



Patience, Persistence and Perseverance: Moving Toward Our Goals



Dear Karen and Jay,

One of the great challenges to working in health care in Haiti is that things frequently do not go as planned, and they certainly do not go with the speed and efficiency that we might expect. Even when things do move forward, there can be unexpected challenges and roadblocks, so we try to keep in mind these three "Ps" as we work towards our goal of improving and supporting healthcare for the people of northern Haiti. **Perseverance** best summarizes our work: defined as the steady **persistence** in a course of action, a purpose, a state, etc., especially in spite of difficulties, obstacles, or discouragement. **Patience** is a wonderful trait that we continue to learn from our Haitian colleagues; with enough patience, we can keep at it.

For us at Hands Up for Haiti, when obstacles get in the way, the solution is clear: relying on the dedication and persistence of our volunteers and our Haitian staff. When we join together with our Haitian colleagues, when a Haitian community works as a unit, anything is possible. The stories below reflect this persistence and perseverance in overcoming obstacles to achieve concrete results - and how it takes the whole village to do so. Sometimes the journey itself is the story, as in the Journey of the Ultrasound Machine told below.

Heal - Teach - Support: all in an effort to create a health care system in Haiti grown from the ground up that achieves results in the face of overwhelming obstacles.

This work is possible only with the generous support of you, our donors and volunteers.

We are deeply grateful. Mesi mesi anpil – “thank you very, very much.”

From All of Us at Hands Up for Haiti

CELEBRATING OUR WORK AND OUR VOLUNTEERS

Hands Up for Haiti's annual celebration: Recap

More than 150 people helped us celebrate this year as we honored four amazing volunteers: Stephanie Korn, Judy McAvoy, Lynn Perton and Patrick Schelle - and the programs they champion: fighting malnutrition, maternal and child health, community water project, and hypertension screen and treat. Good friends, delicious food, Haitian music and all for a GREAT CAUSE: Hands Up for Haiti!

[Download our Dinner Journal Here.](#)

Celebrating our honorees: Co-Founders Mary Ann LoFrumento (left) and Jill Ratner (right) have a joyous moment with honorees Lynn Perton, Judy McAvoy (sitting), Stephanie Korn, Patrick Schelle

HEAL – TEACH – SUPPORT

Worth the Wait: The Journey of the Ultrasound Machine



A young woman lies on the examining table, anxious and unsure. Her pregnancy test is positive but after being seen at a local clinic, she was diagnosed with an ectopic pregnancy, a potentially life-threatening situation when an embryo implants in the fallopian tubes rather than the uterus. She sought help at Justinian University Hospital and arrived at the OB-GYN clinic where Dr. Nelly Osias, a dedicated obstetrician and gynecologist who heads HUFH's cervical cancer program, and Dr. Cyril LeConte, the head of OB-GYN at Justinian, were training residents on the use of an ultrasound machine. They

used the machine to examine the woman; as the images became clear they revealed something unexpected, with much better news for this young woman.

The ultrasound machine is an amazing tool used routinely in the US and other developed countries. It is a piece of equipment precious and rare in Haiti, and this particular one, a portable ultrasound able to be moved to the bedside of any patient, was donated through the efforts of HUFH.

This machine, though, had a journey of its own, a journey that took 18 months from the time it arrived in Haiti until it was in the hands of the doctors at Justinian, who in turn used it to help our young patient. The saga demonstrates the importance of all of the three P's: **Patience, Persistence, and Perseverance.** [Click here for the full story.](#)



To help us continue to provide life saving equipment in Haiti, [DONATE HERE.](#)

HEAL – TEACH – SUPPORT

Worth the Wait: Program Updates

Community Water Well Project: With eight wells already built and functioning with funds raised and donated by Hands Up for Haiti, two new wells were dug just this month, together providing access to clean water - and improved health - to nearly 10,000 more people in the Bois de Lance region. Equally important, following an education session led by our in-country community liaison, community leaders signed contracts on behalf of their villages assuming responsibility for care and maintenance of the wells.



To help us continue to provide access to clean water in Haiti, [DONATE HERE.](#)

Hypertension Screen & Treat: With the first program site at Dondon well underway, and with an amazing compliance rate of 95%, HUFH launched its second Hypertension Screen and Treat site in Robillard, a remote village outside of Cap Haitien, with an additional 40 patients enrolled.



To help us directly grow this program and save lives, [DONATE HERE.](#)

Fighting Malnutrition: Even as children in one area grow healthier, outreach is identifying more and more malnourished children in outlying communities that suffer food shortage. One such community is Dondon. This month, we launched the new site, and continue to enroll children in our Medika Mamba program weekly.





To help us nourish these children and save lives, [DONATE HERE.](#)

Promoting Haitian to Haitian Education: As we reported last month, our in-country team traveled to Port au Prince to teach Helping Babies Breathe to nurse practitioner students. Dr. Manol Isac, our In-country Executive Director, reports: "It was wonderful to see how the staff enjoyed the first step. Everything went well, the teaching was excellent and there was good interaction between the students and the trainers. When the staff returned, they proposed a plan for HUFH to set up a team of in-country staff to take charge of all the training around the country, in Cap Haitian and as far away as Port au Prince.... **That** will be an amazing step going forward to fulfill HUFH's mission." **This plan, proposed and to be executed by our in-country staff, is what sustainable health care means.**

To help support our programs and save lives, [DONATE HERE.](#)

HUFH LEADERSHIP IN THE NEWS

Dr. Irene Jill Ratner: Westchester Health Care Hero

At a ceremony on May 18, Dr. Ratner, HUFH co-founder, President Emeritus and Medical Director, was named a Westchester Health Care Hero. The award was in recognition not just of Jill's professional excellence as she cares for the children of Westchester for more than 30 years, but most importantly in appreciation of Jill's selfless dedication and hard work as a medical humanitarian and a visionary force behind Hands Up for Haiti. In the words of several volunteers, "Jill came to Haiti in 2010 to help in an emergency, and has never turned back, always looking for new ways to help the people of Haiti help themselves." We are proud to call Jill our Health Care hero.



Quick Links

[Our Website](#)

[Donate Now](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Email Us](#)

[Volunteer Now](#)

"Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish."
John Quincy Adams



This is what perseverance, persistence and patience can produce for Haiti:
Children with access to quality medical care, children with a future.

DONATE HERE

HEAL TEACH SUPPORT

Hands Up For Haiti is a medical humanitarian organization committed to making a sustainable and positive impact on the health of the people of northern Haiti. We do this by collaborating with and supporting the Haitian medical community, by delivering direct care and educational programs to the communities that we serve, and by partnering with allied organizations.

**Please visit our website at www.handsupforhaiti.org.
Donate to our cause at www.handsupforhaiti.org/donate.**

If you'd like to unsubscribe to our QUARTERLY Newsletter please click on the following link and let us know what types of communications you'd like to receive from us. [Contact Us](#)
We greatly appreciate your support and will do our best to only contact you per your wishes.
