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**SPRING/  
 SUMMER  
 2017**

# Working in the Community!

"Shining a Light" says our logo, "on Health, Partnership and Community." The **Community Health Worker** program is a perfect example of these principles in action. Last spring, your donations to the Spring Campaign made it possible for the Lamp to begin this important program and the impact has been extraordinary.

Community Health Workers (CHWs) are chosen from the local community because one of their key tasks is to visit every home in the area. They provide health education and connect everyone to the services of the clinic in a very personal way. In order to do their job well, CHWs must create a sense of trust, but our own CHWs, Damas and Salinas, go well beyond this simple criterion. Their enthusiasm and dedication are taking the Lamp to a whole new level of interaction with

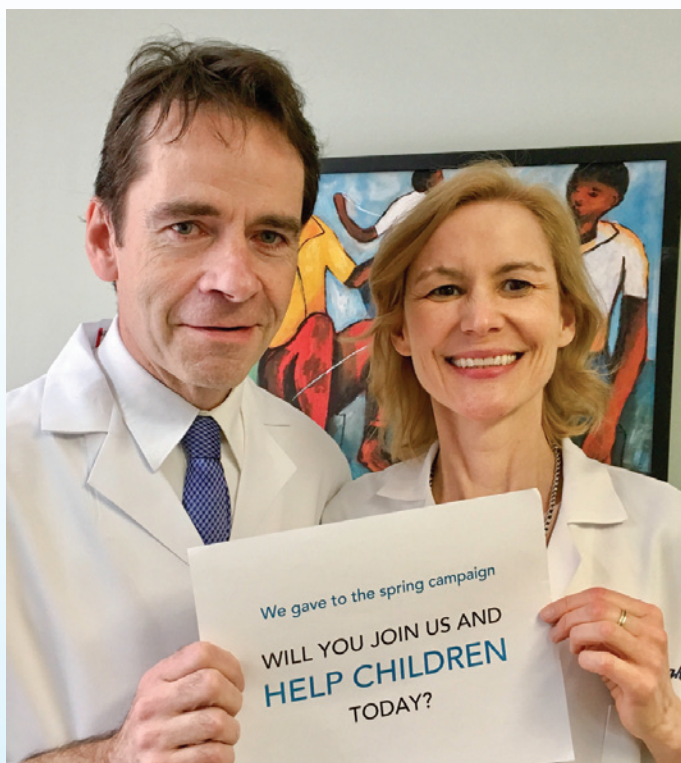


**Salinas and Damas are terrific workers, hired from the local community, and very effective at their work.**

the community. They are friendly and accessible, allowing anyone in the community to approach them at any time. They are also a tremendous asset to the women's clinic and the child nutrition program. They check in on the health of expectant mothers, make sure that they are taking their vitamins and medicines as prescribed, provide nutrition packets to malnourished children and make assessments about their progress. Similar connections are made with those who have chronic illnesses or are not mobile enough to make it to the clinic. The health benefits of this program are already very clear!

Surprisingly enough, almost immediately after the Lamp began its own CHW program last year, the Ministry of Health initiated a CHW program for the entire Cité Soleil area. The timing of this initiative could not have been better for us! The government program was designed in collaboration with the World Health Organization and is a marvel of good design. The program has allowed a genuine partnership to

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**Lamp Co-founder Dr. James Morgan and his wife Dr. Ellen Cunningham announce the start of this year's Spring Campaign. The campaign runs till May 15!**

# LAMP for HAITI

## NEWS

**Outreach!** Mobile clinics allow the Lamp to go to other areas in Cité Soleil where medical facilities do not exist. It is a kind of outreach that is met with great appreciation. That was certainly the case at the mobile clinic last month, where 230 people were seen. Despite hiring an additional three doctors and a nurse for the day, it was not possible to see everyone that came. Many people were referred to the Lamp's clinic in Bwa Nèf which made the whole of the next week exceptionally busy.



**Children are the focus** of our fundraising this spring. Our campaign to raise \$25,000 ends **May 15th!**

Please help us reach our goal and make a difference in a child's life! We are seeking to increase our supply of medicines in pediatric formats and doses and to increase the reach of our therapeutic food program to combat malnourishment in children. In addition, the funding will provide newborn care kits and continue health education in the schools. Visit our website, [www.lampforhaiti.org](http://www.lampforhaiti.org) to learn more and to donate.

