New Orléans, LA

April 8, 2020

Dear Members, Volunteers & Friends of AHDH & Haiti:

We hope that you are doing well and staying safe during these difficult and challenging COVIC19 times.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of AHDH, I wanted to take a moment to share with you our brief

**AHDH's Mission Report: Winter 2020, #76**

It has been a challenge to realize that a month has already passed since we returned from Haiti, as immersed as we have found ourselves since, in that global crisis, with such a deep meaning for the future of our civilization, as some even see the sunset (crépuscule) of a worldwide failing system, if not era, where “things” are prioritized over “l’homo”.

AHDH’s members and volunteers (*pictured below, the night before Team-1’s return*), once more have proven that a better world, made of humility, fraternity, love for all the journeyers on this fragile vessel, Mother-Earth, have defined once more their option: **Hat down to each one of you!**

By the time Team-2 was leaving, on March 7, most of our objectives were covered (*see below*), most as we were still struggling to find avenues to refer that 20 months old girl affected by CAH (*congenital adrenal hyperplasia*), threatened anytime by severe electrolytes disturbances (*hyponatremia*) and that menopausal sister
with abnormal bleeding, we expeditiously diagnosed, with an urgent EMB (endometrial biopsy,) confirming her endometrial cancer (hat down again to our colleague Pathologist, Dr. Claude L.). As planned, we made it there on **February 21**, and by the time we closed shop, on Saturday March 7, with the unsurpassable, solidly motivated **37 souls** (24 who travelled from US and 13 local practitioners, from Port-Au-Prince and Jacmel), we were able to cover most of our usual territory: First off, we were finally able to start using some space of our **75% finished Outpatient Clinics**, mostly so by the **eye team**:  

Drs Benjil E. (below left, blue top), “**Senior Angel**” and Nicole V-M, “**Archangel**”, translating and Carine S.,RN grad

Which, right away boosted up the attendance and surgeries, with ensuing amazing stats(below):

**Eyes (Ophthalmology)**:
A great milestone was recorded: The Outpatient Clinics, with the **first floor** at 75% completion, was easily used by the ophthalmologists, progress which opened right away the avenue for more performance in **processing** the crowd expecting our services at our 3 sites: Ridore, Cayes-Jacmel and La Montagne:

- We saw **730** patients in our eye clinics
- We gave out approximately **500** glasses.
- We did **126** surgeries, predominantly cataract, which broke our own record (**89, last mission**)
With the easy to guess satisfaction of such precious dedicated souls (below):


While the regular crowd was also at the rendez-vous:
So were the other specialists:

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

From left: Drs. Angela H.A; Ben K.; Michele I-G; and Anisa S-P, met the needs of the crowds with their usual “agape”, at all 3 sites (Hopital St Joseph, La Montagne Clinic and CME-Cayes-Jacmel)

Assisted by AHDH’s RN graduates, below left, Ms. Jeanne D., blue top, and Victoire P., yellow top; while former expatriate, Denise P., helping with translation for Dr.Anisa S.P, below right
As optometrist, Lynn M. A. made the best use of the La Montagne Clinic environment, like leader, Dr. Michelle I-G, below, 2nd row, riding local transportation and with our RN graduates.

Above, Angela A.H. MD, “Senior Angel”, one of the key leader of the Ohio team, assisted by Mrs. Yolande P.B. (above right) religiously assisting with translation.

**ENT (ORL)**

Once more, after a long hiatus, our dear ENT specialist could make it back: Dr. Phoebe J., had her own crowd waiting for her:
Main OR & Pre-Op & Recovery Room: General surgeries: 24, Gyn. surgeries: 2

Once more we were blessed with a strong staff of surgeons, anesthesiologist, CRNs and RNs, all “Senior Angels”:
Djhonn S.C, MD, Victor K. MD, and Louis P., MD, all 3 in practice in Jacmel, you may be familiar with by now (we apologize for not having any picture of them in action this time). They help us serve our less fortunate with all their heart.
We welcomed back, Dr. Fadhia M. anesthesiologist, who had 2 surprises for us: A uterine fundus of 20 weeks and her husband with a very needed skill, expert in Bio-Tech, Mr. James J.M. who lost no time to team up with our “Oficial Bio-Med Tech”, Mr. Leonard V. (below right) you already met in our recent mission reports.

