

2021 Annual Report



**Health Equity
International**
St. Boniface Hospital

Health Equity International/St. Boniface Hospital's (HEI/SBH) work is possible because we share a single belief: That all people deserve high-quality, affordable health care.

Thanks to your support, we are building a stronger, more resilient health system in Haiti, providing a model for health care in resource-limited settings around the world.

Thank you for helping us provide equitable care in 2021 and beyond.



*Dedicated to those who lost their lives
in the August 2021 earthquake.
We will hold them in our hearts and lift
up their memories forever.*

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Within days of the August 2021 earthquake, Dr. Paul Farmer was at SBH and ready to help. In typical Paul fashion, he arrived with what felt like a whirlwind of ideas for our emergency response.

But all of that had to wait, just for a few minutes. First, he needed to visit with survivors. He sat with them, held their hands, and listened to their stories. For him, **patients always were—and always must be—at the center of everything.**

As a friend, mentor, and longtime board member, Paul spurred our growth as an organization and pushed us to always do more for our patients. His determination, creativity, and audacity to dream big for Haiti have helped us navigate some of the greatest challenges we have ever faced. And his legacy serves as a constant reminder that **no one should ever have to suffer because they do not have the resources to access basic health care.**

Paul's loss is incalculable not just for those who knew him, but for Haiti as a whole. But his legacy lives on in all of us who are working to create a better, healthier world.

As Paul once said, **“equity is the only acceptable goal.”** We at HEI/SBH strive to embody this ideal every day and, like Paul, always keep the focus on our patients. I hope you will continue to walk with us towards this critically important goal.

Kenbe fèm,



Conor Shapiro
President and CEO
Health Equity International/St. Boniface Hospital



*Dr. Farmer during a visit to St. Boniface
Hospital in 2016*



OUR MISSION

What we do

HEI/SBH is driven by the belief that all people deserve access to high-quality, dignified health care.

HEI/SBH is a trusted, Haitian-led health network that is shaping and strengthening health care in partnership with the people we serve.

SBH's services are designed to meet and evolve with our patients' needs. Our clinical care network is the **largest health care provider** for over 2 million people in southern Haiti and serves as a model health system for the entire country. Our 230-bed facility contains the region's only 24/7 emergency department, world-class surgical center, neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), and more. Here, medical professionals at every level of their careers come to train and expand their skills.

Our community health team serves **more than 50,000 people** in the area surrounding Fond des Blancs; our earthquake mobile clinics are reaching tens of thousands more throughout the south. And our satellite clinic helps ensure that people living in even the most remote places can receive the care they need.

Our doors are always open, even amid natural disasters, political instability, and a global pandemic. No one is ever turned away because they cannot pay. **Providing care is our only priority**—for every patient, every day.



Three patients wait for appointments with their newborn babies

2021

By the Numbers

Patients came to SBH in **record numbers** amid the pandemic, civil unrest, and devastating earthquake because they trust us to provide quality care.

153,988

Outpatient visits



5,441

Inpatient admissions



5,144

Surgeries



5,749

COVID-19 vaccine doses administered



4,117

Births



947

NICU admissions



96

Young medical professionals trained



70,000+

Visits to post-earthquake mobile clinics through March 2022



Earthquake Response



HEI/SBH is leading the health care response to the devastating August 2021 earthquake.

The disaster decimated southern Haiti's health system, damaging or destroying more than 55% of health care facilities in the region. This devastation has left hundreds of thousands of survivors in the hardest-hit areas with **no access to even the most basic health services.**

HEI/SBH was undamaged in the disaster and was prepared to act. We immediately launched a **comprehensive, life-saving relief effort** that drew on the strengths of our hospital-based services and proven community health program. Our ongoing work is helping heal communities and strengthen the region's health system.



EARTHQUAKE

Quality Care in the Wake of Tragedy

Our three-stage relief effort has been designed to **care** for survivors, **support** impacted communities, and **strengthen** the damaged health system.



