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**At the center of community life in Bwa Nèf sit the schools**

*(Not counting The Lamp!)*

**They fill the narrow lanes and cement block neighborhoods with the bright colors of school uniforms, books and happy chatter.**

**They are tremendously valued** – every child wants to go to school (if only they could), every parent supports them. All schools in Bwa Nèf are private businesses, but school owners and principals are the most community-oriented leaders in the neighborhood. They know that a healthy productive community means that more children will come to school, with the fees to support them. Schools

Lamp supporter Patrick O'Neill, during a recent visit to a Bwa Nèf school.

(continued inside)



**NEW WAYS TO HELP**

If you use Amazon for shopping, use Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com) instead. Amazon Smile is identical to Amazon's main site but it gives the charity of your choice 0.5% of every purchase that you make. Lamp for Haiti is registered with Amazon Smile as The Lamp Foundation (our official name!)

A similar donate-while-you-shop site is called iGive (www.igive.com). On iGive, each vendor sets its own donation level but the average donation percentage is 3%. Select "Lamp for Haiti" as your charity!

**TO DONATE:**

Send a check to:  
Lamp for Haiti  
PO Box 39703  
Philadelphia PA 19106  
Or click on the Donate Button at the website  
www.lampforhaiti.org

**WINTER 2016**

**SOLAR POWER IN CITÉ SOLEIL**

*Cité Soleil means City of the Sun so it is only fitting that the Lamp clinic should take advantage of that Power.*



Construction of the "battery room" and wiring hub

The Lamp for Haiti Health Center (in Cité Soleil) is now officially using solar power! It has, in fact, taken a lot longer than anticipated but we have persevered and the result is something marvelous to behold (and listen to, and smell!) Electricity from the City grid has been exceptionally hard to come by over the last year. We have had to use our generator at some point almost every day, and the noise, fumes and gasoline costs have been hard to bear. Reducing our negative impact on the environment, both by reducing use of fossil fuel and by reducing noise and air pollution is something that we are very proud to achieve!

The solar panel array



The positive impact on the environment would have made the system worthwhile by itself, but there are many additional benefits to solar power. Key among these is the availability of smooth reliable power, 24 hours a day. This means that the disruption to services caused by fluctuating availability and fluctuating voltage of City power has been completely eliminated. Also, the onerous task of keeping our generators fueled and functioning has now become a very secondary concern. During extended periods of cloudy weather it is possible that the solar panels may not fully charge the batteries but our system also allows direct charging from City power. We hope, therefore, to avoid use of the generators entirely!

The availability of 24 hour electricity also allows us to contemplate entirely new services such as the provision of vaccinations and other medicine that require constant refrigeration. Our ability to maintain a constant internet connection, for such things as partnerships with US and Haitian medical partners and more effective back-ups of EMR and x-ray data, is now much enhanced. Things are definitely looking up in Cité Soleil!

# LAMP for HAITI NEWS

The pharmacy you see pictured was once a leaky tin-roofed house, used for seating patients, where we originally conducted triage and public education sessions. The building has been expanded and the tin roof replaced with concrete. Tile floors and new shelving complete the picture. The front room – through the green door – now contains a sparkling new, and private, triage room. (These days, patients sit outside under two roofed seating areas.)

**THE NEW PHARMACY!** Youseline Saillant RN, Pharmacist  
Astrude Tabois-Cange, and Louimise Saint-Fleur, RN



Jim Morgan MD at the mic. The stage featured a replica Bwa Nèf home that housed a slide show produced by Brother Octavio Duran, who had accompanied Jim on a visit to the clinic earlier this year. Brother Duran also produced a video that was shown at the event and can be viewed on the Lamp website.

November 11th saw our annual fundraiser take place at the beautiful Women's Club in Upper Montclair, New Jersey. A huge crew of volunteers, led by Ellen Cunningham (dermatologist turned event organizer!) – did a tremendous amount of work to make sure that it was a booming success!



The event guest speaker was Robert (Boby) Duval, the Director of Haiti Athletics, an organization that runs a large soccer program for youth in Cité Soleil. Boby spoke about his life's path toward humanitarian social endeavors and his decision to join the board of the Lamp.

## Hurricane Matthew struck Haiti in early October

causing one of the gravest humanitarian crises in many years. Currently it is estimated that over 1,000 people lost their lives and perhaps 150,000 are now homeless. The storm surge that accompanied the hurricane caused large portions of Cité Soleil to flood, but the Lamp's clinic was not damaged.

The clinic closed for three days due to high winds and heavy rain, but immediately thereafter we continued with our high volume health services. The homes of our driver and a former nurse were destroyed and we are engaged in a relief effort, consisting of construction materials and labor, for families in their village.



Flooding in Project Drouillard, a neighborhood just adjacent to Bwa Nèf



An excellent new partnership was formed with Direct Relief who has committed itself to at least four shipments of donated medicine per year. Of special note is the fact that these medicines are shipped to Haiti and taken through customs by Direct Relief itself.



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are the life blood of the community; if they close, as they did (though only for a week) earlier this year, community life comes to a standstill. They are the only public space in the community, outside of church.

The schools are often connected to the churches but, in a way, they are more important: if the schools close, families move out of the area. They are the one essential community institution.

The Lamp supports 25 children in these local schools. The children receive a school bag, a huge stack of required text books and school materials, a set of uniforms (required!), and all the relevant school fees. We work closely with the

principals to ensure that any child that needs tutoring or other assistance can get it. We can only support children that attend and that succeed, so our children are well motivated!

**But our school program needs assistance:** only half of our kids have sponsors! It costs \$380 to sponsor a child for a year. Please consider becoming a sponsor! You will receive a photo and some information about the child, their school and their family. You will have the satisfaction of giving a tremendously valuable, and valued, gift. Thanks to all current sponsors; your investment is paying off! These children are growing into some remarkable young people!

**These kids (among others!) need sponsors:** Schnaïda, Itsmylove, Misterlande, Davidson, and Sanon



## Ultra-Good News for the Women's Clinic!

The Lamp is thrilled to announce that we have received a portable ultrasound unit, donated from Abington Hospital – Jefferson Health, located just north of Philadelphia. An ultrasound unit has been at the top of our list of priority needs for the women's clinic for some time now so it is a tremendous and timely contribution on the part of Abington Hospital! In addition to its ability to monitor fetal health, an ultrasound device is able to diagnose a range of other



health conditions; it will be a terrific asset to the clinic as a whole. We must now explore training opportunities for our staff but there is no doubt that we will be using this unit for a long time to come!

Dr. Sévere examines a newborn infant



Pictured (left to right) are: Sabrina Harris (Senior Director, Diversity and Inclusion, Jefferson), Henry Reimer (Lamp ED), Jacqui Silverman, BSN, Pam Hawes (Lamp Treasurer), Bethany Perry, MD (Medical Director of the OB/GYN Clinic, Abington Hospital), Barbara Schneider, RN, and James Morgan MD (Lamp Founder and Chair of the Board)

Huge thanks to Abington Hospital for this vital contribution and special thanks to Jacqui Silverman for initiating this very valuable connection between the Lamp and Abington Hospital.