



## Ongoing Support Rain or Shine: The True Meaning of Sustainable Health Care



PLEASE REMEMBER US ON GIVING TUESDAY

[DONATE HERE](#)

Dear Karen and Jay,

**Heal - Teach - Support.** Hurricane Matthew received lots of media attention but days of torrential rains and flooding in the north region, in Cap Haitien and other communities where HUFH works, went unreported. These relentless rains caused death and serious property damage, further weakened the already weak infrastructure and compounded the difficulties the north was facing after the hurricane. This time, our HUFH clinics were affected, but our staff responded quickly and worked tirelessly to clean up and get things up and running within days.

The people of Haiti are resilient: they can deal with multiple challenges when they have the proper resources. This newsletter details how, with the generous support of our donors and volunteers, HUFH is helping to provide those tools by collaborating with the Haitian medical community to create and support a sustainable health care program in the north, one ready to deal with any challenge, at any time.

What does "sustainable" really mean? For HUFH, it means supporting programs that are led by our Haitian medical staff who know the best ways to deliver care to their communities. It means rain or

shine, emergency or just another day, our clinics and our programs, run by our in-country staff, are open and delivering care. Heal - Teach - Support: **This is what we do and how you help to truly make an immediate difference in the lives of the people that we help.**

We are deeply grateful to all who continue to donate to our efforts.

Mesi mesi anpil – “thank you very, very much.”

From All of Us at Hands Up for Haiti

---

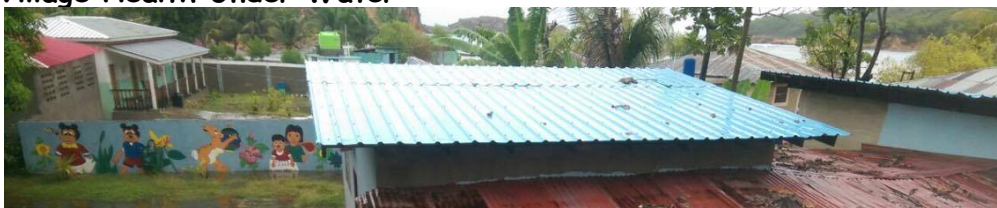
### Flooding in Cap Haitien



### Clean up at the Shada Clinic



### Haiti Village Health Under Water





---

## HEAL & SUPPORT

### HUFH Clinics at Shada and Bod me Limbe

HUFH supports two established clinics in the north, one in Shada, the most impoverished area of Cap Haitien, and the other at Haiti Village Health in Bod me Limbe, a rural fishing village in the coastal region of Bas Limbe. These clinics are staffed year-round by Haitian doctors, nurses and community health workers, who are directly supported by HUFH donors. In addition to providing direct care for children, pregnant women and other adults, our goals are to improve maternal and neonatal outcomes, promote breastfeeding, identify and treat malnutrition, and identify and treat preventable diseases in adults. HUFH supports the clinics with medical supplies, medications, and laboratory equipment, and our visiting teams provide additional support, working side-by-side with clinic staff.

The impact:

#### **Shada Clinic:**

- Serves 25000 people in the poorest slum of Cap Haitien
- Malnutrition program
- Prenatal program
- Helping Babies Survive Program



#### **Haiti Village Health in Bod me Limbe:**

- Serves 30000 people in 16 communities
- Malnutrition Program
- Prenatal program
- Helping Babies Survive Program

To help keep our clinics open, [\*\*DONATE HERE.\*\*](#)

---

HEAL & SUPPORT



## New Program: Cervical Cancer See and Treat Program



Cervical cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in women in Haiti with an estimated 1,500 **preventable** deaths each year, the highest reported incidence of cervical cancer of any country in the world, 50 times higher than the rate in the United States, where Pap tests and the widely available HPV vaccine dramatically decreased cervical cancer mortality. Women in Haiti have not benefited from Pap test screening due to lack of health care infrastructure and trained pathologists; there are only four pathologists in this country of 10 million people. As a consequence, most women in Haiti have never been screened for cervical cancer. And the vaccine is only being offered in limited trials.