As our faithful, reliable CRNAs were at the rendez-vous also: Nadeige D. (flower top), Stephanie P (next to her), and Ruchama D. (below right purple top) busy in the Pre-op
As our RN graduates Jeanne D. (below, left, green top) and Victoire P. (blue cap), and Narline J. (below right, green cap) are pitching in the mission effort, as a payback for AHDH's scholarship

While our Senior Angels, Sandra B-R., RN (below left) and Diane L-C, RN, (below right, gray top), once more responded to the call, 28th year for the former, 19th for the later: They deserve to become “Archangel”:

Others to mention: After a long hiatus, we welcomed back to the mission Jeanette J.P, RN, (NY) (below left, brown top), who introduced her home village’s (Gandou) Pastor and leader of a group from Indiana who are supporting them and all the tests and surgeries their patients received from Hopital St. Joseph
Also, to mention hospital staff: RN-Assistant staff: Emma B (below right, left), Marie Paule B (purple top)
**OB_GYN:** Tens of patients were seen, with large number of Ob, *(with Ultrasound, NST, fetal monitoring)* and Gyn with 11 Pap; 1 EMB alluded above with endometrial ca; 2 colpo-biopsies.

**Bio-Med and Electrical Engineering:**

Once more we were blessed with the support of Georges L. who id beyond introduction. As a matter of fact don’t share that with him (shuttttttt), the new workshop in the Outpatient Clinics must be named in his honor. And he loves company: below right with our gift from above, Bio-Med Tech, Leonard V.

Then a big surprise in the workshop: Our anesthesiologist, our beloved Fadhia M., MD, surprised us with a gift, her husband, Bio-Med Tech, Mr. James J.M. It didn’t take long for them to team up as they are enforcing their commitment to AHDH. It was just a delight to see the next generation assuming its role along AHDH’s deams.
And a special note of gratitude is in order to the Mayor, **Mme. Marie Yolaine Philippeaux**, who deployed extraordinary efforts to make sure we had a second working generator available (*below left*), to perform our surgical procedures, as all our 3 ORs were expected and were busy. Also a big thanks to Mr. Toussaint who was as of big assistance.
Also a word of gratitude also to our multitalented helper...medical records, coordination, our untiring Claude V. (*below right*):

And we had the pleasure of welcoming a promised visit for years by some high school classmates, living in Montreal, bringing their support to their home village, Lomon, near Fond des Blans, as they are looking for inspiration from our experience in La Vallee de Jacmel:

Below left: The four Prosper brothers, first and second and 6th and 7th, and a friend of them, 3rd from left, and CODEVA’s Treasurer, Mr. Joseph P. (white envelope in hand).

As Knox took the opportunity to pay a special visit to Dr. Nicole V.M. (*below right*) also a high school classmate he has not seen for more than 50 years: A blessed day in their life.

And there was ample time to relax, enjoy the pure, fresh air, at **2400 feet above sea level**, by Dr. Nicole V.M’s (*below*)
And at the Auberge du Mont St. Jean, below:
“Junior Angels”:
We could not but take notice of the high number of Junior Angels who have joined Mission #76 (1st trip you come with a senior angel, to find out about AHDH’s 34 years of missions, then you return a second time to confirm that this is really true, this is “your” mission, then by the 3rd time you know all about AHDH. And ready to be inducted and become a Senior Angel)

They remarkably confortable, and busy wherever the leaders indicated to them. For some, a little bit easier (Issaah, below left with his “Archangel” father, Carl V.

A word of caution: Don’t anticipate “senior angel is of and “age certain”: Below left, Susan L., 1st from left, came with RN mom several times, and now coming by herself, for years, now bringing buddies: Vanessa S.V, center, and Jennifer P, (EMT). Actually more than 1/3 of Team-I was “Juniors” and very pleasant (below right)

And quickly integrated (Ben K., MD) by Senior colleagues: Anisa S. (left) and Angie A-H- Sometimes a Senior disappears from the radar and suddenly come for his/her “AHDH’s” fix; Jeanette J.P., RN, below right is back and having fun
**Outpatient Clinics status:**

As mentioned above (see page 2), we were able to use part of the first floor, still with 25% of that floor to complete, and we were able to so efficiently serve our eye patients, this gave us a sense of how much more we can do in all the specialties in the near future, we hope, as despite our best efforts finding additional funds remains a challenge.

