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Our Mission

We believe healthcare is a fundamental human right. We empower Haitians to provide and receive access to quality healthcare. We share our knowledge and resources with local partners to improve health infrastructure and grow the skills of medical professionals.
Dear Friends,

2019 marked the 25th anniversary of Project Medishare for Haiti. Over the past quarter century we have proven we are a stable leader in Haiti. Every decade, every year, every day is meaningful because we are changing lives.

From the moment Drs. Arthur Fournier and Barth Green, two doctors from Florida, decided to take a trip to Haiti in 1994, they knew something big was on the horizon. This first trip planted the seed that would eventually blossom into Project Medishare.

While we have grown over the years, our mission and focus have not changed.

The country of Haiti continues to need our help and support as they face ongoing instability and insecurity nationwide. In 2019, prices for food and gas skyrocketed and the country’s economy continued to devalue as inflation rose.

Countless non-governmental organizations decided to close, leaving thousands with no jobs and no prospects for new employment. In the health sector, hospitals were overrun as staff could not arrive at work and hospitals could not procure life-saving supplies, leading to numerous deaths and unnecessary suffering. On and off throughout the entire year, the country was in a paralyzed state.

At times, it was unsafe for our staff to travel to the Central Plateau to our clinics. But our staff NEVER stepped down. We remained committed to our cause and continued to provide our communities with healthcare when they needed it the most.

Project Medishare is very thankful to our loyal supporters, volunteers and the new supporters we gained in 2019, such as our partnership with The Shop Forward and Espwa. But we also continue to be extremely grateful to our largest donor, MAX Burgers’ foundation, Rattvis Fordelning, who has generously donated over many years, as well as many other donors.

We look for another 25 years together!

Renee

Renee Lewis
Executive Director
Our Results in 2019

- 732 babies delivered at our maternity centers
- 5,779 prenatal consultations
- 45,233 home visits
- 150 mobile clinics
- 59,396 clinic patient consultations
- 2,251 pregnant women vaccinated
- 21,230 vaccinations given to children
- 4,417 children seen at mobile clinics
- 1,586 rally posts
- 235,602 patients seen during home visits
Since 1994, Project Medishare has collaborated with local communities in Haiti, and doctors and allied health professionals all over the world to treat illnesses and injuries, and deliver preventative care to Haitians in need.
1994
Project Medishare is founded by Drs. Arthur Fournier and Barth Green.

1995
Student groups commence regular annual trips to the Central Plateau.

2008
The Orphaned and Vulnerable Children program is established.

2010
A catastrophic 7.0 magnitude earthquake strikes Haiti. Project Medishare opens a tent hospital at the Port-au-Prince airport.

2013
The Pediatric Residency program is started at Hospital Bernard Mevs.

2016
The school lunch program is started.

2019
Our second maternal health center is opened in Lahoye.
Our Programs

Since 1994, Project Medishare has been addressing critical health and development needs in Haiti’s Central Plateau – one of the poorest regions in the country. We are the main provider of rural healthcare services to a catchment population of over 80,000 in the communities of Thomonde, Lahoye and Marmont. Through our partnership with Hospital Bernard Mevs in Port-au-Prince, we provide healthcare to thousands of critically ill and injured patients, and training to medical staff. Our four areas of focus are:

- Maternal Health
- Child Health and Nutrition
- Community Health
- Capacity Building
Maternal Health

No mom should die giving birth. Yet more than 800 women die every day due to complications during pregnancy and childbirth. The majority of these women live in developing countries like Haiti. Many women in rural Haiti do not have access to prenatal care. They give birth at home, with no help if there are complications for the baby or themselves during and after delivery. Haiti’s Central Plateau region has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the country.

Key Activities

Prenatal, Postnatal and Neonatal Care

Labor and Delivery Services

Family Planning Counseling
**Maternal Health**

In 2019, 5,779 women were provided prenatal care at Project Medishare’s maternity centers or mobile clinics. Additionally, 4,070 pregnant women were screened during home visits, and 291 were referred to the clinic for follow-up. We also provided a total of 2,251 vaccinations to women during their pregnancy in 2019.

