Dear Members, Volunteers, 

And Friends of AHDH and Haiti:

As we are gathering with family and friends to celebrate the Holidays and enjoy the season, we take great pleasure, on behalf of the AHDH Executive Committee, to share with you our successes and the many challenges during the blessed year 2019, successes in large part due to, after the Almighty, your unwavering, generous support to our mission in Haiti, the last 33 years.

Indeed, on November 9, we were blessed to cut AHDH’s 33rd cake, with most of the original founding members, as well as the supporting friends of AHDH in attendance.

The year 2019 kicked off with our Winter 2019 Mission (March 15 thru April 2, 2019), our 74th, which was another blessing in AHDH’s annals, bringing much needed hope and relief in the motherland.

With our 43 volunteers, we were able to cover all our routine grounds.
**Eye OR:** A great milestone was recorded as its size was doubled, allowing us now 3-4 eye surgeries concurrently. As a brand new generator, powering all our delicate equipment, as a second AC unit were installed. 

In just one week, **672 patients** were seen at the clinics, **89 surgical (mostly cataract) cases** performed, **400 pairs of new reading glasses and brand new distance glasses**, dispensed.

An extraordinary team effort, under the unsurpassable leadership of Anika M., MD. *(below pink top)* with participation of our local colleague, Dr. Ritza E.C., *(below, left, first row, 1st from left, and below right, center)* and her 3 residents; volunteer MDs: Ninita B. and Salman A. *(2nd row, 2nd and 3rd from left)*, and Optometrist Monica T. *(1sr from right)*, and visiting support team: Nancy M.; Paola S.M, Yvrose V. Michelle I.G, MD, *(1st row, from left, 3rd to 6th)*, and Peter V. Pharmacy, *(2nd row, 1st from left)*

**Another milestone** in our efforts: Reintroduction of **Biomed engineering**, a rare commodity, in Haiti. A native son of La Vallée, with such expertise kept his promise to join us despite his busy schedule in P-Au-P. In a matter of hours our 4 Operative Microscopes were back in action *(photo above)*: Eng. Leonard Valentin *(below, left)* and colleagues.

As now a “fait accompli”, we extended our support to our satellite Clinics in the communities of Cayes-Jacmel, Muzac and La Montagne, led by Michelle I.G. MD. *(below right, on right)*
Our Main OR was pretty busy as well: General surgeries 24, Gynecologic surgeries: 1

Below right: Relieving a farmer from incapacitating hydrocele (improving the national farm production)

Our PEDIATRICS, Internal Medicine/Family Practice, dental Clinics were likewise very busy.:

The Ohio group, Coordinated by Angela A.H., MD, (below left, on right), chaperonned by our retired expats back home and desirous to be actively involved (Mrs. Yolande P.B, center), busy as ever; as our retired Head of Ped., Nicole V. M. MD, still on the front line (below right).

OB_GYN: Team-1 and Team-2:

Tens of patients were seen (with 52 Pap; EMB, colpo-biopsies), 1 major surgical case.

And, once more, we took time to pay homage to the last pioneer, of the 7, we met in 1987, when we first visited the community: Professor Leon Frank,(white cap),as we made sure he gets full attention
Arrangements were made with local **agronomists**, as 2 members of that mission, Amelia, *(below, white top, and Bernel, D.,(black short)*) had special sensibility/expertise for the environment. They were introduced to 2 local agronomists, Hypolite(on left) and Stevenson M., on right. They visited quite a few sites *(below left, apiculture activity)*

**Back to New Orleans**, some work was waiting for AHDH. Since 2012, AHDH has entered into an extraordinary relationship with the US organization based in Austin, TX, **HearGift**, accepting cardiac children from Haiti: Below left, the latest patient, from **Gonaives**, Keller R. P, had relief for his **Tetralogy of Fallot**, as we lent our support to Boushra K., from **Burkina Faso** *(Central Africa)*, with AHDH’s Past-President’s, Drs. Yvelyne G. and Henry Mc.C., *(below right)*

