2014 – Pathology Department established. First in northern Haiti.

2014 – Completion of a \$900,000 Outpatient Clinic facility with 18 exam rooms, a radiology suite, a dental clinic, a pharmacy, a medical records department, pediatric and HIC clinics, and an ED. Largest clinic facility in Northern Haiti.

2017 – Completion of the 7,315-square-foot, 26-bed surgical center with four operating rooms.

2023 – Completion of Phase 3 of Electronic Medical Records Program; one of 3 hospitals in Haiti with EMR capability.

2023 – Plans for Women's and Children's Hospital finalized, first in Haiti.

2024 – Plans for HSC conversion to solar power near completion, first in Northern Haiti.

2024 – Hôpital Sacré Cœur is one of Haiti's two full-service tertiary care hospitals that remains fully operational and uncompromised. ■



April Food Distribution

On April 24th and 25th, HSC's Community Services Department, in collaboration with our hospital staff, distributed meals for vulnerable people in Milot. This joint effort was instrumental in providing schoolchildren at Ecole Nouvelle Espérance Dignitaire, a local clinic, and five communities with desperately needed meals. We also want to acknowledge the crucial role of Little Bipsy™, whose clothing donations were gratefully received by 244 children, further highlighting the power of our collective impact. ■



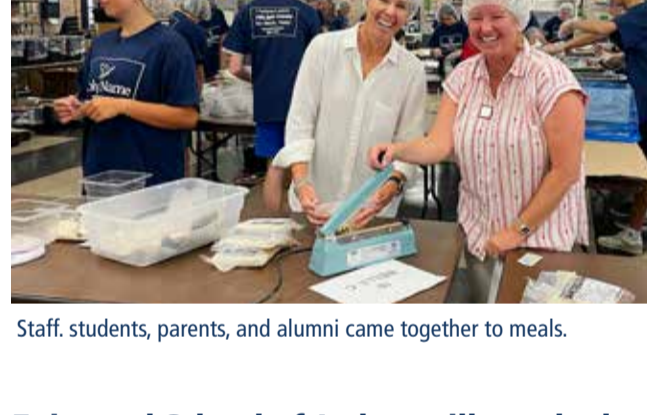
Episcopal School of Jacksonville Packathon



Alumnus and HHP Board Member, Dr. John Lovejoy Jr, talks about HSC and the importance of volunteering.



Dr. Lovejoy and EHS Alumnae Cynthia Seagraves



Staff, students, parents, and alumni came together to meals.



The enthusiasm and energy of the students was inspiring.

Episcopal School of Jacksonville packed 101,120 meals at its second packathon, more than double the number of meals it packed in 2023.

On April 11, over 300 enthusiastic and energetic high school students, and parents gathered for the school's annual Community Service Day to pack meals for desperately hungry children, women, medically compromised, and their families in Milot.

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 school chaplain, rallied the students, alumni, parents, and advisors with great zest and purpose.

Thank you, Episcopal School of Jacksonville! ■

The Need For Food Could Not Be Greater... You Can Help.



Episcopal School of Jacksonville packed 101,120 on April 11th

Once again, the continuing closure of the border between Haiti and Dominican Republic and supply distributions in the South of Haiti have severely hampered food supplies.

Haiti Health Promise's national food-packing program, Feed Milot, Haiti Packathon, has been a literal lifeline for thousands of starving people — children, pregnant women, the elderly, and the medically compromised.

In the last two years, the generous efforts of 9,978 food packers and financial sponsors shipped 2,484,860 nutritious meals to Hôpital Sacré Cœur for distribution to the neediest in Milot.

Together, we can pack another 1,500,000 meals in 2024.

Sponsor a packathon in your community. Create memories that will last a lifetime.

Learn about the resilience of our brothers and sisters in Milot and the complexities of running a hospital in Haiti.

As Holy Name President and CEO Michael Maron notes, "Running a hospital in Haiti is unlike any healthcare experience in the

United States. Hôpital Sacré Cœur is more than just a hospital. The health promise to provide high-quality, responsive care to the community has drawn Hôpital Sacré Cœur into other social determinants of health."

Enjoy the fun and excitement of knowing the food you packed will provide desperately starving people with nourishment and hope for a better future.

You can make a difference. As Maron notes, "Packathons help communities engage and feel more involved and be part of the solution."

Haiti Health Promise staff will do the heavy lifting: They will provide you with a step-by-step guide to ensure success, give you all the marketing tools needed to create an exciting event and manage the logistics of running the packathon.

For more information, please contact Dr. Joni Paterson, HHP Executive Director at paterson@crudem.org.

If you would like to donate to the food program or attend a scheduled packathon, [Click Here ▶](#)

UPCOMING PACKATHONS

DATE	LOCATION	MEAL GOAL	FOR DETAILS
August 24	St. Louis Packathon	100,000	CLICK HERE ▶



Scan the QR Code to donate to the Feed Milot, Haiti Packathon program. Visit the App Store on your phone for a free QR Code reader. Or [CLICK HERE ▶](#)

To learn more about sponsoring a packathon, email HHP Executive Director, Dr. Joni Paterson at paterson@crudem.org

HAITI HEALTH PROMISE OF HOLYNAME HÔPITAL SACRÉ CŒUR

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

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