1 Emergency Response

- Evacuated 120+ critically injured survivors to SBH
- Provided 24/7 orthopedic surgery and emergency care
- Launched mobile clinics to care for affected communities
- Supported overwhelmed health care facilities in the region with medicines and supplies



2 Ongoing Response

- Supporting 89 communities through expanded mobile clinics, in partnership with USAID BHA and Project HOPE
- Providing advanced surgeries through our new, permanent orthopedic surgery program
- Absorbing patient loads from dozens of damaged/destroyed health care facilities
- Continuing to care for 10,000+ patients per month across all services



3 The Road Ahead

- Rebuild primary care, expand community health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services in impacted areas
- Continue to build a flexible supply chain, despite insecurity
- Build sustainable energy and waste management for health facilities
- Continue focus on reducing maternal, neonatal, and child mortality and morbidity



EARTHQUAKE

Building an Orthopedic Surgery Program

Orthopedic injuries can be **life-threatening** in resource-limited settings like Haiti. With only 27 orthopedic surgeons in a country of 11 million people, the earthquake highlighted Haiti's preexisting need for comprehensive, affordable orthopedic and rehabilitation care. Driven by this need, HEI/SBH quickly established a **permanent orthopedic surgery program** within our world-class surgical center. By the end of 2021, the program had already helped hundreds of patients with devastating injuries.



Surgical Care

SBH offers more than a dozen orthopedic surgical procedures to treat a wide range of injuries, from stabilizing severely broken bones to repairing torn ligaments.



Support Services

Our new orthopedic outpatient clinic provides a continuum of care including pre- and post-operative services, assistive device fitting and usage training, and rehabilitative care.

Capacity Building

Orthopedic surgery residents from State University of Haiti Hospital come to SBH each month to train, enhancing Haiti's overall capacity to conduct orthopedic procedures.



Alexa returns to school



“Will I be able to walk again?”



Returning to school is the only thing nine-year-old Alexa has wanted since her leg was crushed in the August 2021 earthquake.

She received emergency surgery in Port-au-Prince, where surgeons attached a fixation device to her leg to help the bones heal properly. Because of the high cost of care, Alexa was **forced to return home** right after the procedure. And when it was time for the device to be removed, her family could not afford the **astronomical cost** of the procedure at the hospital closest to their home.

Alexa’s father visited HEI/SBH’s earthquake mobile clinic near their home in Anse-à-Veau for help. Our staff arranged for Alexa to come

to SBH to have the fixation device removed, **free of charge**, through our new orthopedic surgery program. Alexa only had one question for the surgeon: “Will I be able to go to school?”

The answer was: yes. After two months of healing, Alexa has finally made her long-awaited return to school. Her friends crowded around her, thrilled that Alexa could run, walk, and play again. With a shy smile, she told us she is **grateful to everyone who helped to make the mobile clinics possible**, and who gave her care at SBH.

Images left to right: Alexa reunited with friends at school, Alexa following emergency surgery

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Nurse Delva Helps Communities Heal

My name is Delva Swing. I am a nurse, and I am from Fond des Blancs.

The mobile clinic is a good thing for the country, especially in places that need care and that do not have a hospital nearby where people can go.

One of the stories that really touched me [was] there was a lady who had

hypoglycemia. We gave her care because in the state she was in, she could have lost her life because there was no hospital near her. And after she felt better, when she was leaving, she took plenty of time to thank us. That made me happy because thanks to this mobile clinic SBH initiated in the communities that need care, we can continue to save people's lives.



Images: Nurse Delva at one of SBH's post-earthquake mobile clinics

Combatting COVID-19

HEI/SBH continues to lead the pandemic response for southern Haiti. Our approach combines compassionate hospital-based care with community-based prevention measures.

We are saving lives and keeping our communities safe.

Sharing our model of a strong health system is central to our mission. Health professionals from across the country are coming to Fond des Blancs to learn from our success.



COVID

A Leader in COVID-19 Care

HEI/SBH is the **only facility** in the region able to safely treat COVID-19 and provide high volumes of medical oxygen to critically ill patients. Our trusted community health experts are trained in **contact tracing** and have provided dozens of evidence-based health education sessions to **empower patients** with the knowledge they need to stay healthy or manage disease.

OUR IMPACT

302

patients cared for in our COVID ward; oxygen available 100% of the time

5,749

COVID-19 vaccine doses administered through our community health program

2,391

COVID-19 tests performed

50,000+

community members educated about COVID-19 prevention



Dr. Saintilien examines a patient for COVID-19

COVID

Achieving Vaccine Equity

HEI/SBH played a leading role in advocating for **COVID-19 vaccine equity** because our patients, and the people of Haiti, do not deserve to be left behind.

After months of advocacy work with international stakeholders, and with critical support from the Haitian Ministry of Health (MSPP), HEI/SBH became one of the first organizations in the country to administer doses. With over **5,000 vaccines** given to date, HEI/SBH has one of the most successful COVID-19 vaccination efforts in Haiti.

