



New Satellite Clinic Opens in Villa! Healthcare Available to Many More People



Villa clinic is ready to begin accepting patients

We are thrilled to report that we have opened our first satellite clinic, in the mountain area of Villa, a 90 minute ride by car or a 10 hour walk from our hospital in Fond des Blancs. We partnered with the Mennonite Missionaries living in the area who funded the building and equipment. St. Boniface is providing the staff, medical supplies, and oversight of clinic operations. A doctor, three nurses, a midwife, and lab and pharmacy technicians will staff it. We hope that by providing access to prenatal care we will see more healthy babies being born and more safe deliveries.

We were fortunate to have received the funding for the operations of the clinic through the US government New Partners Initiative grant we received last year. In addition to primary care for the surrounding area this clinic will provide HIV/AIDS testing and treatment. As the number of people accessing healthcare through the clinic grows, it is our hope that

we will expand more of our community health programs to the Villa area, including our nutrition program for malnourished children and our health education programs.

What a wonderful convenience for the people of the area. It is a tremendous hardship for them to have to walk for so many hours over difficult roads to receive the care that they need. They are so grateful for this service!

This is the first of what we hope will be several clinics to serve the poor in our area and expand access to healthcare. The ultimate goal is to have a health network with the hospital as the centerpoint and the outlying satellite clinics spread around the hospital. The location of the next clinic has been identified as Moulliage Fouquet, where we have one of our fishing villages. We are searching for funding for both the building and operations of our next clinic. We hope to be celebrating the opening of that clinic next year!

Letter from Jack

Jack Logue
Chairman of the Board



As we enter this Lenten

season, I cannot help thinking about the greatest sacrifice of all, Jesus giving His life for us so that we may have everlasting life. Jesus showed

us how we should live, how we should love one another, and how we should help the poor. We strive every day to live by those principles as we help the poorest of the poor in Haiti.

As you know, this has been a very difficult year for the people of Fond des Blancs. Because of the summer hurricanes, many farms have been ruined, crops washed away, animals drowned, water contaminated and roads destroyed. Recovery will take a long time and we are helping as much as we can. Our financial resources are stretched as never before. We are so grateful to you, our donors, for without you we would not be able to provide the assistance that we do. **Speaking quite candidly however, we need your contributions now more than ever.**

The need is so great. Everyday we have malnourished children and adults come to the hospital. They can be saved if they receive treatment and food. You may have read about our new nutritional supplement, Akamil, that we hope will significantly help the children in our nutrition program. Everyday we see many, many people who need our help, our love, and

Cont'd on p.3



What your contribution Can do for the people of Haiti:

- \$25** Vitally needed medication
- \$50** Ambulance ride for a woman in labor
- \$100** Scholarship for one child for one year
- \$500** Cesarean section delivery
- \$2500** Water well for entire village

Tilapia Ponds are Filled with Fish

New Source of Food and Protein Provides Hope



Local man explains how fish farm works.

The Tilapia Ponds have been filled with fish! The hope for a continuous source of food has become a reality for one village. Tilapia fish are easy to raise and reach full-size in only three months.

It was an exciting day in Ferdil! After months of planning, organizing and building, the fish ponds were filled with tilapia. A caravan of four vehicles headed to Ferdil with the fish and the fish food. The tilapia fingerlings were brought from

Croix de Bouquets, near Port au Prince. Road conditions were very bad, but with determination and very good drivers, the vehicles were able to get through.

News of the arrival of the fish preceded the visit, so there was quite a crowd of excited onlookers gathered. The children in particular were fascinated by the "ti bet" or little creatures in the bags, especially when the fish got excited and started jumping around.

One bag at a time, the fish were released into the ponds. They swam for a while at the surface before venturing very far, but eventually they dispersed and made themselves at home. Of all the fish released, there was only one fatality, which is remarkable when you consider the rough journey they made.

