

## 2018 Annual Report

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### Where there *were* no doctors



An entire community's well-being is directly related to women's ability to obtain health services

How do you measure progress? There was no health care in Marjofre and the surrounding rural communities of Sud-Est Haiti before HHP arrived in 2013. People had to walk or ride motorbikes long distances over mountains to see a doctor. People worsened on the way, some even died on the road. But things have changed significantly. This year the clinic we run with our Haitian partners served

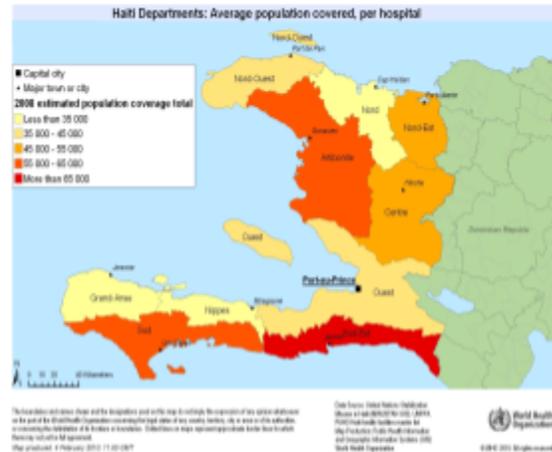
7,000 of the 17,000 people living in the region, treating and preventing disease. Private and family foundations are funding initiatives created by our Haitian base. Clinic services generated \$12,000 of its own income in 2018, moving towards independence. New services were initiated or enhanced: home visits, mobile clinics, a hypertension program, female cancer prevention, vaccinations, prenatal and family planning services.

Bar graphs and pie charts help us transmit the footprint of progress and those signposts are important. But if you dream between the lines and slip into the images, you will share that feeling of progress with us. Your generosity paves the way and our gratitude has no measure. Onward!

**Louise Lindenmeyr, Co-founder, Executive Director**

## For the people of Haiti, by the people of Haiti

This is a region of extreme poverty supported by subsistence farming and the informal market trade. Our philosophy is to build from the bottom up, meaning we develop our plan of action to meet the needs voiced by the community and execute it with local input and labor. The brightest example of this is the clinic that HHP helped develop - it was initiated by and belongs to the locals; conceived by the community because there was a critical scarcity of healthcare in the remote region and people were suffering. The clinic not only provides healthcare services but also gives quality employment to a growing number of residents. It is a focus of pride and, with cultivation and nurturing, will be passed to the community as a self-supported facility. HHP's mission is to support programs for the people and by the people, investing in Haiti every step of the way - personnel, transportation, manpower, and equipment.



2010 WHO map of per capita hospital coverage in Haiti. Our Sud-Est region in red is the most underserved in the nation

### Centre de Santé Union de Grand-Gosier Clinic (CSUG - our clinic)

CSUG provides full primary care five days a week, staffed by Haitian doctors and nurses who have a passion for serving the country's most vulnerable -- and a stake in making this a sustainable,



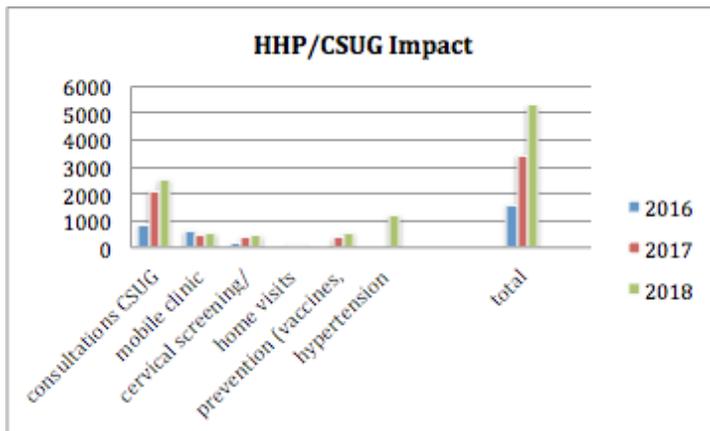
Emergency care at CSUG

Haitian-owned healthcare practice. Initiated in the early 2000s by a local citizens' group, AMBUF (*Association Marre-Joffrey Bodarie Union Force*), the clinic was only half-constructed when HHP was asked to help complete it in 2013. CSUG began providing daily care for the community in January 2016 with a fulltime doctor, nurse, and a pharmacy. In June 2016 we began a mobile clinic program that reaches the farthest corners of the region a few times a month. By the fall of 2017 full

laboratory services were added and the staff expanded to seven. CSUG/HHP presently employs 10 staff members plus several community health workers for special projects. We are now affiliated with the Haitian Ministry of Health, which provides staff trainings, vaccines, family planning, and

infectious disease detection and treatment. Patients are asked to pay a modest fee for consultations

and medications, though no patients are turned away for lack of payment. We have found that when patients make a monetary investment in their care it leads to better compliance. Care for everything from births to machete wounds, hypertension to ear infections, is provided, along with education concerning emerging epidemics, cancer, and stroke and heart attack prevention.