In 2019, a total of 732 babies were born in Project Medishare’s maternity centers, 10 more births than in 2018. Additionally, in 2019, Project Medishare performed a total of 2,304 postnatal consultations as well as 896 home visits for babies and new moms within three days of the baby’s birth.

### 2019 Impact

- **732** Safe Deliveries
- **0** Maternal Deaths at Project Medishare Facilities
- **2,251** Pregnant Women Vaccinated
Child health and nutrition

Our mobile clinics, home visits and in-school health programs provide children from infants to adolescents with much-needed access to basic healthcare. Some of the services we provide include physical exams, vision and hearing screening, de-worming medication, and treatment for anemia and malnutrition.

Intestinal parasites can consume up to 20 percent of a child’s nutritional intake every day. Affects of parasites include anemia, vitamin deficiencies, a weakened immune system, lethargy, and poor physical and cognitive growth. Similarly, vaccinations play an important role in preventing disease and illness in children. In most cases, ridding a child of parasitic worms, along with life-saving immunizations, can mean the difference between leading a healthy, productive life and death.

**Key Activities**

**School Health and School Lunch**

**Malnutrition Screening**

**Treatment Vaccinations and Micronutrients**
Improving children’s health and nutrition remains a key pillar of our work in the Central Plateau. In 2019, 800 children under the age of one-year were fully vaccinated and Project Medishare provided a total of 21,230 vaccines to children in its catchment area. The total number of vaccines provided to children in 2019 increased by 2,627 from 2018.

In 2019, we screened a total of 36,182 children for malnutrition and enrolled a total of 145 children in the malnutrition program with 79 children graduating from the program before the end of 2019.

From January to December 2019, we provided a total of 80,182 meals, far less than that of 2018 due to the ongoing school closures throughout the year due to unrest. All schools in the school lunch program are planning to open in January of 2020.
Child health and nutrition

Orphans and vulnerable children program

Every child deserves a safe childhood. And yet, orphans and vulnerable children in Lahoye—an impoverished, rural community near Haiti’s border—are more likely than any group to suffer from HIV, malnutrition, abuse, and exploitation. As part of an integrated approach to child health and welfare, in 2008 Project Medishare initiated the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Program in Lahoye.

Currently, Medishare provides 350 children ages 4 - 18 with educational assistance, free health services, and psychosocial support.

Children meet for monthly small group activities including arts and crafts, music and dance, theatre, and sports. These sessions also provide an opportunity to deliver psychological and emotional support to children on an individual basis. Program staff offers each child and their caregivers additional ongoing personal assistance through regular home and school visits.

“OEV gives us school bags and books and pays our school fees, I couldn’t afford to go to school if not for them.”

Mario Louis
a twelve-year-old from Lahoye, has been a part of the OEV program for the past three years. He lives at home with his parents and five siblings. An average day for Mario involves waking up, getting dressed, then going to tend to his family’s animals. On most days, he also tends to the garden with his father where they grow tomatoes, plantains and tobacco to be sold at market. Once his chores are done, he walks over to school.

Once he gets to school there is always breakfast waiting for him, thanks to Project Medishare’s canteen program. The school also serves a cooked lunch later during the day, which oftentimes serves as his only cooked meal for the day.

After school, he enjoys playing soccer with his friends, which he insists he’s quite good at, in spite of his smaller stature. When asked for a photo, Mario has already learned the art of being too cool to smile instead giving us serious stares, although caught off guard, he did crack a smile for the camera.

Once he arrives home from school, he will once again tend to the animals and the garden. Although it’s his sisters’ task to go fetch water, he will sometimes go in their places on some days when they aren’t available. Once he has completed his chores, he will then study and do his homework.

He hopes that he will one day be able to lead a life where he can easily afford to take care of himself. With the right education, he will be able to get a good job and take care of his family.
Community Health

Community health agents are the backbone of Project Medishare’s community health program. They travel door-to-door, village-to-village, making it possible for thousands of people in the most remote areas to access health services. They are the first, and often only, source of health care for many rural Haitians, and help provide lifesaving care.

