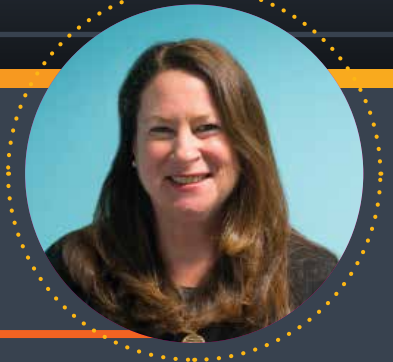


SPECIAL EDITION
OUR GREATEST NEEDS



OUR GREATEST NEEDS, HOSPITAL AND COMMUNITY

By Lenora Vesio

HAS is a non-profit healthcare system, operating in one of the most impoverished nations in the world. In a place where we must provide our own clean water, sanitation and power generation; where roads to the communities we serve are frequently no more than footpaths; and where natural disasters, such as hurricanes and earthquakes, occur with relative frequency – how do we survive? How have we managed to operate effectively for nearly 60 years in such a challenged environment?

While there is no question that a highly skilled and dedicated staff is key, there would be no staff, and the challenges we face would be insurmountable, without the support of generous donors like you.

Ensuring adequate staff. HAS depends on a staff of approximately 500 professionals to provide the excellent service for which we are known throughout Haiti. Most (98 percent) are Haitian, and the vast majority of staff members are also members of the communities we serve. HAS prides itself on being an economic engine in the Lower Artibonite River Valley. And we are committed to attracting, training and retaining qualified Haitian professional staff. However, maintaining this staff (and therefore the important services upon which our patients depend) is our single largest expense. Support for staff salaries is vital to the sustainability of HAS.

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We are frequently asked about our greatest needs and challenges. People want to know how they can best help us – how they can really make a difference. This special-edition newsletter is intended to provide answers to this question.

Our Greatest Needs: 2015

This year HAS faces several challenges in the effort to deliver quality care, treatment, and disease prevention to the approximately 350,000 people in our service area, which covers some 610 square miles – an area roughly the size of Houston, Texas. Following are among the most significant challenges, where your support can make a positive difference today.

Your support can help save lives by covering the annual cost of these and other staff salaries:



\$20,000 covers the crucial work of a family medicine doctor treating thousands of patients in the hospital for an entire year.



\$5,700 funds a hospital nurse's work for an entire year.



\$3,200 funds the efforts of a community health worker for a year to deliver preventive care and education to tens of thousands of community members.

Addressing a rising demand for high-risk obstetrics and surgical care.

Based on trends over the past two years, during which we saw demand for high-risk obstetrics services and surgical care rise dramatically and remain high, HAS anticipates continued, significant growth in demand for these services in 2015 and beyond. Few other facilities in Haiti provide these specialty services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as HAS does, and we do not turn patients away who need this care. Today we are committed to strengthening our ability to reduce the maternal mortality rate, and to increasing our capacity to deal with traumatic injuries requiring surgery (which are occurring more and more frequently because of improved roads and associated road traffic accidents). Support for maternal health and surgical services will help ensure that we have the appropriate specialists on hand to deliver care, as well as the needed facilities, equipment and supplies.

Your support can help save lives by covering the cost of these items and personnel vital to quality maternal and surgical care:

- **\$11,200** funds the crucial support of a hospital midwife for a year to support approximately 700 natural deliveries at HAS annually.
- **\$5,600** covers the cost of major, life-saving surgery for 20 people at HAS.
- **\$4,640** covers the cost of needed Cesarean sections for 20 women with high-risk pregnancies, helping ensure that both mothers and babies survive.
- **\$3,079** allows HAS to provide anesthesia for about 40 major surgeries (a typical week's worth of cases at HAS).

Supporting core community public health services.

This year, support from international agencies that traditionally fund community-based care and preventative services has been severely reduced at HAS and for many organizations operating in Haiti. HAS is committed to providing these services regardless and continues to participate as a national partner of UNICEF and the Haitian Ministry of Health. Patients depend on HAS for important community-based services, such as regular prenatal consultations, reproductive health education and services, and child immunizations. HAS is grateful to donors such as The Hummingbird Foundation and Johnson & Johnson, who recognize the importance of the HAS network of 42 community health workers who provide these vital services. Funding the salaries of these workers is helping HAS continue this work without interruption.

Your support can help save lives by helping cover the cost of these community health personnel and activities:

- **\$2,750** covers the cost of reproductive healthcare and education for 250 women and girls.
- **\$2,300** covers the cost of providing 100 children with vaccines and other preventative community healthcare for one year.
- **\$1,000** covers the cost of prenatal consultations in an HAS community health center for 100 women.

Ensuring a steady supply of medications and materials.