### Dr. Antoine's hypertension screening and treatment program

For reasons not well understood, high blood pressure is the most common diagnosis in Sud-Est Haiti. Even in young people, the numbers are often staggering, threatening the entire family

structure with the real possibility of the death or debilitation of the breadwinner or caregiver from a condition that is largely treatable. In April of

### WI, MEMN LA 'Yes, I am here'



2018, CSUG's Dr. Daniel Antoine designed a blood pressure program, *Wi menm la*, that detects and treats hypertension in the far corners of our region. We tap into our network of community health workers to reach and teach people about the dangers of high blood pressure. Dr Antoine and his team then follow up with home visits, medication initiation, and recurrent surveillance.

## Hypertension screening and treatment metrics

**1,271** people ages 15+ were screened by clinic staff

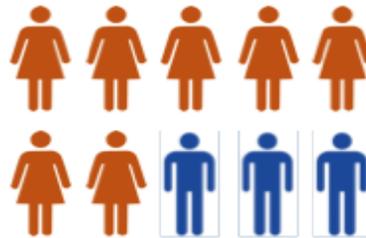
This represents **more than 50%** of the total population in the area, demonstrating the **commitment** of clinic staff to this project



**1 in 4** people screened had high blood pressure, and  
**1 in 2** people ages 50+ had hypertension

High blood pressure in this region affects women more than men. **70%** of hypertension cases in this study were women

**Women of child-bearing age** were **2X** more likely to have high blood pressure as men of the same age



HHP provided **treatment and education to all 325 people** with hypertension over 3 months. In this short time, **22% of patients improved blood pressure**, including **19% from moderate to mild** and **3% from severe to moderate**

(courtesy of Alice White, Epidemiologist, Colorado School of Public Health)

## Women's health and cancer prevention

HHP began a screening and treatment program for cervical cancer in April of 2013 and since then has screened more than 2,500 women in

Sud-Est Haiti, using a technique approved by the World

### EDE TÈT NOU 'Helping Ourselves'



Health Organization for low-resource areas called VIA/cryo. Haiti has one of the highest rates of cervical cancer globally and 95% of

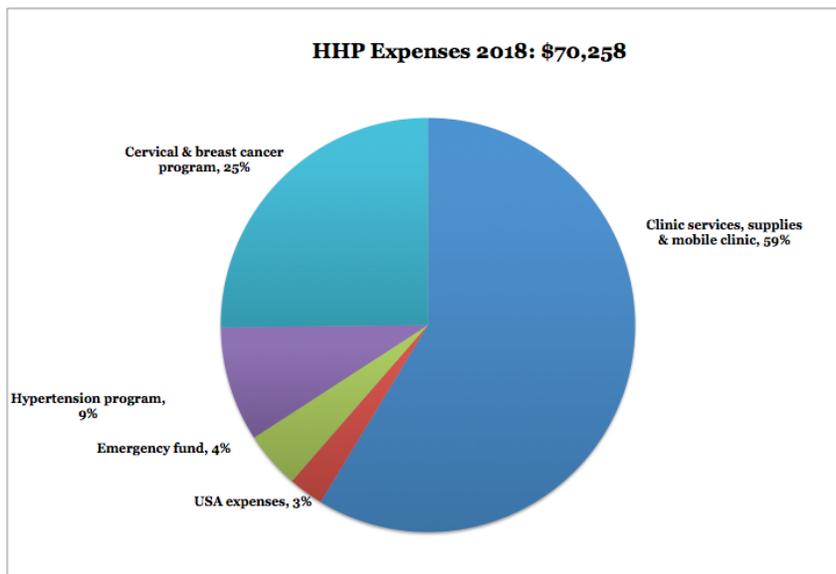
Nurses in training for VIA/Cryo

the women attended by HHP had never had cervical screening. HHP began a training program whereby

local doctors, nurses, and healthcare promoters learn the

technique and have taken over the role of cervical cancer detection and treatment in four clinics in the region. The Cervical Cancer Prevention Center, a program that supports and sustains continuing efforts in the fight against female cancers in Haiti, is sponsored by HHP and located at CSUG. In August of 2018, with generous grant support, CSUG launched *Ede Tèt Nou*, a female cancer screening program using HPV self-testing and self-breast exams that is reaching 800 women in the countryside. Early results of this testing show high rates of positivity, which will require treatment by the HHP/CSUG team.

## Financial report



HHP presently supports operations by investing in personnel – paying the salaries of the 10 clinic workers who are the heart and soul of HHP’s impact. Other expenses are covered by the clinic’s own revenue streams: pharmacy, laboratory and consultation services, and administrative fees from grant proposals. Employees are encouraged to

write proposals for projects that benefit the region, moving closer to self-sufficiency, strength, and longevity.

