



80% OF HAITI'S 8.5 MILLION PEOPLE LIVE IN ABJECT POVERTY

Past, Present, and Future

NOVA Hope for Haiti began as a ministry of the Church of the Presentation in Upper Saddle River, NJ, with volunteers participating in medical missions to Haiti and fundraising for these trips. In 2002, NOVA became an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, founded specifically to build a permanent medical clinic in Cavaillon. Still managed and staffed by volunteers, the organization—with the help of its donors and attendees of its annual gala—has made great strides in serving the people of Haiti.

Funds raised during the 2007 gala enabled NOVA to survey areas of Haiti and purchase land in Cavaillon for the construction of a permanent medical facility with housing for volunteers. Once the NOVA medical clinic has opened, the group plans to extend its outreach into the adjoining mountain areas, initiate a formal immunization program for the children of Haiti, and cultivate a portion of the land, training residents in agricultural principles.

Each of the articles in this newsletter is designed to share with you the progress your time, talents, and treasure have helped make possible. We thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to seeing you again in February for our 2008 gala, where we will celebrate Haitian Mardi Gras, a cultural event that marks the beginning of the Christian Lenten season, and honor Healing the Children, Midlantic, a local organization that provides pro bono medical and surgical care to children from third world countries, including those from Haiti.

With your help, NOVA can continue in its mission to bring long-term health care and nutritional stability to the impoverished people of Haiti.

President's Report

Please accept my enthusiastic greetings and a warm word of thanks for your interest and financial support this past year, both have helped keep the dream we all share alive. 2007 has seen NOVA take a large step forward, from several years of conceptual study and theoretical planning to the reality of land selection and purchase. The Haitian government formally recognized NOVA as an official non-profit organization this year, making ownership possible and providing the importation tax exemptions necessary to operate on the scale envisioned. Currently, work is in progress in Haiti to develop architectural design plans for an efficient medical clinic and residential facility to house traveling volunteers. It is anticipated that these will be completed by May 2008 when NOVA can then begin the process of submitting plans for construction bids and selecting the most

To bring urgently needed humanitarian aid, in the form of healthcare and agricultural support, to the impoverished people of the Republic of Haiti, the poorest nation in the western hemisphere.

OUR MISSION



Pictured at the Arise & Walk Gala is Dr. & Mrs. Mark Wade of Arise & Walk Ministries Foundation with Colette McDermott, Executive Director of NOVA

NOVA Receives Award

In November 2006, NOVA was honored by the Arise & Walk Ministries Foundation as a part of the group's annual Gala. NOVA was recognized as an International Mission Award recipient and was awarded a grant of \$5,000 to continue its work in Haiti, complementing AWMF's own medical outreach.

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President's Report (continued)

appropriate contractor. None of this would have taken place without our strong and committed liaison in Haiti, Solanges Toussaint, and your interest, trust and endorsement of this worthy project. A huge expression of thanks is extended to all who have helped in large and in small ways to bring NOVA to its present state.

Lots of planning, oversight and communication lies ahead in 2008 and more frequent travel will be necessary to organize the health care system that NOVA plans to establish. This will focus as much on education and preventative care as it will on emergency and curative treatment. A vigorous effort will be made to touch isolated communities in the mountains as well as those urban ones situated more closely to the central clinic. The system will require education in Creole for staff who will be chosen this year, formally trained in basic medical principles, and expected to serve as the first tier of care. A limited but permanent staff will also be selected to oversee the building project and manage the daily functions of the clinic. Complex cases will be reserved for visiting medical teams. The timeline for this project now depends on financing.

It is clear that such an enthusiastic project requires dedication, perseverance, vision, and adequate funding. Income streams for capital and operational costs will continue to be sought through organized fundraising projects and the very generous goodwill of NOVA's friends and supporters. In addition, 2008 will see the initiation of a vigorous campaign to garner support from private grant foundations interested in emerging nations and from international governmental organizations in place to promote the work that NOVA is undertaking.

Although the road ahead is a long and arduous one, the journey itself is proving to be satisfying, all one has to do is speak to any of the numerous volunteers who have spent time on this project either stateside or in Haiti itself. Often great gratification comes in abstract ways, and the simple gesture of helping the helpless can provide a more powerful sense of personal satisfaction than acquisition of the material, regardless of proportion and grandeur. We at NOVA welcome you to become involved with us on any level. Join in our enthusiasm and share the returns as the project takes form and grows. Realize that what we will accomplish together serves to make the world just a slightly better place.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Kordula



Proposed NOVA Medical Clinic in Haiti

Architectural Update

The artist's rendering to the left depicts the vision for the medical clinic NOVA intends to build. Phase I of the project—scoping the land and purchasing a 12-acre parcel in Cavaillon has been completed. During the medical mission trip in May 2007, three architects were invited to Cavaillon to offer their thoughts on the project; one stood out, taking time to record detailed measurements of the land and buildings and to watch the clinic in action. His firm has been hired to take us through the next two design stages. All final design schematics are scheduled to be completed by May 2008, with an initial design concept available in December 2007.