There are many challenges to keeping a well-stocked supply at a hospital in rural Haiti, among them





the long lead time needed to order and ship materials from outside of Haiti so they arrive when needed. (We often purchase medical supplies from vendors outside of Haiti to ensure reliable stock at value pricing.) HAS also must maintain a fleet of reliable, well-maintained vehicles – and purchase fuel for them – to transport supplies. (Supplies most often must be transported from Port-au-Prince, which is about two hours away by car from the HAS campus in Deschapelles.) We are continuously improving supply chain management to ensure that we have the supplies needed to provide quality care.

Your support can help save lives by helping cover the cost of these supply-related expenses:

- **\$4,120** allows HAS to successfully manage its entire supply chain for one week.
- **\$3,878** covers the cost of running the HAS pharmacy for a month to allow HAS to stock medications for a wide range of conditions.
- **\$3,183** ensures the availability of one week's supply of medications that HAS must stock at all times.



Clearly, your support makes a significant difference in our ability to provide life-saving care. We value your partnership in this effort, and work hard every day to ensure that every dollar is used as effectively as possible.

Thank you, once again, for your investment in this important work.

Lenora Vesio is Director of Development at HAS.

OUR GREATEST NEEDS IN PEDIATRICS

**"HEALTHY CHILDREN ARE KEY TO
HAITI'S FUTURE."**

By Dr. Maurice Toussaint



Having worked as an HAS pediatrician for more than six years, I can speak firsthand to the importance of our work. HAS is helping Haiti, my country, by providing healthcare to children in a medically underserved area where there often are no other options for care. This is important because healthy children are key to Haiti's future, and excellent pediatric care is essential to ensuring that children are healthy.

The HAS pediatrics department is made up of five units – general pediatrics, pediatric surgery, isolation, neonatal intensive care, and nutrition stabilization. Of the hospital's 131 beds, more than half are for children – and on any given day, we are at or over capacity. In 2014, we averaged 114 percent capacity, or 74 beds occupied of the 65 "available."



The special thing about HAS is that, when there is a need for care, we do not turn anyone away – and there is a true need to focus on children's health in Haiti. This country ranks very low on the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Human Development Index,

placing at 162 on the list of 187 countries. While Haiti is making some progress on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, today over 11 percent of children under 5 years old in Haiti are underweight due to lack of proper nutrition, and 36 percent of the population remains without access to safe drinking water – to name only two of UNICEF's indicators for development.

HAS is attacking these problems in multiple ways. In the hospital, we treat illnesses so that children can return to health and to their normal activities. We know that something simple like a treatable case of gastroenteritis can lead to a long-term effect if left untreated for too

long; if we treat the gastroenteritis, however, then the child will avoid lasting complications and have a brighter future. We are supported by an extensive network of community health workers, who collaborate with communities to prevent childhood health problems through a variety of activities – for example, by educating families about nutrition, screening children for malnutrition, providing children with immunizations, and visiting mothers and their newborns within the vital first 48 hours after birth. We also are supported by an effective water and sanitation program that works with communities and schools to provide safe drinking water and sanitation systems.

This year, funding is greatly needed for HAS efforts to prevent child malnutrition.

A malnourished child bears a higher risk of dying from respiratory infections or diarrhea than a well-nourished child. Children with vitamin A deficiency are more likely to die from infection than properly nourished children. This is why HAS community outreach to prevent malnutrition is so vital.



You can help HAS screen more than 10,000 children a month for malnutrition and provide vital micronutrients and Vitamin A to children in some of the most remote rural areas of Haiti.

- **\$9,900** covers transportation and other costs associated with providing vitamin A to 9,500 children annually.
- **\$6,700** covers the annual cost to provide nutrition education to families with children served by some 280 HAS health posts every month.
- **\$2,700** covers the annual cost of packaging children's multivitamins for distribution each month to approximately 5,000 children.

Dr. Maurice Toussaint is Chief of Pediatrics at HAS.

A TRIBUTE TO **HAS** FOUNDERS DR. LARRY AND GWEN MELLON

By Dr. Randolph Guthrie

Following is an excerpt of remarks delivered by Dr. Randolph Guthrie April 2, 2015, at the annual White Hot Night fundraiser for HAS in Palm Beach. Dr. Guthrie was honored at the event with Le Grand Chapeau award for his past volunteer work at HAS. See page 6 for more about the event.

Many people do not know about Larry and Gwen Mellon, what kind of people they were, or even what they did. Larry and Gwen both came from substantial families, his one of the wealthiest in the world. She went to Shipley and Smith, he to Choate and one year at Princeton. They lived lives of privilege on a western ranch.

At age 37, Larry discovered Albert Schweitzer. He told Gwen that he wanted to change his life, and she said, "I am coming with you."

They matriculated at Tulane, where he completed medical school and Gwen did a semester of medical technology. When they finished, they found Deschapelles in the Artibonite River Valley of central Haiti, where people were without medical care.

The Mellons built a hospital as modern and well equipped as any in the world. It opened in 1956 and was an immediate success. They soon realized that a hospital could not be successful without improved conditions in the community. This was Larry's job.



