



SANTE TOTAL

Healthcare for Haiti's Poor

Fall 2016 Newsletter

Hurricane Matthew

Hurricane Matthew devastated parts of Haiti in early October. The death toll is still rising as aide workers and authorities get into the areas hit the hardest by the hurricane. So far, at least 339 people (some reports put the death toll over 500) have lost their lives since landfall, 211 are injured and more than 60,000 people are displaced from their homes. Three weeks after the hurricane, an estimated 1.4 million people are in need of food assistance, 800,000 of which are in dire need of immediate food aid. Most of this is due to loss of crops and lasting heavy rains. Additionally, cholera is feared to remain a major medical issue that will affect the Haitian population in the storm's aftermath, especially because clean water is not accessible.



Fortunately, Jacksonville missed most of the damage from the recent hurricane, but areas in the southwestern part of the country were devastated with significant loss of life. Two of our community leaders, Berteau and Moussanto, are traveling to the areas of Haiti devastated by the recent hurricane. They plan to bring 500 trees to help plant in areas that have been destroyed by the hurricane. Each tree cost 50 cents. As many of you are aware, Haiti is severely deforested which greatly affects its ecosystem, especially during natural disasters. If you would like to help, contributions can be made via our website. Please note "trees for Haiti" in the comments section for Paypal.



Helping Babies Breathe Update

A program developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Intervention in Pignon being led by Janie Ginsburg, RN

On the recent September trip to Haiti a group of two physicians, one respiratory therapist, and an RN taught the nurses and lay-midwives in Pignon a program called Helping Babies Breathe. It has been identified that many of the learning disabilities and deaths of newborns are the result of birth attendants not being adequately trained in basic resuscitative skills.

This AAP-approved program teaches participants how to resuscitate newborn babies. Through hands on practice and discussion basic measures to saving babies lives were taught. In all there were 15 nurses, 2 physicians, and 12 lay-midwives who were trained in these techniques.



Many of the lay-midwives walked very long distances to attend. They were probably the most enthusiastic group we worked with. Virtually all of them had less than eighth grade education and little, if any, formal training to be midwives. They were so happy that we took the time to help them improve their skills and to teach them new ones.

We all walked away feeling that the future babies of Pignon and the surrounding areas have a better chance of survival.

Patient Updates:

Nadjena's Hand Surgery: Nadjena is a little girl who visited our clinic previously after falling into a cooking fire when she was two years old. The burn injury to her hand was extensive and required surgery: her fingers were fused together. Recently, she just had her third hand

surgery! They finished separating her fingers and completed some skin grafts to release the joints and improve her hand motion. We are excited to hear the good news and we'll continue to follow up with her!



Makendy: Makendy is a 21-year old with new-onset diabetes and a foot drop. We started him on insulin and provided him with special braces to help him walk better (shown below). The Allard Braces were generously donated by Alliance Orthopedic Labs in Annapolis, Maryland.



Guerlande: Guerlande lost her left leg in the earthquake that devastated Haiti in 2010. We are glad to report she finally received her first prosthesis! Although she still needs some adjustments, she has been practicing walking with her new leg! Below, she is shown with Dr. Barbara Weis.



Plans to Build an Elderly Home

By Berteau Zephir

Jacsonville is a small community, with every person living there caring for one another, and looking out for everyone's best interests. Although Jacsonville is not a wealthy community, they are rich in respect for each other and the feeling of community is evident as soon as you enter the village.

That being said, life is especially difficult for the poorest members of the community, the elderly and handicapped citizens. Elderly Haitians suffer because they lack a family system and/or community resources to care for them. Oftentimes, the children of the elderly travel to Port au Prince (the capital of Haiti) or

the Dominican Republic to seek work and opportunities for their families and cannot return as it is too expensive or the journey is too rough. Additionally, there is a lack of communication between these traveling families and their elders they had to leave in Jacksonville because they were too sick or too old to travel safely. This leaves the elders to care for themselves, resulting in cases of starvation, due to inability to buy/grow food, or illnesses that are never treated.

To immediately address this growing issue, Jacksonville citizens are first focusing on delivering hot meals to the elderly, at least three meals a week. They run this operation from a house in Jacksonville rented for this sole purpose. They are very hopeful this will immediately help the elderly until they can create a long-term solution.

Leading members of the Jacksonville community, namely Berteau Zephir, have laid out plans to build a nursing home center in Jacksonville. They have already reserved a plot of land for the construction and are currently attempting to raise funds for the construction. However, as you can imagine, raising funds is not an easy task. The untreated/uncared for elderly population is a serious issue for Jacksonville, and any assistance they can receive is invaluable.

They are asking for \$300 a month to help with construction and meals for the elderly. Berteau and his colleagues thank all of who choose to contribute to this wonderful construction process in advance.



If you are interested in making any donations, please send a check to:
1511 Dufossat St. New Orleans, LA 70115. All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you again! Your contribution will be appreciated not only immediately, but also to future elderly populations.

Elderly Haitian To Receive New House

By Gabriel Thelus

Mrs. Adoime Mangny is an elderly Haitian woman whom currently resides in the mission house yard in Jacsonville with her daughter, Tergemaine. A new house is currently being built for them, but they will need help moving into the house when it is complete. Gaby is hopeful for more progress with building the house in the next few weeks. We are excited to move Mrs. Mangny and her family into the new house, and will help them settle.



Mrs. Adoime Mangny and her daughter, Tergemaine.



The current residence of Mrs. Mangny in the mission house yard.



The new house, under construction.

FUTURE MEDICAL TEAM DATES

January 2-8, 2017

May 7-14, 2017

If you are interested in signing up please contact Alison Smith (Alison.annette.smith@gmail.com) or Heather Morgan in regards to the trips, more information will be available as dates come closer.

BEERS AND BRATS FUNDRAISER

Hosted by: Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus, an organization dedicated to charitable acts throughout the community, is hosting their annual Beers and

Brats Fest on **November 11, 2016** from **6pm – 10pm** at the Mater Dolorosa yard behind the Rectory in New Orleans. Enjoy gourmet bratwurst and craft beers to raise funds for Sante Total! This annual event is a good opportunity to meet those involved in the program, hear about their personal experiences, and learn how you can help.

Funds needed for Sante Total

Please consider donating to Sante Total. We are running very low on funds which will make it difficult for us to continue to support our projects in Jacksonville. Donations can be made through www.santetotal.org or by sending a check to 1511 Dufossat St. New Orleans, LA 70115. All donations are tax deductible.

Sante Total Christmas Wishlist

Purchase important medical supplies to support Haitian clinic!

Our wish list can be found here:

[https://www.amazon.com/registry/giftlist/LMFZE20H
RC2L](https://www.amazon.com/registry/giftlist/LMFZE20H_RC2L)



Link to merchandise:

http://www.cafepress.com/santetotal?awc=4102_1449203914_18e89914d5d5cd3877110659e0b65ba7&utm_medium=affiliate&utm_source=aw&utm_term=85386&utm_content=0



HOW TO DONATE

We are making progress, but please remember we still need ongoing financial support to continue projects throughout the year! Our cupboards are looking quite barren! *Even \$20 can go a long way in Haiti.* **Please designate: "Sante Total" for your contributions.** There are two ways to give a tax-deductible donation:

1. **Visit our website at** www.santetotal.org and make a donation via Paypal.
2. **Write a check payable to:** "Sante Total" and mail it to:
Sante Total c/o E. Alton Sartor
1511 Dufossat St.
New Orleans, LA 70115

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May-October 2016

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Jason Lee Koepke
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Happy



Holidays!