Dear Members, Volunteers & Friends of AHDH & Haiti:

On behalf of the Executive Committee of AHDH, Inc., we take, once more, an immense pleasure to share with you our latest mission report, AHDH’s Summer 2018 Medical & Educational Mission Report, our 72nd since 1986, which took place from June 22 thru July 10, 2018.

So much blessing! Once more! How privileged we are to be busy in HIS/HER fields:

Seventy seven (77) had their sight recovered (cataract), hundreds corrected, (glasses), two (2) turbulent fetuses surgically evacuated from a dangerous womb environment (a single footling and a prior c/section in active labor with pre-ruptured uterus), tens of hernias/hydroceles, hundreds of HBP, DM, pediatrics..

Where else would we wish we were… but in such illustrious company?

You may miss the halo around their heads (except Richie, 1.1/2 year old, yellow top, our younger volunteer ever), but I don’t: In the midst of angels with a clear message:

Let’s care for others together!

Below, see partial gathering, out of the 40 (34 from US, 6 local practitioners) who responded to the call. Such a mosaic of good-doers:

1st row: from left: Orson A. MD; Barbara E., RN; Sarah A., Pharm D. with baby Richie.; Michelle I-G., MD; Catherine N. student; Sophie D-A., DDS; Jackie L. Pharm; Sandra B-R. RN; Charles R. MD,

2nd row: Suzan J.MD; Rickie J., Business, philanthropist.

3rd row: Abebba A., Pharm. student; Clarence S. premed; Mikayla J. senior Pharm. Student.; Gabriella A ,senior Pharm.; Suzan L., student.; Ashley R. EMT; Sophia A. student. 4th row: Anika M. MD; Tiffani J., Opto.;Kichi A, MD; Shobit R. MD; Justin D. Medical Equip. Rep.; Jeff A. and baby Robbie; Julien G., student; Phillip V, Senior Pharm.; Amir Z., Senior Pharm; Chayl J.,Chef;
Today, we are again very tempted to use the chronological (diary) order, to give you the benefit of a concrete take on the mission. **You be the judge.**

All we want is sharing with you the AHDH experience; some of us are privileged to have been part of, who for the last 32 years, some for the last 27 years… the last 16 years etc...

**Friday, June 22:** 30 of us landed in PAP (*Toussaint Louverture Airport*, 4 already in the country, waiting). A quick hop to Guy Malary terminal (below left), a 15 minutes flight with MAF (*Thanks, Benita, Gary...*), we are in Jacmel, *with its beautiful bay and new terminal.*
…, where our vans are waiting (Thanks Claude, Elie et Fanfan), and a pleasant 40 minutes drive up in the mountains (13 miles west of Jacmel), we are in the fresh La Vallée de Jacmel.

A delicious (non-GMO guaranteed) diner & a relaxing night at Auberge du Mont St. Jean, ready.

**Saturday morning.** time to don jeans, tennis shoes, and take over the different clinics and operating room of the hospital to prepare for the upcoming Monday to Friday surgeries, clinics etc. Eye team (below), under the leadership of Anika, *(below, right, orange scrub)* and “Senior angel” Yvrose in charge of “glasses shop” *(below, 2nd row)*…
As a team, led by Weber P.Ls., Cyto. "Senior Angel" (below), was dispatched to CME.
..in Cayes-Jacmel (under the leadership of a strong supporter of our mission, Dr. Louis P.), for Ophthalmology screening and recruitment of cases for surgery Monday: Kichi A.MD, (below left, we are so elated to have back); Tiffani J. Opto. D,(below, right); while Xavier U. Pharm students have a chance to be trained in non-pharm area (below, 2nd row: left, Gabriella A, on left, Mikayla J., orange top)

Main OR: Under the leadership of “Senior Angel” (27th year), Sandra B.R., RN, on her 51st
trip, since 1991 (see group photo, pg.1, 1st row, white pants; joined by Scrub Tech, Ruchama D., CRNAs Nadeige D., Stephanie P. and Fadjia M., MD, anesthesio.

Recovery Room: Under the leadership of Amelia B., RN, (below gray top) getting ready also.

Pharmacy: Blessed with 2 “Senior Angels” pharmacists (Sarah A. PhD, below left, supervisor of the Xavier University students), and Jackie L. Ph., (below, 2nd row, brown top, obviously thrilled to be back, for her 4th mission); and 4 senior Pharm. Students from Xavier University (Gabriella and Mikayla introduced above; and below right: Zaki A., on left, dark top, and Phillip V., right, blue top), all busy, convering diverse areas, but more importantly acquiring a concrete sense of being a pharmacist and a humanitarian)
Whereas, Internal medicine, Ob-Gyn, General Surgery, Ultrasound, Dentistry were also busy setting up for Monday.