Palm Beach event co-chairs Louise Stephaich and Anna Mann with Dr. Randolph Guthrie

Larry approached the local people. He was not one to ask anyone to do what he would not be willing to do himself. He worked alongside them and earned their trust. I see him in the bottom of a ditch, with a shovel in hand, covered in mud.

I met Gwen and Larry in Deschapelles in 1960. Gwen and Larry worked together, side by side, for 35 years, and they changed their little part of the world. Life expectancy grew, the infant mortality rate dropped, more and more people gained access to water free of parasites and bacteria, and there was a hospital that cared for those with critical conditions and serious illness.

Tetanus was then the greatest contributor to infant mortality. Larry and team hired and trained 150 women to go through the villages at market times and immunize

HAS is helping in the effort to improve public health in Haiti.

LIFE EXPECTANCY

HAS RISEN

42yrs.

IN 1960

62yrs.

TODAY*

INFANT MORTALITY

HAS DROPPED

20%

IN 1960

6%

TODAY*

HAS BROUGHT CLEAN WATER TO 120,000 PEOPLE IN THE PAST 16 YEARS



*Life Expectancy Data as of 2012: World Health Organization. Infant Mortality Rate Data as of 2013: UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation.

the women against tetanus. The mothers transferred their immunity to their babies. Neonatal tetanus essentially disappeared.

Their valley became an example for the country and then for the world.

Today the hospital goes on. The people are being cared for. The love is still there. Its existence now depends on all of you and others like you to keep it going.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON VISITS HAS

Tomas Matthews, Director of Global Access & Partnerships for Johnson & Johnson, visited HAS in March, and met with HAS subject matter experts to discuss maternal and child health programs supported in part by Johnson & Johnson. "It was wonderful to better understand the great work HAS is doing," he said. Tomas is pictured here with HAS nurse Raymona Cadet, left, and Adriana LaMonte, HAS Manager of Strategic Programs and Global Affairs.





ANNUAL PALM BEACH EVENT AGAIN RAISES RECORD FUNDS FOR HAS

For the second year in a row, the annual White Hot Night event to benefit HAS raised a record amount. More than 200 gathered April 2, 2015, at The Breakers in Palm Beach, FL, raising more than \$750,000 for the hospital.

Co-chaired by HAS Board Members Anna Mann and Louise Stephaich together with longtime HAS supporter Tom Quick, the event honored former HAS medical volunteer Dr. Randolph Guthrie and Honorary Co-Chairs Herb and Eva Jacobi for their efforts to raise funds for HAS. (See page 5 for an excerpt of Dr. Guthrie's remarks.)

With entertainment by Elán Artists, guests enjoyed salsa dancing and Caribbean-themed cuisine, plus a live auction featuring one-of-a-kind experiences including dinner with the writers/producers of *Mad Men* and *Homeland*, a private London art tour, and an exclusive Napa Valley wine-tasting and culinary experience.

"HAS is very grateful to those who so generously support the hospital through this event," said Anna Mann. "We thank our Honorary Chairs, Herb and Eva Jacobi, for their extraordinary efforts on behalf of HAS, and are delighted that Dr. Guthrie could be with us to accept this year's Grand Chapeau Award."



Cocktail hour at The Breakers, Palm Beach



The evening's entertainment by Elán Artists.



Honorary Chairs, Eva and Herb Jacobi.



SECOND ANNUAL
10K RUM
 A RUM TASTING PARTY
 BENEFITING HAS HAITI

COMING UP: \$10K RUM EVENT SEPTEMBER 10TH

Last year's \$5K Rum, the first annual rum-tasting event to benefit HAS, raised more than \$7,000, and this year's event will set the bar even higher, with the goal of raising at least \$10,000 for HAS. Mark your calendar for the \$10K Rum to take place in **Pittsburgh, PA**, on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at Maggie's Farm Rum Distillery. Watch for ticket information and other details at www.hashaiti.org.



Last year's \$5K Rum in Pittsburgh, PA, raised more than \$7,000 for HAS.

WANT TO DEDICATE YOUR BIRTHDAY OR OTHER SPECIAL OCCASION TO HAS? NOW YOU CAN WITH NEW, EASY-TO-USE HAS ONLINE FUNDRAISING TOOLS!

Make your birthday or other special occasions even more meaningful this year by fundraising for HAS efforts to improve public health in Haiti. At HAS, we believe that the economic health of Haiti depends first and foremost on the physical health of its greatest resource – its people.

The road ahead is long, but with your help, HAS can realize significant progress. With your help, we can continue to provide community-based care that really works – immunizations, clean water, nutrition supplements, pre-natal and post-natal care, reproductive health education and services, and more.

Join us on our journey to a self-sustaining Haiti. Your time, money, voice and heart will help HAS help Haiti.

To check out our new online fundraising tools and launch your campaign, visit www.hashaiti.org.





HÔPITAL ALBERT SCHWEITZER

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