The nearby rivers are used as the project's water source and at a future time, runoff from the ponds will be used to

irrigate a tree nursery. The ponds are meant to provide a source of protein to the local diet as well as a source of income for the community. The new fish are thriving and many new baby fish have been born since the project began.

The tilapia fish pond project is sponsored by Food for the Poor who has provided funding and technical support. The St. Boniface Haiti Foundation is working with the local peasant cooperative and community in Ferdil to make this project a reality.



Fish before ponds were stocked.

Sister Ellen has New Wheels

Now she can go anywhere, anytime!

Sister Ellen Flynn, of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas- Northeast Community, gets around even more than usual these days. A generous donor, Bob Kabartas, funded the purchase of a Red Rhino, an all-terrain vehicle, for Sr. Ellen. She uses it to travel all over Fond des Blancs ministering to the elderly, the sick, to grieving families, and whomever else needs her services. This vehicle brings Sr. Ellen even closer to the growing number of people she serves in her ministry.

The St. Boniface Hospital's Pastoral Care Program focuses on the social, humanitarian, and spiritual needs of the patients and the entire community. The poor are treated with dignity and respect during their time of need. The people are very grateful for her help and assistance in whatever form it takes. Often Sr. Ellen just sits with hospital patients or holds babies to give them love and to pray with them. Her presence is comforting and healing to all. One of her most important responsibilities is to accompany the



Sr. Ellen gives Nannette a ride.

families and bodies of our deceased patients' home. Sr. Ellen also goes to the Queen of Peace Home for the Elderly to visit the residents. Her love and compassion are legendary and the residents smile just knowing that she is on her way to visit!

Sr. Ellen is in her fourth year as our Pastoral Care Minister. She lives at the St. Boniface Hospital in Haiti, eleven months of the year, and devotes approximately 40 - 50 hours per week serving the poorest of the poor. She loves her work and the community has come to love her in return!



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Barbara Stomberg Nursing Scholarship Awarded

We are proud to announce the establishment of the Barbara Stomberg Nursing Scholarship to send a young woman to school to study nursing. Ms. Andrea Stomberg has generously created the scholarship in memory of her mother, Barbara Stomberg. This year's recipient is Natacha Casseus, pictured here. Natasha is in her first year of nursing school in the city of Les Cayes, Haiti.

Andrea was gracious enough to send one of our nurses, Esther Destil, to school for an advanced degree in Public Health. Esther has graduated and will return to work on community health initiatives at our hospital next month.

We are always in need of good nurses at our hospital, especially ones that live in the area. There are many bright young women in Fond des Blancs who are eager to pursue a nursing career. We struggle to



This year's winner, Natacha Casseus

find resources to send one or two young women to nursing school each year. Their educational program takes three years to complete. It is an investment in their futures as well as in our hospital, as they come back with skills that are invaluable to us and to our patients. None of these nursing students can afford to pursue this avenue without financial aid. We are grateful and privileged to be able to offer the Barbara Stomberg Nursing Scholarship.

Anyone wishing to sponsor a nursing scholarship is invited to contact us. The cost is \$5,000 per year. Nursing school takes three years to complete. You can either commit to one student for three years or set up an endowed scholarship in your name in perpetuity for \$100,000.

Letter from Jack (cont'd)

our prayers. We must and will continue to find ways to help the people who are desperately poor in Fond des Blancs. Check out our website to see the many ways we are helping.

This Lent please make whatever extra financial sacrifice you can and send it to us to help the poor of Haiti. We need your donations, no matter how small or how large. You may want to consider simple things like putting your spare change in a bottle on the table, not having the extra toppings on your pizza, or skipping going to the movies on the weekend. The small sacrifices will add up over the 40 days in Lent. Make it a family project to help the poorest of the poor.

Thank you for being such a faithful donor to the St. Boniface Haiti Foundation.