## Plans for 2019 and beyond

### Birthing Center



In Sud-Est Haiti, most children come into the world aided by the herbal teas and ancient chants of a traditional midwife, or *matwon*. Haiti has the highest maternal mortality rate in the Americas; 26 times more than the US. HHP’s birthing center will give women the option to have their babies in a 24-hour local facility staffed with a trained midwife. The midwife will also work

with the local *matwon* to help assure healthy outcomes for those who prefer to give birth at home. Currently, a woman who comes into the HHP clinic in labor has to be transferred to another clinic 40-minutes away - when a vehicle is available - if a healthcare professional is not present. We plan to open in 2019.

**Matwan at CSUG for a gathering**



## Garbage and recycling project - true progress from the ground up



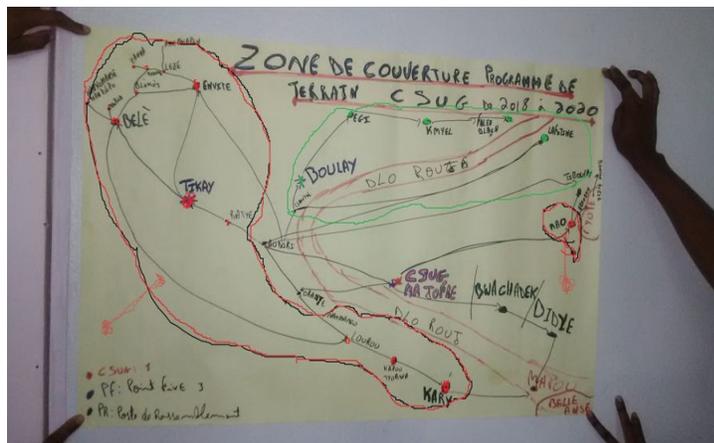
**Kids are key to the clean-up**

Whether here or there, plastic on the planet is a real problem. Developed countries are better at keeping it tucked away but in Haiti it is in full sight, contaminating the ground where people live and farm. Concerned local community members designed *Netwaye pou n Amelyore*: “tidy up to move ahead.” This project will mobilize community workers to teach school kids and their families in Marjofre about how to recycle plastics and dispose of garbage to promote better health. Partnering with Plastic Bank, [www.plasticbank.com](http://www.plasticbank.com), it can be profitable, too, since Plastic Bank provides real money for recyclables. A generous family foundation has provided funding.

## Expanding hypertension care throughout our region

We will be extending our hypertension screening and treatment program, *Wi, Memn La*, to more villages in our region in 2019. As we apply lessons learned from the pilot in 2018, our fine tuning will make this an efficient model for reaching rural hypertensives nationwide.

Where there are no cartographers: Our project reaches places so remote that only health workers who know the footpaths can draw the maps



## HHP thrives on volunteers; meet Erin Quinn and Peter Halle

HHP has no paid staff in the US - all participants pay their own expenses when visiting Haiti yet we depend on their energy, knowledge, and guidance. Erin Quinn, Women's Health Nurse Practitioner,



Erin in one of her many hats

joins HHP from Encinitas, California, where she can usually be found sailing, surfing, working in her

garden, or at her OB/GYN clinic. When Louise Lindenmeyr and Erin first met in Nicaragua while working on a cervical cancer screening campaign in 2013, they knew they were kindred spirits, two soldiers in the crusade for social justice through improved access to health care. Erin first accompanied Louise to Haiti in 2014 to teach "Helping Babies Breathe," a newborn resuscitation course, to the *matwon*. On subsequent visits she has taught cervical cancer screening to local health professionals. HHP is a small organization and we wear many "hats," and some of hers include fundraising, and social media, as

well as technical and professional support for our Haitian health workers.

Most of HHP's dedicated volunteers come to us from the medical field, but not Peter Halle. Peter's background includes decades of Wall Street finance and hedge-fund management with a dash of antiques sales. Peter has overseen HHP's and CSUG's finances since the clinic opened in 2016. Peter retired at 55 and became involved in HHP after an 8,000 mile sail for Greenpeace. He proposed to Louise that he come to Haiti; he could drive motorcycles, speak French, and provide financial expertise. Although his moto skills were politely declined, he *has* been a fantastic fiscal manager as well as the porter of huge sacks of medical supplies. He also helps us navigate some of the stickier cultural and administrative conundrums that Haiti serves up.



Peter Halle - HHP's first mate

### See firsthand what we are doing

In 2018, HHP hosted a small group of benefactors to see the beautiful colors and people of Haiti. The group traveled from Port-au-Prince to Jacmel - a UNESCO creative city for crafts and folk art - and on to Grand Gosier. The group worked at CSUG in Marjofre, planting seeds and creating a tire garden. Why not inspire yourself by joining us in 2020? Contact Louise Lindenmeyr at [llindenmeyr@gmail.com](mailto:llindenmeyr@gmail.com).



Our esteemed "Haiti Ladies" in 2018

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Hispañola Health Partners is a non-profit organization incorporated in Colorado, USA, in July of 2013. You can help with a tax-deductible donation. Many thanks!



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