**Sunday, June 24**, was the Feast of St. John the Baptist Church, *(which is the reason for organizing the summer trips around June 24)*, celebrating its **108 years** anniversary,*(please, refer to our Summer 2014 Mission Report for the first mass of the 1st Cardinal ever in Haiti, a son of the village)*, a strong mover for progress since, in this small mountain county of La Vallee de Jacmel *(if any interest, ask us about L’Apostolat en Haiti, Journal d’un missionaire, by Rev. Leon Bonnau, in french, the first Pastor (1910-1926), and FondalNatal, Lavale Jacmel, by Francois Nau, in creole, another son of the village)*

And this year, we had the privilege to hear an extraordinary sermon delivered by the Bishop of Jacmel, Bishop Saturné, regarding the general situation of the country, which apparently resonated all the way to the Vatican, as he has been since promoted to a higher position in Cap Haitien.

**Monday June 25, thru Friday 29**: All Hopital St. Joseph’s doors are open to serve the county’s less fortunate, and beyond the boundaries of that county, as Jacmel, Bainet, PAP have found out about AHDH’s presence, and more and more are showing up:
**Eyes (Ophthalmology):**

We had a total of 4 ophthalmologists, 3 from the US, (Anika M., Shobit R., 2nd trip, Kichi A., 2nd trip), and one practicing in Haiti, Dr. Ritza E-C, a “senior angel”, since the early 2000’s; 1 optometrist (Tiffani J., above, pg. 5) and tons of assistance, be it a young “Senior Angel” student like **Suzanne L.** *(below right, assisting Shobit S. MD)*, the pharmacy students trained to perform elementary tasks, lawyer enjoying leaving behind the courthouse (Raffie), Medical equipment Rep. (Justin). And the results, in just one week, are just extraordinary: 2 concurrent surgeries, *(below left)*; 2nd row: Kichi A. *(left)*, **Ritza E-C**, *(below right)*: 77 cataract surgeries were performed despite difficulty with one working phaco machine and electricity stops and starts: We definitely need soon **another generator**.
And the combo of pride of a job well done and the satisfaction of serving the less fortunate, and being served, shine obviously on everybody’s face (below right, considering pre-med, Abebba A.)
**General Surgery:** 22 cases: Debilitating hernias, Hydroceles, Breast mass

While in the **Main OR**, “Senior Angel” surgeon, Roger B. was ready, but, painfully so all by himself, except for a brief relief by our friend, local practitioner, Dr. Djhoff S-C., on Tuesday. It was really challenging.

But, 22 surgeries took place including a large breast mass that raised our concern until the stat pathology report came and proved it was benign. Thanks again **Dr. Claude L.** for your extraordinary support to AHDH’s efforts over the last 12 plus years.

But Dr. B. didn’t wait to be busy doing what he is passionate about: Teaching, motivating the next generation (*below left and center with Julien*, a “junior angel” but with strong connection to AHDH, *see pg.19*).

Besides having a tête-à-tête with Claude V. (*below right, on left*), our veteran translator and archives support person.

We pray more general surgeons will join us next time, as there are plenty cases around, which means a **lot of sufferings to relieve.**

---

**INTERNAL MEDICINE, PEDIATRICS:**

We were blessed once more to have back **Orson A., MD, (below blue top)**, Michelle I-G., MD (*see her also “La Montagne Clinic”); **Nicole V.M. MD (Pediatrics)** and 2 interns fulfilling their “Social Services” commitments, Drs. Jacquet et Desvarieux, but the crowd was really a challenge (*see photos below*). But, everybody managed at their best.
With our RN students now ready to pay back for the AHDH’s scholarship, this was tremendously helpful. They were everywhere needed (see pg. 15). We can but pray for more laborers, as the harvest is plentiful (Mat. 9:27).