To help change this reality, Hands Up for Haiti, under the leadership of Dr. Nelly Osias, an OB-GYN in Haiti, and Dr. Liza Lizaragga, an OB-GYN from the US, launched a new See and Treat Program to screen women and treat those who need it immediately. We are proud to announce that we opened our first "see & treat" clinic in Limbe, a town on the outskirts of Cap Haitien, headed by Dr. Osias. In just the first weeks since the clinic opened, the clinic has already screened scores of women.

We expect to screen 3000 women this year and treat 300 **before** it is too late - preventing their premature and unnecessary deaths.

To help save women's lives and support our programs and professionals on the ground, [\*\*DONATE HERE.\*\*](#)



---

## TEACH & SUPPORT

### NEW PROGRAM: Hypertension Screen and Treat Program



Severe and unrecognized hypertension in Haiti contributes to high levels of stroke, heart failure and premature death. Through HUFH's hypertension initiative, we are training local nurses and other health care providers with a simple, easy-to-follow protocol and a ready supply of prepackaged, safe and inexpensive medications.

Our pilot program is being supervised by Wisly Lindor, a Haitian nurse practitioner. After many back and forth emails with HUFH medical professionals in the US, Wisly pre-screened and selected the pilot group. Wisley will continue to see his patients

monthly, using the protocol that we set together. He will remain in contact with nurses and doctors in the US who will help him monitor those patients, and our visiting teams will work with him when they are on the ground.

HUFH's mission goes beyond educating medical professionals: as part of this program, US program leaders Dr. Marilyn Jacobowitz and Stephanie Korn held an educational session with the community, explaining the disease and the program, all in an effort to help our patients assume responsibility for their personal health.



Based on the screening blood pressures of hundreds of patients, this program is desperately needed. Patients were enthusiastic about the program and eager to participate. Prior to the program launch, these patients had never been treated for hypertension.

For the community, a chance to thrive.

To help support our teams on the ground, [DONATE HERE.](#)

---

## Leadership Changes at HUFH

**Board of Directors:** HUFH welcomes two new Board members to our team:

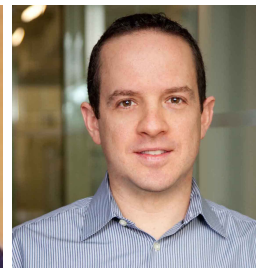
**Ted Birkhahn** is a partner and President of Peppercomm, a leading marketing and communications agency based in NYC. Ted's team at Peppercomm took our vision and made our new website a reality. We welcome Ted's branding, communications, marketing and digital media expertise, and his ability to help us tell our story. We thank Ted's wife Tracy, who has volunteered in Haiti with HUFH, for introducing us to Ted.

**Stephanie Korn, RN**, currently works in pediatrics at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Stephanie volunteered in Haiti with HUFH several times and helped spearhead and launch HUFH's new hypertension screen and treat program, hoping to provide long-term care for adult patients. Stephanie feels passionately about her work in Haiti and is committed to helping the Northern Haitian community.

---



Stephanie Korn, RN



Ted Birkhahn

---

## HUFH in the News

Kudos to HUFH Co-Founder and President Emeritus **Dr. Jill Ratner**, who spoke to an audience of Wellesley College Alumnae about nonprofit work and HUFH's efforts. In the words of the Wellesley Women in Non-Profits Panel organizer, Linda Ury Greenberg: "We were so thrilled to have you [and other speakers] speak to the group and share your stories. Making a difference in the world through your work and changing people's lives for the better is a tremendous path to follow."

Our sincerest thanks and appreciation to **Janet Krzemienski**, retiring from her role as Board member to assume the position of Chief Procurement Officer, our volunteer coordinator in the US for our pharmaceutical and medical supplies.

**Management:** **LaMar Parkin**, whose leadership has guided us these past few years, is stepping down from his position as Executive Director to pursue other interests and to continue to help HUFH in the newly created position of Chief Financial Officer. We welcome **Karen Akst Schecter**, an attorney, long-time social justice advocate and HUFH's Director of Programs and Operations, as our new Executive Director. We look forward to her energy and vision as we continue to shift our focus to program support and capacity building in Haiti.



---

### Quick Links

[Our Website](#)

[Donate Now](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Email Us](#)

[Volunteer Now](#)

---

## WORDS TO KEEP IN OUR HEARTS

With support, the future is theirs.

[\*\*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](http://www.handsupforhaiti.org).**  
**Donate to our cause at [www.handsupforhaiti.org/donate](http://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.

---