Gifts to a Haitian Schoolhouse

It has been four years since a young schoolgirl, Omana Douce, met Colette McDermott (Executive Director for NOVA), was blessed with charitable surgical care to repair injuries inflicted by a mentally ill aunt, and adopted by the McDermott family. As they prepared for a trip home to the tiny mountain village in Fond Jean Noel where they once met (the aftermath of a hurricane prevented them from successfully making the trip in November), Omana and Colette were



Two-room schoolhouse in Haiti

Continued page 3

APPROXIMATELY 45% OF THE HAITIAN POPULATION IS ILLITERATE

Gifts to a Haitian Schoolhouse (continued)

graced with many loving gifts for the small schoolhouse in the town. A bounty of school supplies was collected by the teachers and parents of Villano of Emerson, Omana’s U.S. school, and a solar panel and television were donated by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Paglieri of Upper Saddle River, NJ. Already installed, the solar panel provides the school with several hours of electricity per day, a luxury for Haiti, and also provides additional income to the schoolmaster, who is able to charge villagers a small fee to utilize the electricity. The television allows the schoolmaster to teach the children about a world beyond their small village.

In addition, the Emerson High School Class of 2007 made a generous monetary donation (\$700) to the village, a gift that will, along with the others, impact the children and families of Fond Jean Noel in ways we, as Americans, can only begin to imagine. NOVA is grateful for such widespread and direct support, which enhances its mission to make a difference in the livelihood of this village.

A Family Reunion

For American children and teens, understanding the plight of those less fortunate and developing compassion for others is a sometimes a difficult lesson to teach. Gratitude develops with experience. A trip home for a family reunion in early 2008, taken with her adopted mom Colette McDermott, will remind Omana of the life she left behind.



Omana and her Haitian family would like to thank everyone who has contributed to their tiny village

THE AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY IN HAITI IS 52 YEARS.



Cut along dotted line to enter

Win Big in our New Super 50/50 Raffle!

A new fundraiser for NOVA Hope for Haiti is currently underway. Send in your donation today to enter our Super 50/50 Raffle and raise funds for:

Construction of a Medical Facility in Haiti

Donation: \$100 per ticket
 Charity Number: CH2887900
 Drawing: Saturday, Feb. 9, 2008
 Seasons—Washington Township, NJ

Winner need not be present to win.

Please make checks payable to:
 NOVA Hope for Haiti, Inc.
 176 Palisade Ave, Emerson, NJ 07630

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 No. of Tickets: _____
 Amount Enclosed: _____

Upon Nova’s receipt of your form and donation, a registered raffle ticket will be sent to you by mail.

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Volunteers Needed

Haiti is a country of rich culture, vibrant colors, and devastating health conditions complicated by extreme poverty. Through NOVA, you can make a difference. Current needs are for:

- Grant Writers
- Web Maintenance
- Fundraising

The Making of a Medical Mission

The inspiration for NOVA and its mission to bring a permanent medical clinic to the area of Haiti called Cavaillon is renewed each spring and fall as volunteers from Church of the Presentation in Upper Saddle River, NJ work together to make the missions happen. From the logistical aspects of managing volunteers, recruiting doctors and nurses, and scheduling flights to the practical aspects of fundraising and finally, managing the technical side of the project, i.e. obtaining medicines, each medical mission involves an array of volunteer talent provided by both the church and NOVA.

During the last medical mission to Haiti, which took place from April 29-May 7, 2007, approximately 800 residents of Cavaillon and its surrounding areas were treated. Twenty-one volunteers made the work possible on-site.



Approximately 13 categories of disease were treated:

- Parasitosis
- Acute Trauma
- Hypertension
- Gastritis and Peptic Ulcers
- Gastroesophageal Reflex
- Musculoskeletal Disorders
- Skin Disorders and Other Chronic Infections
- Upper Respiratory Infections, i.e. Pneumonia
- Acute Respiratory Disorders, i.e. Asthma
- Acute Diarrhea and Gastroenteritis
- Urinary Tract Infections
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Chronic Malnutrition

In addition, a registry was established for all patients with chronic surgical disorders that can be treated in NOVA's surgical suite once the facility is built.

Getting Medicine Through Customs

Getting the medications needed by Haitian citizens through customs isn't always a smooth experience. During the mission in April/May 2007, medications were held in customs for three days. There was uncertainty as to whether it would ever be released. The Church of the Presentation/NOVA medical team made a united decision to start the medical clinic despite the uncertainty, dispensing what medication they had on hand.