Our success stems from our **long track record of community care**. We have run childhood immunization programs for three decades and built trusting relationships with the communities we serve.

OUR SUCCESSFUL COVID-19 VACCINATION CAMPAIGN ALSO:



INVOLVES TRUSTED LOCAL LEADERS

To pinpoint communities' specific needs and challenges



PROVIDES AMPLE EDUCATION

To combat rumors about COVID-19 and the vaccine



LEADS BY EXAMPLE

Hospital directors & community leaders publicly received vaccine



“The reason I chose to get the vaccine is because of my age. Everyone says that people my age are at greater risk. I would like to see everyone get vaccinated.”

— **Annette, 70**
local vaccine recipient

“Before we go into the field to talk about the [COVID-19] vaccine, we have to do an awareness campaign to explain what we are bringing to the community. We have meetings about it and discuss with the community leaders and other people in the area first on how to go about it. [The communities] trust St. Boniface Hospital, that’s for sure.”

— **Miss Rose,**
Community Health Nurse



Inaya's Road to Recovery



“I will leave better than I came.”



My name is Inaya. I am from Charlot and I am 62 years old.

I always wear my mask and wash my hands. I wasn't feeling well so I came to SBH. They tested me and the test came back positive. When I first came, **I wasn't well at all.** I thought I was going to die.

Today I can tell you I will leave better than I came. I've only seen this kind of care in movies and films in foreign countries, the kind of care I get at St. Boniface is just like that.

The advice that I would give to someone who hasn't gotten sick is that [COVID-19] exists, and it is in the country. I would advise them to start believing because the illness is here and if there's a good authority it's St. Boniface.

I really wasn't well before. **If I can stand here today and talk to you it's because of St. Boniface.**

Patient Care



Our dedicated clinicians saw 153,988 patient visits in 2021—the most we’ve ever seen in a single year.

As the largest health care provider in southern Haiti, we have taken on the burden of care and are leading the region through the COVID-19 pandemic and earthquake recovery.

The following section highlights a few of our key services out of the dozens we provide. In every department, our highly skilled clinicians provide attentive, individualized care to each patient.



Maternal Health

HEI/SBH is the leading maternal referral center in southern Haiti.

Each year, 90% of the women who deliver in our maternity ward come from hours away; many arrive in emergent circumstances. In 2021, 35% of women who delivered at SBH were classified as having a high-risk pregnancy; 42% needed a C-section.

Although the journey to SBH is often long and difficult, these women come because they trust us to provide the **emergency obstetric care, NICU services**, and other essential services they and their families need—**all at a moment's notice**.

Our comprehensive maternal health program also offers pre- and postnatal care; HIV testing and specialized care for HIV+ pregnant women to prevent mother-to-

child transmission; postnatal care within 36 hours of delivery; family planning services; lactation support; and more.

Demand for our maternal health services soared after the August 2021 earthquake devastated southern Haiti's health care system. Deliveries increased by 46% in the five months after the disaster, and we saw a 50% increase in deliveries from outside of our local area.

As we continue to absorb patients from areas where health facilities were damaged and destroyed by the disaster, **we must increase our capacity to care for more women and children**. They are depending on us, now more than ever.



Maternity patient Élisabeth and her newborn baby Ruth Marlie

PATIENT STORY

Charmite Travels Far for a Safe Delivery



“I was lucky to come to SBH.”



When Charmite went into labor with her third child, she could tell something was wrong. She tried going to two hospitals near her home in Port-au-Prince for help, but gang violence and prohibitive fees prevented her from accessing care.

Charmite and her husband Victor knew they only had one option left to save their baby's life: **make the long journey to SBH.**

Once at SBH, Charmite was brought into

the operating room for an **emergency C-section**. She was not afraid: she knew she was in good hands. Soon, she was holding baby Vitner in her arms for the first time. And after a brief recovery, Charmite, Vitner, and Victor were ready to go back home—**together, as a family.**

Images: Victor, Charmite, and baby Vitner

NICU

Our NICU continued to be one of the busiest services at SBH throughout 2021. Each year, hundreds of families depended on us to help their babies become healthy and strong.



Nearly **25%** of all babies born at SBH need urgent care in our NICU. While there are many complex factors contributing to this statistic, the overall lack of **quality, affordable, and accessible maternal health services** throughout Haiti plays a leading role.