If you can help, please, join our 34 years efforts at Hopital St. Joseph. It is hard, but we must have been chosen vessels for that effort in the Commune of La Vallée, and we will not give up until, like the CODEVA’s moto

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<tr>
<th>Do all the good you can</th>
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<td>Every time you can</td>
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<td>Every way you can</td>
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<tr>
<td>For as many people as you can</td>
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<td>Everywhere you can</td>
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<td>Until you can not anymore.</td>
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And, “**Remember there is no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates ripple effect with no logical end**”.

You are no more just ordinary people, when you are doing such extraordinary things!!

**Mission Support Angels (MSA):** Our new category of “Angels” who can’t make it for the mission but dedicate so much effort to its success…medical supplies and equipment, financial support for our meal voucher program, CRNA’s (nurse anesthetist) stipends. We take great pleasure (and pride) for your friendship. A few to mention:

1. **Alcon:** Our ophthalmology performance (hundreds of cataract surgeries) would not have been possible without you. Thank you so much.
2. **Patio’s Drugs**
3. **Blessings International** who offered us special discount for our medicines
   4. Nicole V.M., MD
   5. Angela A-H, MD
   6. Diane L. RN, Book Club
   7. Claire M., RN
   8. AND so many more, for their **prayers and good wishes**

And to ALL of you, **praiseworthy volunteers**, thank you for your extraordinary accomplishments. We know you had to sacrifice a lot to be with us –vacation, family obligations, financial resources, you name it - but it is so heartwarming to see that you chose the **Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable** - enhancing a little bit more solidarity across our little fragile blue planet.
There are no words to thank you. And I am sure you all know HE/SHE is taking ample note of your acts (James 2:20 and Mat. 25:14 on) and His /HER blessings will be visiting you – but most of the time in very subtle ways.

Un grand merci encore à tous !!

Très Cordialement,

Charles
(Charles René, M.D., F.A.C.O.G
Co-Founder, Treasurer, Director of Projects in Haiti
Association Haïtienne de Développement Humain,Inc.)

www.haitiahdh.org
chasrene46@bellsouth.net

P.S: Summer 2020 Medical Mission, # 77: June 19 – July 4: Cancelled

By now, after following the evolution of the COVID-19 crisis, regrettably, we have come to the final decision to cancel officially the summer mission. But, if airline transportation were to become available, a few of us, more familiar with the terrain, will consider going like we did last June (2019)

Version française

La Nouvelle-Orléans,
Le 8 Avril 2020

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

Un gros Bonjour !


Beaucoup de défis mais on s'en est sorti. Plus d’un ont été soulagés !!

Difficile de trouver un mot qui puisse englober l’entièreté de cette dernière tournée médicale: Tant de talents, de bienfaits, d’humanisme, de défis, tout a contribué à en faire une autre mission de très mémorable.

A partir de ce paragraphe, vu les difficultés techniques à insérer toutes les photos déjà présentées ci-dessus, on va compter sur l’indulgence des rares lecteurs qui ont des difficultés avec l’anglais, de nous faire signe pour la traduction française.

Cordialement,

Charles
Gallery of Photos:

All the photos illustrating this report are the contribution, besides all the other functions he fulfilled during the mission, of Mr. Carl V., an untiring “Senior Angel”

Thanks a million again

He loves his job so much, he brought his son, Issah: who is as charming and a hard worker as his dad (See page 11, above)

EYE TEAM IN ACTION AND RELAXING
AHDH’S new friends: Imagine them in 15 years

BUSY BUDDIES
NEW FRIENDSHIP IN THE BEST ENVIRONMENT IMAGINABLE

SUPPORTING YOUNG LOCAL ENTREPREUNER (CAFÉ LUX)
PLANNING THE FUTURE (not authorized to say more)

Busy “Junior Angels”

Some “Senior Angels” are just unbeatable.

Carine S., one of our 14 RN graduates, educated at Universite Notre Dame, Jacmel Campus, paying back