"Let Us Touch the Dying, the Poor, the Lonely, and the Unwanted According to the Graces We Have Received and Let Us Not Be Ashamed or Slow to Do the Humble Work."

 *Mother Teresa*

Next Medical Mission

The next medical mission trip to Haiti is from:

April 6-14, 2008

If you would like to be part of this mission or are medical personnel interested in being a volunteer, please contact:

Joseph.Nuzzi@
novahopeforhaiti.org



Volunteer physicians and nurses listen carefully and provide compassionate care to the people of Cavaillon.

HAITI IS PAINED BY THE WORST MALNUTRITION IN THE AMERICAS

Medical Missions: From Haiti to Home

On October 21, 2007, Yadler Pierreville, an 8-year old boy from Haiti who was suffering from a chronic bone infection, arrived in New Jersey to receive life-saving surgery by Dr. Douglas Avella, a pediatric orthopedic surgeon associated with Valley Hospital in Ridgewood. Dr. Avella and Valley Hospital provided care pro bono. After several months of IV antibiotics, paid for by Church of the Presentation's Haitian Medical Ministry and other generous individual donors, Yadler is expected to make a full recovery and return home. During his recuperation, he is being cared for by John and Mary Silverberg of Suffern, NY. Yadler is the third child brought to the U.S. from Haiti for life-saving surgery through the sponsorship and support of Heal the Children, Midlantic. Dr. Kordula of NOVA was also instrumental in processing the paperwork that made it possible for Yadler to receive care in the U.S.



Yadler Pierreville
with Dr. Avella

A Look Back at Hope for Haiti Gala 2007

NOVA's first annual charity gala dinner dance, held on February 16, 2007 at Seasons in Washington Township, NJ, was an overwhelming success, and we would like to thank everyone who attended. A sold out group of donors pledged their commitment to NOVA and made it possible for the organization to purchase a 12-acre parcel of land in Cavaillon, Haiti on which they will build a permanent medical facility and teach local residents about agriculture.

Residents will learn how to cultivate rich soil, seed and plant, feed and water, and then harvest a variety of foods, including macadamia nuts. Planting of the macadamia trees will also function as part of a reforestation program. The sale of foods harvested at the agricultural center will provide a source of revenue.

Attendees of the gala enjoyed one of Seasons famous cocktail hour spreads, were introduced to NOVA's dreams for the future, participated in a silent auction, and found themselves moving along with the Mikerline Haitian Dance Troupe as the group introduced their style of dance.

Those that participated in the silent auction had a wide selection to choose from, including autographed athletic memorabilia and tickets to sporting events, sparkling jewelry, Haitian artwork and other original paintings, a computer with printer and plasma television, vacation properties, dining packages, Lenox tableware, golf lessons and golf clubs, and a day of beauty.

Father Jack Marin was honored at the event for his humanitarian work in Haiti and his tireless advocacy for international justice and the remediation of poverty. Fr. Martin was instrumental in founding the ministry at Church of the Presentation in Upper Saddle River, NJ that led to the development of NOVA. He currently serves as pastor to St. Mary's in Elizabeth, NJ and is a cofounder of the Haiti Solidarity Network of the Northeast.

Fr. Martin's work in Haiti began after visiting Haiti with Pax Christi, a Catholic peace movement, during a 1992 coup. He has since made at least 10 visits to Haiti, sent delegations, welcomed Haitian visitors and speakers to the U.S., organized medical missions, brought people back to the U.S. for surgery, organized micro-credit projects, and worked on reforestation in Haiti. He provides NOVA with inspiration.




Haitian Dancer



Fr. Jack Martin

Gala 2008 You're Invited!!

Join us on Saturday, February 9, 2008 at Seasons, Washington Township for our 2nd Annual Gala, complete with Seasons' famous cocktail reception, open bar, and silent auction. Dance along to the sounds of the Sunset Band and celebrate in the spirit of Mardi Gras. 

At the celebration, we will honor Healing the Children, Midlantic, for their ongoing efforts to provide pro bono medical and surgical care to third world children.

 Author Unknown
 "Give a man a fish;
 you have fed him for today.
 Teach a man to fish, and you
 have fed him for a lifetime."



Nova Hope for Haiti relies on the financial support of individuals, private foundations, corporations, religious organizations and civic groups to fulfill its mission. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to benefit Haiti. Send your check or money order to NOVA Hope for Haiti, Inc. at the address listed above.

How You Can Help



SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, February 9, 2008

*Gala Saluting This Year's Honoree:
 Healing the Children, Midsantic*



A Haitian Mardi Gras

Seasons, Washington Township, NJ

7 pm – 12 am

Call 201-675-9413 for
advance seating



Tickets \$175
Black Tie Optional