As the **only fully functional NICU** in the region, HEI/SBH is responsible for the region's youngest patients—children who will grow up to be the future of Haiti. Our skilled NICU clinicians receive highly specialized training to deliver the best possible care and treat common conditions such as low birth

weight, anemia, hypothermia, and more.

“In the neonatal unit we receive all kinds of kids who are 0 to 28 days old, whether they were born here or not and whether the parent has money or not,” says head NICU nurse Miss Pascale. **“Our pride is seeing the child be discharged and go home with their parents.** In my experience, the more you work with the kids the more you develop a love for them. **We give them quality care before all.”**

Images left to right: Nurse Pascale in the NICU, Nurse Chaperon in the NICU

Keeping Fredens Healthy and Safe

“They really took care of me.”



My name is Joseph Rosena. I'm 32 years old. I'm living in Bernadel.

When I went to give birth to Fredens at SBH, I left my home at 4:30. I was on a motorcycle. When I got to the hospital, they really took care of my case. I had a normal delivery. **They really took care of me.**

A few days after the delivery, I noticed that Fredens' belly was a little bit big and shiny. I went to the emergency room, but they sent me to the [NICU]. When they did the blood test, they found he was a little bit anemic [and] they found a little microbe in his stool. They gave me an appointment [to come back

for checkups at the NICU] every 2 weeks [and] they told me not to give him any food yet, to keep breastfeeding him. **Now he's doing a lot better.** His stomach used to hurt and bloat, but that doesn't happen anymore.

St. Boniface is a good hospital; it's right here, close to us, and if someone has a big problem, before they go anywhere else, St. Boniface helps us already. It really supports us. In any other hospital, you'll spend a lot of money. I could say it's a free hospital. **It's good for our families and for our community.**

Images: Joseph Rosena and baby Fredens

Emergency Care

At the only 24/7 ER in southern Haiti, our clinicians care for thousands of critically ill and injured patients from across the region.

Miss Genevieve is the lead nurse in our emergency care center. While tending to her patients on the morning of August 14th, 2021, **she felt the ground shake—an earthquake**. Within hours, her already-busy ER became a blur of activity as she and her colleagues raced to stabilize the influx of critically injured survivors. “I think that because other centers are damaged and can’t give care at the moment, a lot of patients come to us,” she says.

Each year, Miss Genevieve and her team see **more than 9,000 patient visits** with cases ranging from severe wounds to life-threatening heart attacks. Since the

earthquake, Miss Genevieve says that she and her colleagues have seen a steep rise in broken bones and other severe orthopedic injuries. Our ER and surgical teams must work closely together to assess, stabilize, and treat these patients.

“During my experience at St. Boniface,” says Miss Genevieve, “[we give] extremely great care and **our staff is devoted to the patients**, and it also helps the staff to grow. This is why we have such a good reputation—because of the good care we give. Every critical patient we get leaves in a better state.”



Nurse Genevieve at SBH's ER

PATIENT STORY

Oriol Fights Back Against Tuberculosis



“I can take care of myself again.”



Oriol is 32 years old and comes from Fonds des Nègres, Haiti. He arrived at SBH’s ER with complications from **tuberculosis**—an illness he had been battling for more than a year. Once in our care, our ER physicians diagnosed him with severe anemia and gave him a blood transfusion. For three days, the ER physicians carefully stabilized his condition with treatment, rest, and fluids.

Once Oriol was stable, he was transferred to SBH’s internal medicine department for additional care. There, he was placed on a strict medication regime to combat his tuberculosis. Soon, he began to feel better. “I’m almost back to normal, I can take care

of myself again,” said Oriol. “I have been to several hospitals—they never give me good care. But since I came to SBH, I get unparalleled care.”

He continued, “I want to say a big thank you to all the staff working in the hospital and even the people who are donating to the hospital that allows it to provide quality free care. **I am really proud of you, proud of the hospital.** Thank you.”

Images: Oriol during his recovery at SBH

Donor Roll



Generous support from donors like you helped us to provide world-class health care during a year of great crisis in Haiti.

This list of donors represents individuals and organizations that made contributions during our Fiscal Year 2021 (July 2020 through June 2021). Gifts given after the end of our fiscal year and/or towards our earthquake response will be listed in our next annual report.

On behalf of all of our staff and patients, thank you.



DONOR ROLL

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\$100,000+

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Photos by: Jess Obert, Gilles Poteau, Mikaela Raphael, Terry Sebastian, and Nadia Todres

Financials



HEI/SBH ended Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021) in a strong financial position.