OB-GYN:
We were once more blessed to have our colleague (in practice in New Orleans), Susan J. MD, who brought along her usual best stamina to the mission. We were able to cover all the patients’ in need of Pap Smear (49), E.M.Biopsie: 2, and provide follow up to those from the winter mission in need of colposcopy, biopsy. Once more, she enjoyed every bit of the challenges we were facing: Below, left, the emergency c/section due to “single footling presentation”, the other one, below right, being the pre-uterine rupture in an active labor patient with unknown uterine scar from previous c/section. We certainly rejoiced for successfully removing those 2 newborns from the dismal neonatal mortality stats still afflicting the health system here. So it seems for our XU Pharm. students (below, 2nd row)
Our cervical dysplasia/cancer program went full blast, and we are privileged to say that cervical cancer is definitely a rarity in the county of La Vallée de Jacmel, fruit of 20 plus years of AHDH’s detection program and treatment. But, more reach-out is in order as every now and then a case from some distant village shows up. (see radio program below we just started)

DENTISTRY:

We were once more blessed by the contribution of Dr. Sophie D-A, some of you may be familiar with, who made Pediatrics Dentistry once more a reality during this mission. As usual, she covered several sites: At the Hopital St Jean Joseph of course (below, 2nd row, left, with Mr. Rickie J., a strong supporter of AHDH for years, see also CHEF, pg. 17); at our “new frontier”, the La Montagne Clinics (below, left, first from left, and right with young patient), or promoting dental education at Radio St. Jean interview (2nd row, right photo, first from left), trying her best to reach out to as many of those 60,000 souls living in that county as possible. We will take the opportunity to thanks again Marie Jo R. (right end of same photo), for keeping the airwave filled with good education for better health for all.
PHARMACY:
We were also very blessed with a large pharm team. Life has been so easy for internists, Ob-Gyn etc., once the XU team and Jackie L. took over the AHDH’s pharmacy and have all in place. We were just to express our needs of medicines and supplies were matched. But, as you noticed above, the pharm students were busy everywhere they could be of service. Sometimes you may have to tract down also the bosses, busy wherever they are needed: (below, Dr. Sarah A. assisting in preparing the eye pre-op. patients), while on the right below student Gabriela A, providing IV medication to patient; Besides revamping the database of Rx.

LA MONTAGNE clinic:
This summer brings the 3 years anniversary of a phone call we received in New Orleans by the editor, from a classmate back in med. school, lost contact with for decades. As I didn’t recognize the number, the caller identified herself, but didn’t want to talk, just to be told when the next mission trip was going to be. “I am calling from La Vallee where I am visiting and want to tell you I am not going to miss any of the 3 mission trips a year”. A big promise, everyone will agree, but a promise more than well kept: Dr. Michelle I-G, is pushing the frontiers of AHDH, as she discovered that a very good friend of hers, Ms. Olga L.J. has retired in La Montagne and struggling to offer some health care to that community. (See also pg. 13, Dentistry). And Dr. Michelle I-G was ready to brave the odds: below center on motorcycle. With the best support possible from best friend, Weber P. Ls (below right)
So much progress made. Tuesday is from now on **La Montagne Clinic Day** in AHDH’s agenda. A very significant landmark toward preserving the patients’ dignity took place: They are now welcome the night before, at the small Hotel PRAG, at the entrance of the village: 10 patients were hosted Sunday (**no more sleeping in the hospital yard waiting for surgery the next day**), had their surgery Monday, went back home and had follow up on Tuesday (below):

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of you, quite a few of you our med. school classmates, who unhesitantly, very generously supported Dr. Michelle I-G., starting with her own children and relatives, a very strong testimony of the trust in her dreams to make a difference in our beloved Haiti. You bet I am a strong believer too.

**ENGINEERS:**

But, all the above is barely conceivable without electricity, and as some of you come to expect it, a **10 year veteran** “Senior Angel” of AHDH’s mission, Engineer Georges L. was once more with us with the same dedication. (**who can go as far as let himself caught in a spaghetti of electrical wires, below left**), while having a good time with Jeff A ., Civil Engineer, enjoying once more to be of assistance to Georges’ task. As well as Jacques L., a native son who doesn’t spare any effort when he is visiting from Atlanta, if he is not busy translating for Chef Chayl J. (see page 18, below)

We realize, after 12 years, a **new unit** is in order, and we are trying our best. **Please, those who can, help.** Help us keep the mission going. We already have an **estimate (pro format):** $10,000. No word can ever thank you enough, Georges.
Mille Mercis Georges for every drop of love to the mission throughout those years.
AHDH’s RN Graduates and Managements students:

As you come to expect, our 14 RN students all graduated with high marks at the Universite Notre D’Haiti, Jacmel Campus, 2 years ago. They are making their way into the healthcare system, but the majority is facing the challenge of the State Licensing exam, that came recently under scrutinty, with allegations of malfeasance, then protest, which took another turn this past week, with Department of Education being accused when barely 30% of candidates made it.

Below left, Narline F., right, interacting with volunteer Abebba; below right: Victoire P. center, blue top.

