

LAMP HAITI

SHINING A LIGHT IN HAITI'S DARKEST PLACES

Winter 2013



A new building with two additional exam rooms gives us breathing room – and space for additional programs. To the right, board member Richard Evans discusses plans with one of the masons

The Lamp “campus” expands

Construction sites are always a sign that someone is banking on the future. Here in Cité Soleil that is a less-than-common thing. But the Lamp is showing its own faith and commitment to the community by expanding its main clinic in Bwa Nèf. The building is nearly completed and will contain two additional exam rooms. One of these rooms will become the new home of the Lamp’s (expanded) women’s health clinic, while the other (with its double thick walls, and so on) will double as an exam room and a (new) x-ray room. Although the Lamp must watch its expenses very carefully, these two initiatives will be supported by two

special donors and we thank them very much!

In keeping with the Lamp’s desire to provide as many local jobs as possible, the construction was done entirely by local labor including overall supervision, which was provided by chief mason Lamarre, pictured cutting rebar above. A training workshop for the local workers was also provided by the Port-au-Prince construction company that built our public toilet facility in 2010.

A very positive side effect of the construction was that it allowed us to reconfigure our “campus” for the better: the pile of rubble in the photo above is the remains of a stone

wall that separated our clinic (the green wall) from our lab (the wall to the left). Now all three buildings will be within one walled-off space, with an expanded, enclosed area for patients to wait. Very importantly, the new configuration also provides much-desired additional security for our staff.

The clinic has been transformed from a cluster of isolated buildings into a neatly integrated unit; from a cramped workspace into a spacious campus where staff can work with much enhanced collaboration.

Here’s to Bwa Nèf and its “new” health center!

Calling All Sponsors!

First of all, the Lamp would like to thank those supporters who responded so generously to a call to assist in the Lamp’s education program. Education is hugely valued by people in Bwa Nèf. It represents their hope for their children and their hope for a better future. Your support for a child’s education may well have an impact for generations of people in this community.

We still need, however, sponsors for ten more children – and even more would be better! The full cost to send a child to school is \$300 per year, an amount that includes uniforms, books, fees, and materials.

The picture shows students at the L’Enfant Jesus school, very near the clinic, where the large majority of our sponsored children attend.



Students at L’Enfant Jesus school

Scenes from Bwa Nèf



Lamp nurses conduct a demonstration in the clinic courtyard on Global Handwashing Day. Prevention of illness is the first step toward a healthier community!



New cardiology services at the Lamp!

Here, Dr. Hyppolite examines a patient using a new laptop-enabled EKG machine. A prime example of top quality care at the Lamp!



To the immediate left, Lamp nurses do a malnutrition assessment at a local school

On the far left: The demand for services is always greater than our ability to supply it. People come from their homes in the middle of the night – often travelling from other neighborhoods – to make sure that they will be seen by a Lamp doctor.



Mobile Clinic at “Three Babies”

The Lamp works in the Bwa Nèf neighborhood but we know that there are people throughout Cité Soleil that desperately need health services. Mobile clinics are one way we can address this larger issue. The picture shows a recent mobile clinic in the facilities of our partner agency, Sakala, in the Twa Bebe neighborhood. The location is next to the grounds of an abandoned factory, where a large tent city still exists, almost four years after the earthquake. Many of the people in this particular camp are physically disabled. For the mobile clinic, additional doctors and nurses were brought on board and 226 people were seen that day, including 9 pregnant women and 100 children.

The Lamp took the opportunity to provide health education sessions throughout the day.



Nurse Flaure leads a health education session at the mobile clinic



The Lamp Likes Art and Music!

Haiti is known around the world for the quality of its art. With that in mind, the Lamp has decided to assist Haitian artists — and our clinic! — by hosting an annual event in which this art is prominently featured. The first ever Annual Art Fundraiser took place on November 15! The location of the event was the office of founder Dr. James Morgan, which was turned into an astounding art gallery for a day. It was a great success with around \$8,000 raised. A huge thank you to Ellen Cunningham for her hard work orchestrating the event!

And, speaking of annual events, the Lamp would also like to invite you to the next Montclair Musical Fundraiser! This year's event was held at the InsaniTea tea house,

with five bands, including an amazing acapella group from Montclair high school. Mr. Alan Smith, lead singer of the Porchistas (pictured) was the man who got this show on the road. Also present was our In-Country Medical Director, Dr. Hyppolite, who had just finished an advanced seminar in TB at nearby New Jersey Medical School.

See you next year!



The Porchistas

LAMP Financial Review

To donate to the Lamp online, click on the Donate button at: www.lampforhaiti.org.

The mission statement of the Lamp includes these words: "Transparency to the community, patients, donors, and governing bodies is a *sine qua non*." The Lamp is therefore proud to present a financial review of our organization, done by an external accounting firm, at our website at www.lampforhaiti.org. The Lamp is an intently community-focused organization. We spend less than 5% of our funds on administrative costs and it is a pleasure to advertise this fact!

For additional information about the Lamp, including our annual tax submissions, please visit www.guidestar.com — a nonprofit assessment site, where we have been given the "gold star for data transparency."



The Lamp is very happy to announce an addition to our board: Mr. Robert (Boby) Duval. Mr. Duval is the founder and director of the Fondation L'Athlétique D'Haiti (Athletics Foundation of Haiti) whose headquarters and (some of whose) soccer fields are just a short distance from the Lamp health center. The Foundation organizes sports activities for local youth and when Mr. Duval visited the clinic in October, we discovered that many of the children of Bwa Nèf are part of his soccer program. Mr. Duval is very well known in all of Haiti but he is especially loved in Cité Soleil.

Also on our board is Mr. Daniel Tillias. Daniel, himself, grew up in Cité Soleil and is now the director of another youth-focused community organization in Cité Soleil called Sakala. Sakala has programs in tutoring, peace education, sports and community gardening. With these two accomplished gentlemen on board, the Lamp can say, without any qualification at all, that our board represents a most thorough-going knowledge and experience of service provision in Cité Soleil. Cité Soleil is a difficult environment to work in, but we have some terrific guidance!

A Presence in Cité Soleil



Boby Duval (in white shirt) speaks with a community member in Bwa Nèf

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LAMP : a symbol of life for the people of Cité Soleil

By Barrère Hyppolite, In-Country Medical Director

Probably If I tell you that some people come as early as 1:00 a.m. to have the chance to be consulted by a doctor in our clinic you will doubt me. But personally we know, the Haitian local staff with the members of the board of LAMP. And it is certainly not only the free services that we provide that gives us our reputation. It's because we feel that the patient deserves the best care. We want to be included in their life, walk beside them

and help them build something stronger for their future and for their children. People love it when they are given respect, when they are respected for what they bring to society. They want to be part of society, they don't want to be marginalized. And because the Lamp has considered this part of their life, they want the Lamp to continue and to enlarge its services in the community: the Lamp is their symbol. So it is not a surprise to see people coming at 1 a.m. so that they can get a place and wait until 6 a.m. to get a ticket in order to be one of the people that will be seen by our staff.

Working here is also a chance for us, a great opportunity to

help our brothers and sisters of this big slum to have a better life and to facilitate a new tomorrow, saying I feel better, both in my physical health and in my mind.

To donate by mail,
send a check to:
Lamp for Haiti
PO Box 39703
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Thank You!



Dawn comes to Bwa Nèf to reveal a line of people, some of whom have waited since 1:00 a.m.