## Working in the Community!

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develop between the Lamp and the Ministry of Health. In addition to training and deploying dozens of CHWs, the program is meant to coordinate health services in the area. Therefore, with our full agreement, CHWs from other parts of Cité Soleil can refer patients to our women's health clinic, x-ray facilities, and so on. As with many government programs, funds have been lacking, so that the government CHWs have not been paid now for many months, but the program is an excellent one and we will do our best to help it succeed. Thanks again to all who supported this worthwhile CHW program! 🙌

**Hi, I'm Cheryl Marshall-Petricoff.**

I've just joined the Lamp as Director of Development. If you have any questions, any fundraising ideas, or just want to connect, call me at 973-619-3302 or send me an email at [cheryl@lampforhaiti.org](mailto:cheryl@lampforhaiti.org)



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### **This time the teachers get some education!**

The Lamp sponsors many children at local schools but this time a special grant has allowed us to provide the teachers themselves with some education. The Lamp sponsored the attendance of 16 local teachers at a 40 hour multi-subject workshop over the Easter holiday week.



**Hoops for Haiti** – Toby Baer, a 7th grader from Bloomfield NJ, is organizing the second annual Hoops for Haiti basketball tournament. Proceeds from the event will go to Lamp for Haiti. If you are in the area, join in the fun. Saturday **May 20th** at St. Cassian School in Montclair NJ.

### **SAVE THE DATE for our Annual Fall Fundraiser**

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, **October 21st** and plan to join us at the Montclair Art Museum. We are planning a wonderful celebration and hope to see you there. *More details coming soon!*



## ***A New Nurse and a Growing Child Nutrition Program!***

Along with our new CHWs, Damas and Salinas, the Lamp is pleased to welcome Nurse Ruth Alissage to the team! The Lamp staff in Haiti now numbers fifteen, seven of whom are from the local community, including Ms. Alissage. Our child nutrition program needed a dedicated staff person to better meet demand and Ms. Alissage has filled that role very admirably! Ms. Alissage is also assigned the task of managing the medical inventory.

With respect to the nutrition program, we now have 33 severely malnourished children enrolled, from 6 months to 4 years old, and with Ms. Alissage on board we can manage many more! The program uses a fortified therapeutic food with locally sourced peanut butter as its primary ingredient (pictured). During the 6 to 8 week feeding program the child is monitored constantly to ensure proper weight gain and to treat related illnesses. It is a process that requires a lot of supervisory attention but the results are life-changing! Mental ability and much else can be affected by malnutrition at this age, and it is a privilege to be able to offer this program to the community!



**P.O. Box 39703, Philadelphia, PA 19106**

**Email:** [admin@lampforhaiti.org](mailto:admin@lampforhaiti.org)

**Telephone:** 267-499-0516

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## Children Are Us!

Fully one third of Lamp patients are under the age of 6. What accounts for this huge percentage? Dr. Barrère Hyppolite, our Medical Director, says one reason is simply that the population of Cité Soleil (and Haiti in general) is very young. A lot of children live in Bwa Nèf! Also, infectious disease is easily spread among children when hygienic conditions are poor. This includes dangerous illnesses such as tuberculosis and pneumonia. There is also the fact that medical institutions are not trusted by many people. Adults – and especially men -- avoid coming at all, but parents faced with an ill child feel compelled to come anyway. And it is here that the Lamp makes its mark. Parents often remark, says Dr. Hyppolite, that Lamp doctors treat their children with great care, that they teach the parents to take better care of their children, that they follow up to make sure that the problem has been resolved. The Lamp is known as a child friendly place. It is a matter of trust, and trust is critical.

Dr. Hyppolite described the cases of two young boys, one with scabies in the genital area and one with an extreme case of ringworm of the scalp. With Lamp's assistance these awful infestations (parasitic and fungal) are now a part of their pasts. Just as importantly, they can no longer be spread to others. The earlier that people come for treatment, the better it is for everyone. The objective of the Lamp's Health Center is a healthy community and that includes the children, front and center!