Many blessings this Lenten season,
Jack

Planned Giving

Making a Bequest in Your Will

Bequests support the future of the St. Boniface Haiti Foundation. You can leave a lasting legacy of hope for the poor in your final giving that is often not possible during your lifetime. When you write your Will or Revocable Trust, you acknowledge the people and institutions that mean the most to you. A gift to the St. Boniface Haiti Foundation shows your confidence that we will continue to make a difference in the lives of the poor far into the future.

A bequest or distribution from a Revocable Trust is easy to arrange. It is not payable until death so it does not affect your cash flow during your lifetime. It is private—a Will need not be filed or made public until after death. And, it is revocable—you can change the provisions in your Will or Revocable Trust at any time.

A specific bequest is for a specific dollar amount or asset. A residual bequest is a percentage of the balance remaining in the estate after all taxes, expenses, and specific bequests have been paid. Generally, giving a percent of the residue allows for more flexibility in long-term planning.

A charitable bequest or trust distribution reduces the taxable value of an estate for federal tax purposes, and is exempt from state inheritance taxes.

Please contact us if you would like any further information or have any questions.

We're Making Akamil!



The grain mill making Akamil mixture.

The St. Boniface Hospital has a new program to provide malnourished children with much needed vitamins and nutrients. We are now making and distributing Akamil, a nutritional supplement, to children in our nutrition program.

The compassion and generosity of an anonymous donor has made this possible.

Akamil is a cereal blend that has been made and used in Haiti for more than 40 years. It is made from beans and grains that are milled together to produce a high protein cereal product. It is cooked like a hot cereal to supplement the nutritional intake of children and is currently being used in nutrition programs in other parts of Haiti.

We have roughly 100 malnourished children enrolled in our nutrition program.

These children have been referred to us by our physicians and community health workers. They come to the hospital twice a month with a parent or caregiver, meet with the community health nurses, get weighed, participate in an education session and receive a snack. They receive dry rations to supplement the entire family's food at home, feeding a total of over 400 children.

To produce the Akamil, a grain mill is used to grind the corn and beans that are in the mixture. We will purchase as much of the food supplies locally as possible to help the farmers in our region. The parents and caretakers will provide the labor for running the mill and bagging the Akamil. It is important for the recipients to participate in the project because it gives them a sense of ownership and self-sufficiency.

It is our hope that we will see significant weight gains in the malnourished children receiving Akamil and that with this success, we will be able to expand the program to our other programs and more children, creating healthier, happier families.



St. Boniface Haiti Foundation

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Hands of Hope Fundraiser Jacksonville, FL Annual Event on March 13th



Herminie, our poster child, with her mother

Mark your calendars for the Hands of Hope Annual Fundraising Event on Friday March 13th in Jacksonville, FL. The event will be held at Epping Forest Yacht Club from 6pm-10pm.

Our honoree is Dr. Ron Carzoli, a neonatologist who fell in love with Haiti on his first visit 6 years ago. He has been to Haiti 10 times since and plans 4 more trips this year.

Dr. Carzoli has given courses on Neo-

natal Resuscitation to our staff in Haiti as well as provided training and equipment to monitor and care for sick newborns. On his various trips, he has worked as nurse, scrub technician, "first assistant" in the OR, and as a fly swatter. He will do whatever it takes to help the poor.

Dr. Ron Carzoli, we salute you!

This year's poster child for the event is Herminie Bernadel, age 18 months. She is pictured here with her mother, Joanne Thadal. They have been guests of the Ecclesiastre family in Jacksonville since October. Herminie has received excellent care at Wolfson Children's Hospital and Nemours Children's Clinic under the direction of Dr. Mary Ann Dokler for repair of an imperforate anus. She came to the U S for reconstructive surgery. We expect her to return home soon.

Sponsorship levels are \$10,000, \$5,000, \$2,500, \$1,000, and \$500. Individual tickets are \$100. Please contact Sandy Logue for tickets at 904-272-5085.



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