And it was opportunity for a reunion of some sort: Rickie J. and son, Chayl J (see Chef, pg.18), sharing photo with graduated RN “godchild”, Rosena N.
As our 3 Management and Accountant students busy with their classes, about to face soon their Junior year, thanks to Rickie J. and Nilam P., D.O..

**OUTPATIENT CLINICS CONSTRUCTIONS UPDATE:**
As a reminder, since 1987 AHDH has entered in a special partnership with the CODEVA (COûde à Coude pour le DÉveloppement VAIlleen), a strong, visionary, progressive community organization we trusted since then, specifically to stand by them in the implementation of their dream of bringing their humble dispensary to the level of a medical center.
In recent years, there was some lackadaisy in the running of the organisation. After some open criticism during our winter mission, we were very pleased to see a new, dynamic, efficient executive committee elected this past May: Below: Left to right: the Editor; former Mayor, Mr. Ivrance J., VP; Mr. Wilner B, Coordonnator; former high school principal, Mr. Benoit P., President; Businee owner Mr. Joseph T. P, Treasurer and Mrs. Marie Rose P., Secretary.

And we can appreciate the new impetus: below left, the Clinics by the time we were leaving in early July, and below right, by last week, the 2nd floor slab ready to go.

Again the main AHDH project, for which we’re **still searching 1/5 of the funds necessary. Please, help us make it to the finish line. Merci**
Celebrating birthdays: AHDH always believes we should honor those who choose to honor our mission, even on their birthdays. This time, we had Barbara E. RN, below left, red top and Gabriella A., Senior Pharm, guided by Proctor Dr. Sarah A: Happy Birthday again Barbara and Gabriella.

A CHEF in OUR Midst: Chayl J.

Those who read our Mission Reports are familiar with the Financial Advisor, Philanthropist Rickie J. who has been very much supportive of our mission, at all levels (1/3 of our RN students, and now 2 of our 3 Management students, the Outpatients Clinics constructions etc.), as he has volunteered several times before. With # 72, their son, Chayl, inspired also, volunteered to join, cooked for us and taught at the Vocational School, after just graduating from Culinary School of North Carolina, and ready to share: below, with black cap, helped by Jacques L. (see Engineers, above) for translation, the Director of the school, Mr. Jean Baptiste G., is on the right.
Now, some particular, memorable stories
1-Jeff, Sarah, Barbara and infants, the youngest volunteers ever
2-Julien: Volunteered before being conceived
3- Is the NY Lawyers board losing one of its smartest members?
4-Justin: from Ophthalmic equipment rep. to OR assistant
5-Hommage to one the elders we met in 1987

1-Jeff, Sarah, Barbara and infants, the youngest volunteers ever:

As some of you know, Sarah A. joined us 5 years ago, with a few of her Pharm. students; then husband, Engineer Jeff A. followed suite by the next trip, and fell also in love with La Vallée; looking for more permanent connection.. teaching.

Then came the babies: Robbie, first, but still made it the next trip, as grandMa is watching; then Rickie was on the way, they had to skip; then by the next mission, 2 babies: Solution: let’s bring grandma and babies, and…. you have a plane full. Of charming souls. A heartful!
2-Julien: Voluntered before being conceived?

Who beat whom, the Amerings or the Guillorys?

Summer 1998. 20 years ago, Monique G., then a young Tulane post-grad student, doctoring in English, approached us in New Orleans, asking to join our summer mission. Why not? We were then a few per mission, without hospitality infrastructures, using retirement residence of expats still living in the States and very willing to pitch in. She came and the rest is history:

She was the only human resource and I wanted to perform our first tubal ligation. Under the complicit watch of the Quebecoise’s nuns then in charge of the hospital. Few Sunday later, the New Orleans Times Picayune was featuring AHDH.

And calls came from all over, and the mission will never be the same since.

And today, Monique G.’s son, Julien is trying big time the footprint of mom. He is everywhere: Below, left with Dr. B; center, and right, assisting patients; and you guess right: Medicine is under his consideration.
3- A successful NY lawyer about ready to switch career? Raffaele B., JD

The daughter of Roger B., MD, and Amelia B. RN, Raffie B. volunteered once before as her parents, as the MD sister and MD brother have been coming also since 2010. With this trip, it seems there are closer interactions with patients in different specialties. Just wondered. Welcome mat ready for the last non-MD/RN of the house.

4-JustinD.: from Ophthalmo. equiments rep. to OR assistant and ?