Each health agent lives in the community they serve. They receive regular training to make sure they are equipped with the most up-to-date tools and resources to provide a high level of care. Community health agents provide immunizations and prenatal care, treat common infections, deliver preventative healthcare and education, and so much more. Many families rely on them as trusted sources of information for preventing, treating and managing health issues.

**Key Activities**

**Disease Awareness and Education Campaigns**

**Primary and Preventative Healthcare**

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene**
In 2019, Project Medishare completed 150 mobile clinics, although slightly lower than the annual target, this number represents a remarkable achievement given the political issues in the country as well as the fact that no medical school groups visited during 2019, which typically augments the mobile clinic totals.

Additionally, the total number of patients seen at mobile clinics in 2019 nearly equaled that of the previous years despite having fewer total clinics. This was largely achieved thanks to the purchase of a new ambulance at the end of 2018 which was designated exclusively for the mobile clinics, allowing staff to arrive at their sites on-time each day and thus see more patients as they were able to work a full day at each mobile clinic.

At the mobile clinics, a total of 11,914 patients were seen and 41% of these patients were children. For these children, 37% were treated for acute respiratory infections while 22% of adults were treated for gastrointestinal issues.

In 2019, we served a total of 47,482 patients at our fixed clinical facilities, 11,907 more patients than in 2018. This represents a 33% increase from last year. Of these patients 22,141 received family planning, nearly doubling the number of family planning patients PM saw in 2018.
Throughout 2019, Project Medishare continued to strengthen health care access in Marmont, Lahoye, and Thomonde through our community health activities: mobile clinics, rally posts, and home visits. Project Medishare’s network of more than 60 community health agents continued to play a key role in providing basic health services, educating the population on disease prevention and management, and referring patients to one of our fixed-facility clinics for evaluation and follow-up care.

In 2019, our health agents completed a total of 45,233 home visits, screening 235,602 persons in the Central Plateau. During home visits, health agents referred 2,272 people, the majority of whom were children, to one of our two fixed-facility clinics for additional consultation by a medical doctor. Health agents also conducted a total of 1,586 rally posts in 2019, reaching a total of 68,202 people. In December 2019, a new meeting space was completed at the Marmont health center to better facilitate community meetings and activities.
COMMUNITY HEALTH

2019 IMPACT

45,233
HOME VISITS

47,482
FIXED FACILITY CLINIC VISITS

150
MOBILE CLINICS

68,202
TOTAL PEOPLE REACHED BY HEALTH AGENTS
Haiti has long faced a lack of educational and advanced training opportunities to develop the doctors, nurses and medical technicians needed in a sustainable health care system. Following the 2010 earthquake, this void increased due to the collapse of several of Haiti’s medical schools.

In 2019, there were **115 volunteers at Hospital Bernard Mevs.**

Since our founding, Project Medishare has been committed to building a sustainable health care system in Haiti through a “train the trainer” model. In collaboration with medical volunteers and university partners, we provide Haitian healthcare leaders with mentoring, didactic sessions, and on-the-job and bedside patient care training. We also provide specialized training across a variety of areas such as neurosurgery, wound care and pediatrics. Each year we host and train medical residents on rural health in a clinic setting. In March of 2020, PM will receive a new medical resident class to help train.
Senior Staff

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Executive Director

Jenna Green
Development Director

Kettely Joseph
Administrator/Accountant

Stephanie Caro
Communications & Volunteer Coordinator

Stacy House
Volunteer Coordinator, Hospital Bernard Mevs

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Kristin LaHatte
Country Director

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Supervizing Physician

Lusette Simon
Senior Operations Manager

Nadia Jean Charles
Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator

Fédeline Sylvain Marcellus
Finance Manager

Guerlack Jean
Human Resources Coordinator
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Philanthropist

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Association pour la Promotion de la Famille Haïtienne (PROFAMIL)

Broken Earth

Boulé Foundation

Caris Foundation

Cross Catholic Outreach

Direct Relief International

Hospital Bernard Mevs

Invicta

Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP)

MAX Burgers

Sogeplast S.A.

Vitamin Angels

Zanmi Lasante

Espwa & The Shop Forward
A Healthy Haiti is a Prosperous Haiti

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