



## Education & Empowerment: The Future is in Their Hands



**Dear Karen and Jay,**

For many organizations that do global health work, the question of the long term impact of their work always remains in the forefront of everything that they do. For us at Hands Up for Haiti, it is a question we continually ask, and the answer is clear: Whenever possible, our programs need to be Haitian run. Teaching is Haitian to Haitian - effective and empowering. Care is Haitian to Haitian: sustainable and accessible. HUFH believes that education is the key to change in Haiti, and that those we educate graduate to be the new leaders. The stories below reflect the impact of our education programs.

**Heal - Teach - Support:** all in an effort to create a health care system in Haiti grown from the ground up that operates independently of visiting teams of medical professionals.

We are proud of our Haitian in-country team, currently numbering around 50 people. Thank you to the physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, administrators, community health workers, lab technicians and lay staff who operate our clinics, go out into the community to identify malnourished and sick children, enroll pregnant women in prenatal care and adults of all ages in our hypertension and cervical cancer programs, work with the Eye Team, educate communities on the importance of clean water and obtain follow-up care for those who need it. Together as a team, all of them help ensure that Hands Up for Haiti delivers quality care to the people we serve.

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

---

## Please Join Us



Please join us as we honor 4 amazing volunteers who have gone Up,  
Above & Beyond:

Judy McAvoy, Stephanie Korn, Lynn Perton & Patrick Schelle.

**For Event, Ticket and Dinner Journal and Tribute Information,  
click [HERE](#).**

**Deadline for Journal Ads: April 1**

---

## HEAL – TEACH – SUPPORT

**Haitian Teaching Haitian: Empowering Staff to be Leaders and Teachers**



This month, dreams, vision and hard work became a reality on the ground as our Haitian staff was invited to teach the life-saving skills of Helping Babies Breathe to 24 Haitian nurse practitioner students, who will in turn teach these skills to others, saving countless babies now and in the future.



Promoting Health in Haiti, a US-based organization training the first nurse practitioners in Haiti, initially asked HUFH co-founder Dr. Jill Ratner to teach a class in Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) remotely from Westchester to a class of 24 nurse practitioner students in Port-au-Prince. Rather than teach the class herself, Dr. Ratner enlisted our trained facilitators in Haiti - professionals we have trained since 2011 as part of the nearly 300 individuals we have taught on the ground. "Our staff are excellent teachers," Dr. Ratner posited, "What better team could there be to teach within country?" And so we arranged for them instead to go to Port-au-Prince and teach this class in person.

Five of our staff, Dr. Manol Isac, our in-country Executive Director, nurses Youseline Pierre-Louis and Rose-Lourdes Dorvil, nurse practitioner Wisly Lindor, and Sonel Eugene, our Head of Translators and Community Lectures, traveled a perilous road to Port-au-Prince to teach the nurse practitioner students the HBB Course. That they were able to make this difficult and long journey in the face of road closures is a testament to their commitment and belief in this program and its importance. That is what made this day possible. **That is what makes the future of health care in Haiti possible.**

Perhaps equally amazing: Wisly himself is a graduate of the Promoting Health in Haiti program. We met him when he was in New York to train as a nurse practitioner, and brought him into HUFH when he returned to Haiti. Wisly now helps run our hypertension screen and treat program and our malnutrition program, and also works with our Eye Team. The student now became the teacher as he proudly returns to teach more Haitian students as they train to be medical providers in their own country.



HBB is a course put together by the American Academy of Pediatrics to reduce infant mortality by teaching simple resuscitation techniques to traditional birth attendants and provide them with necessary, reusable equipment. There are 273000 infants born each year in Haiti, and with this program, it is estimated that newborn death and disabilities from lack of breathing will be cut dramatically by almost 90%.



To help save babies and promote Haitian to Haitian educational opportunities, [\*\*DONATE HERE.\*\*](#)

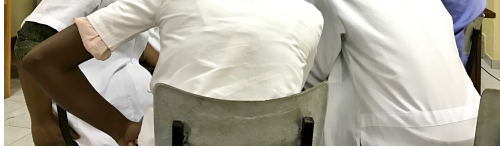
---

## HEAL – TEACH – SUPPORT

### The Power of Education - Educating Specialists to Deliver Care



Nothing can stop the power of education and the desire to learn. On its eighth mission to Haiti earlier this month, the HUFH Eye Team, led by Dr. Beth Bromberg and Dr. Mitch Stein, traveled to Port-au-Prince for two days before heading north to Cap-Haïtien. The plan was to conduct lectures for the ophthalmology residents at Hôpital de l'Université



d'État, Port-au-Prince, despite the fact that there was an ongoing strike at all of the public hospitals in Haiti. The strike, while supported by the medical staff who were protesting the poor conditions at the hospitals, had greatly affected the educational plans of the

ophthalmology residents. "They were so hungry for organized lectures and hands-on teaching," Dr. Bromberg said, "We knew we were needed more than ever and our team went right to work, delivering lectures to several of the residents at the hospital on the first day." On the second day, however, protests had erupted and the team could not get to the hospital because of the strike. But no one gave up: the Eye Team instead lectured Haitian ophthalmology residents who came to the hotel. "It was incredibly satisfying to help augment the training of these young ophthalmologists," Dr. Bromberg reflected. "They are the future."

Completing the focus on education, the team brought with them to Cap Haitien a young optometrist from Port au Prince for further training and to bring another resource to the north. She in turn will be in a position to teach her colleagues.

Almost 500,000 Haitians, or nearly 5% of the population, are legally blind. Of those, more than 80,000 people, about 1% of the population, have no light perception. There are only about 50 ophthalmologists serving Haiti's population of more than 10 million people, and only about 10 of these are located in the Nord region in and around Cap Haitien. Hands Up for Haiti and the eye team works in the Nord region in and around Cap Haitien with local community leaders and with local doctors, including ophthalmologists and general practitioners, to advance their knowledge regarding detection and treatment of blinding diseases. Now we are also working in Port au Prince, educating doctors in training.

To help us continue to educate the young doctors of Haiti, [\*\*DONATE HERE.\*\*](#)

---

### **Quick Links**

[Our Website](#)

[Donate Now](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Email Us](#)

[Volunteer Now](#)

---

### **PICTURES SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS**

This is the future of Haiti: Haitian caring for Haitian







## 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.

---