**Summer 2019 Mission: A much reduced mission!!**

Painfully, after our Winter Mission, the socio-political crisis in the motherland was not improving, as daily activities, commerce, government provision of services were almost nil. As we monitored closely the situation, we came to the decision to reduce the mission to a small team of 8. Under the circumstances, we tried our best. We covered essentially ophthalmology and Ob-Gyn.
With Biomed coverage fully present in the house, a new milestone was implemented during that trip: A newly acquired microscope, was installed with the technical expertise of the Bio-Med Technicians: Mr. Stefano F., *(above, yellow shirt)* dispatched by Rhynstar, from Florida, and Mr. Leonard V. *(1st from left)*, we introduced earlier, and full electrical support, thanks to old faithful Georges L. *(blue top)*

All hope is allowed now for our equipment with such expertise on the campus.

It was not that easy for our surgeons:: Anika M, MD, *(above left and Ritza E.C.MD *(above right)* to compromise for only **26 cases**, so far away from the 120 cases they had planned. 

But, to paraphrase a wise man: “26 starfish put back in the water are better off than being in the sun”

And, there was opportunity for promotion: Your editor *(an ob-Gyn, below right)* was “raised” to the level of assistant ophthalmologist, which he enjoyed every minute of, as no Ob-Gyn surgery could be scheduled.

**OB-GYN:**

We run the regular Ob-Gyn clinic supported by 4 of our 14 graduate RNs: Follow up on abnormal Pap tests, new ones as needed, colposcopy, prenatal evaluation with ultrasonography support from our 2 trained technicians.

**Internal Medicine/Family Practice/Pediatrics:**

A few consultations were attended by Nicole V. M., MD *(Above page 3)*

**Fall 2019 Mission:**
As some of you are aware, our 33 years long enthusiasm to make a difference in our less fortunate brethren was terribly hampered by the ongoing socio-political crisis in Haiti, started last July 2018 and still continuing, crisis which forced us to cut down on our Summer 2019 Mission, as related above, and the full cancellation of our Fall 2019 Mission.

Likewise, our programs at Grand Boulage, under the leadership of AHDH’s President, Fénélle G. Guillaume and at Rivière Froide, under the leadership of Former Pres. Dr. Yvelyne G. McCarthy, were put on hold until further progress of the situation.

Painful, beyond description!!
We refuse to imagine the harm endured by so many souls we serve during our mission trips. All those cataract, glaucoma cases, emergency lifesaving c/section, ectopic pregnancy etc. Painful to the guts!

But, if we could not go, as we continued to transfer the funds for the last 2 Accountant & Management students at Université Notre Dame/Jacmel Campus, we had the privilege to welcome our latest cardiac child, Winslove C., 13 years old, the oldest we ever had, from Croix des Bouquets, suburb of Port-Au-Prince, and had her ASD (atrial septum defect) corrected, (below, blue and white strips top and mother to her right), partaking in our 33rd Anniversary Celebration.

Winter 2020 Medical Mission:
For now, we are praying for some resolution of the crisis and preparing the best we can for our tentatively projected winter 2020 mission:

February 21 thru March 7, 2020, with Team-1: 2/21 thru 2/29 and Team-2: 2/29 thru March 7
Please, send us a note ASAP sharing your intention to join.
We remain prayerful and optimistic as we have a big piece of progress ready to roll for our next mission: LASER technology on the way to tackle the Glaucoma cases. Our maverick, Dr. Anika M., won’t give up. She is the example to follow!

We would like to thank all of you who good or bad time keep your support alive to AHDH. As we are going to the struggle of completing the Outpatient Clinics. We would like to thank all of you who organized fundraisers, in Ohio (The Austins and Shomos), in New Orleans, besides the individual donations received. We will move on with your support:

We definitely have no choice, as blessed as we are, we can’t forsake our less fortunate. We need to keep that chain of solidarity alive and defying in front of so many challenges.

**We need your support to reach the finish line. Please, please, stand by AHDH!**
Please, do so by going to [www.AHDHhaiti.org](http://www.AHDHhaiti.org) and making an immediate donation, by Paypal, GoFundMe or sending a check to our address: 149 W. Lakeview Dr., Laplace, LA 70068. **Every drop counts!**

We would like to thank all of you who had contributed to the successes of our 2019 mission trips.