Funding from our partners and supporters increased our capacity to provide life-saving care during a tumultuous year in Haiti. We created an orthopedic surgery program; restored access to primary care in earthquake-impacted communities; procured and produced oxygen for patients with severe cases of COVID-19; and more. We are deeply grateful to everyone who made this work possible.



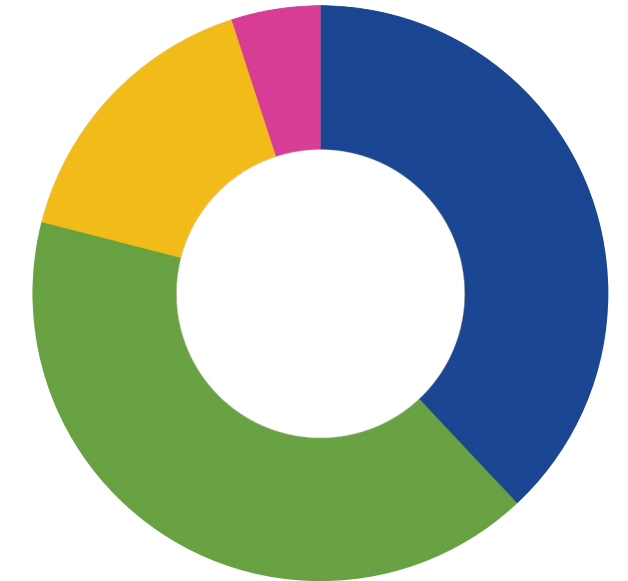
FINANCIALS

Statements of Financial Position

ASSETS	2021	2020
Current Assets		
Cash	\$1,573,518	\$2,019,185
Accounts receivable, net	\$723,938	\$355,319
Contributions receivable, current	\$1,500	\$2,500
Inventory	\$836,698	\$1,187,253
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$183,947	\$200,471
Total Current Assets	\$3,319,601	\$3,764,728
Property and Equipment, Net	\$5,817,658	\$6,218,969
Other Assets		
Contributions receivable, net of current portion	\$20,000	\$40,000
Investments, at fair value	\$3,075,234	\$2,573,015
Total Assets	\$12,232,493	\$12,596,712
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2021	2020
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$1,101,333	\$927,943
Deferred Revenue	\$329,639	\$1,182,145
Total Current Liabilities	\$1,430,972	\$2,110,088
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restrictions	\$9,946,521	\$10,251,666
With Donor Restrictions Permanently Restricted	\$855,000	\$234,958
Total Net Assets	\$10,801,521	\$10,486,624
Total Liability and Net Assets	\$12,232,493	\$12,596,712

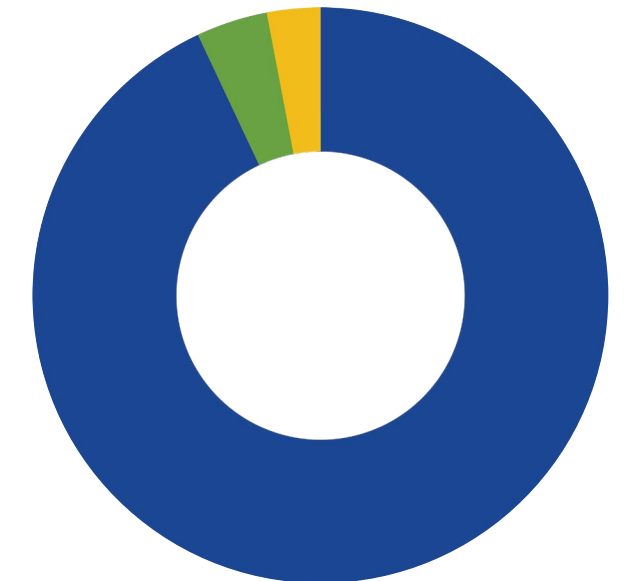
2021 Total Revenues

Individuals & Corporate	\$3,408,455
Foundations	\$3,705,201
Government	\$1,445,934
In-Kind	\$494,711
Total Revenues	\$9,054,301



2021 Total Expenses

Program Expenses	\$8,572,910
Administrative Expenses	\$338,333
Fundraising Expenses	\$277,866
Total Expenses	\$9,189,109





**Health Equity
International**
St. Boniface Hospital

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Health Equity International is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization

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