Justin D. has been visiting Anika M., MD’s office for surgical equipments/supplies, and, learning about the upcoming summer mission, expressed interest to join. He has been one of the most ubiquitous volunteers, getting along easily (below with XU’s Pharm. Students), a precocious “Senior Angel”. We want Justin back…we want Justin back..we want him back…
HOMMAGE TO AN ELDER WE WERE PRIVILEGED TO CULTIVATE FOR 31 YEARS:

With a septuagenarian editor, it is hard to resist sharing with you, what he has witnessed over the last 30 plus years, and not invite to some retrospectives. One of the first Elders we met in 1987, when we first came to La Vallee in quest of a place worthy to implement the dreams we were entertaining in New Orleans and San Diego for the motherland, away from the demographically irremediably doomed capital of Port-Au-Prince, affectionately called “Professeur Aubies”, we came to adopt him and be adopted by his charm, his humanism, like a parent we just did not meet before. It didn’t take long to realize that such a giant should have a scholarship at the Public High School name after him, dedicated to the less fortunate students. Below Carolle J-M-, MD, blue scrub, took the leadership in securing a permanent fund, and is delivered the check by AHDH’s President then in 2001, Yvelyne G.M., PhD, as the school principal then, Mr. Michel Z., (with tie), looks on. He continued his beautiful journey until this past February, when peacefully, at home, at the tender age of 92 he TRANSITED to the other level:

Lastly, his spirit lives on, one of those pioneers, along his brother, Leon F., (above, right photo, on left, and center, late Arthur L., on his 100th birthday, a few years ago) who brought to Haiti and La Vallee in 1946, the concept of Credit Union, we would like to congratulate a young entrepreneur, Mr. Remy Telfils, Agronomist, who visited us at the hotel and introduced his brand new product, Café Lux, produced in the area (Sud-Est of Haiti). Generations come generations go, and leave a legacy,
It is such a blessed privilege to witness great dreams unfolding. Like the other one said, with other words, it is already a success to be close to the mountain top, even if we don’t quite make it to the Promised Land. Such positive energy can but open up better days for the future generations, as best as we can read history of humanity.

**Mission Support Angels: MSA:** Our category of “Angels” of those 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- **Plenty International,** religiously takes charge of a good bit of our medicines bill, usually via
3- **Blessings International** who offered us once more a special discount.
4- Nicole V.M., MD.
5- Mireille P-E. MD
6- Patio’s Drugs
7- Sandra B-R., RN
8- Fritz and Marlene A., MD
9-Haiti Mission/Thibodaux
10-Jacques L.
11-AND so many more, for your 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* is taking ample note of your acts (*James 2:20 and Mat. 25:14 on*) and His blessings will be visiting you – but most of the time in very subtle ways.

**Un gros 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.AHDHhaiti.org](http://www.AHDHhaiti.org)
[chasrene46@bellsouth.net](mailto:chasrene46@bellsouth.net)
P.S: FALL 2018 Medical Mission, # 73: November 10–24, 2018 (10-17: Team-1; 17-24: Team-2)

Please, **HURRY**, send us a note **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**, even if you already mentioned your interest before.

Please, help us get better, and better organized by registering early. Thank you for your understanding.

============================================================

**Version francaise**

La Nouvelle-Orléans,

Le 30 juillet 2018

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

Un gros Bonjour !


**INEFFABILISIMO !!** (Plus qu’Ineffable!)

Difficile de trouver un mot qui puisse englober l’entièreté de cette dernière tournée médicale: Tant de talents, de bienfaits, d’humanisme, 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 difficultes avec l’anglais, de nous faire signe pour la traduction française.

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.AHDHhaiti.org
chasrene46@bellsouth.net)
Gallery of Photos:
Thanks a million Weber, Jeff, Justin, Chayl, Rickie and Julien

Mom and daughter: Dr. Ritza E-C, and Rejeanne: First step toward a vocation?

Délices du Cap Lamandou
Developing new bonds: N.O practitioner and XU next door

Pre-med or already there?
Suzan LeR. Getting closer to her dream?

Welcoming visitors
Loving my job, Shobit R.

Catherine N. just loves ophthalmo. To be watched
microscopic eye

EMT in front of a big E
Great eye team
Welcome back, Dr. Kichi A.
Roger B., MD, busy

XU’s student with local students

Happy mom and son
How to be cool

and cooler
Tiffany J. DO, works anywhere there a spot

A leader needs also a pause, Dr. Michelle I-G.
Patiently waitin at La Montagne Clinic

Glasses are available

Abeeba A. student, on her way to greatness
A PhD, gets to where she is needed

Acculturation, for a first time visitor
What a blessing from med school to here

Rickie everywhere you need him

Birthday candles