**We would like to extend a big thanks to:**

1- **Alcon**: Our ophthalmology performance (hundreds of cataract surgeries), over those many years would not have been possible without you unwavering donations of surgical eye supplies.

   **Thank you so much.**

2- Patio’s Drugs
3- Blessings International who offered us a special discount; and
4- MAP International
5- Nicole V.M., MD.
6- Mr. Rickie J. (AXA) continued support to our Accounting/management students at Notre Dame
7- Savoy Medical Center,
8- Cashway Pharmacy.
9- HeartGift for welcoming our kids for heart surgery

AND so many more, for your prayers and good wishes, your generous donations of time, energy, and finances, and your willingness to be part of taking the challenges on AHDH’s side.

We hope that you will continue to support us this holiday season!
Blessed Haiti is and will remain beautiful

Merci Beaucoup! Merci anpil! (créole)

For sharing AHDH’s dream, since 1986, in our efforts to leaving a strong, lasting medical and educational legacy in Haiti, in general, and in the county ("Commune") of La Vallée de Jacmel, in particular.

And we will be on our marks for anything else the Almighty has in store for AHDH in its dedication to serve the less fortunate, the more vulnerable of our brethren. (Mat. 25:35)

And let's remember “how privileged we are to be involved in His works” (Albert Schweitzer)

Again, to ALL of you and yours:

Merry Christmas
Happy Hanukkah
Happy Kwanza
Happy Ramada
Happy and Healthy New Year 2019

Above all:
Pray for Peace on our lovely planet earth !!
Very Cordially yours,

Charles

(Charles René, M.D.; F.A.C.O.G.
Part-Time Clinical Associate Professor, Ob-Gyn Dept. Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
Co-founder, Past-President,
Treasurer, Director of Projects in Haiti
Association Haïtienne de Développement Humain, Inc. (AHDH., Inc.)
149 W. Lakeview Dr., LaPlace, LA 70068)
www.AHDHhaiti.org

P.S. When you have a chance, please, view our most recent video, from our Winter Mission, produced by one of our most recent video maveric, Gaele P., by pasting on google:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nBf86vMwtBgyCiZFMced3OobNk/view?usp=drive_web

Version Francaise:

La Nouvelle-Orléans,

Le 15 décembre 2019
Chers Membres, Volontaires, Amis de l'AHDH et d’Haïti :

Au nom du Comité des Directeurs de l’AHDH, Inc., permettez-moi de partager avec vous ce bilan de fin d'année.

Je me proposais d’offrir une version française complète de ce rapport, mais je me rends compte que le temps presse, en cette période de fin d’année. Et de nos jours, il y a sans doute très peu d’entre vous à avoir besoin d’une traduction extensive. S’il y a vraiment un besoin, n’hésitez pas à me faire savoir. J’aurai à ce moment la version française fin prête.

Chers Membres, Volontaires, Amis de l'AHDH et d’Haïti,

Jouissez du repos bien mérité du guerrier, détendons nous avec la famille et les amis, en cette fin d’année et préparons nos énergies pour une année 2020, qui très certainement bénéficiera de SA Grace et la protection de notre mission.

Alors, à nos marques, préparons-nous pour une autre année regorgeant de SES bienfaits, 2020, pavée de services aux moins fortunés, aux plus vulnérables de nos frères (Mat. 25:35)

Et souvenons-nous combien privilégiés, nous sommes, d’être impliqués dans Ses œuvres (Albert Schweitzer)

Merci à tous.

Encore une fois, à vous tous et les vôtres,

Joyeux Noël

Joyeux Hanukkah

Joyeux Kwanza

Joyeux Ramada

Bonne et Heureuse Année 2020

Et surtout…

Priez pour plus de PAIX SUR notre fragile planète TERRE !!
Cordialement,

Charles

(Charles René, M.D.; F.A.C.O.G.
Clinical Part-Time Associate Professor, Ob-Gyn Dept., Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
Co-fondateur, Ex-President,
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Prière visionner notre récent vidéo reportage en collant, sur google:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nBf86vMwtBgvsiZFMced3OoBblBY8pNk/view?usp=drive_web