



Health Equity International

St. Boniface Hospital

SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER



PATIENT PROFILE

CARE CLOSE TO HOME

HEI/SBH's mobile clinics have helped thousands of people access quality health services in the wake of the August 2021 earthquake.

“When the earthquake happened I was 4 months pregnant,”

says 26-year-old Andremerne from Lièvre in Anse-à-Veau, Haiti. The health center near her home was completely destroyed in the disaster, leaving her without access to even the most basic care during her difficult pregnancy.

Within just a few weeks of the earthquake, HEI/SBH's mobile clinic arrived offering a range of primary care services including checkups, iron supplements, and prenatal multivitamins for pregnant women. **“When I learned there were doctors who had come to provide care, I rushed to come,”** she says.

In December 2021, Andremerne gave birth to her baby boy at home. When the mobile clinic returned to Lièvre in February, she was first in line. She says, “Because I came to the clinic when I was pregnant and I was **satisfied with the quality of care** I found, I brought my baby to the doctor for a checkup.”

For Andremerne and thousands of patients like her, HEI/SBH's mobile clinics have been a lifeline. **“I'm truly happy we still have the mobile clinic in Lièvre** because without it I would not have the opportunity to see a doctor with my child to know if his health is good,” she says.



Andremerne and her baby at the mobile clinic.

“ I THANK EVERYONE WHO MADE THIS MOBILE CLINIC POSSIBLE AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE. ”



Our mobile clinics saw more than 34,000 pediatric patient visits from August 2021 to June 2022.



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Conor Shapiro
President & CEO

Dear Friends,

Nearly a year has passed since a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck the area surrounding SBH. I am so proud to offer an update on the progress we've made since then, and the lessons we have learned.

Because of you, we were able to act immediately and provide urgent care to tens of thousands of survivors. Your support operated mobile clinics in the hardest-hit communities and met the needs of a surge in patients across SBH.

In these pages, you will learn more about the lives you saved and the communities you healed. **I hope you can see the tremendous impact you've had** on so many people who had nowhere else to turn.

Today, as our long-term recovery efforts continue across the region, two things have become clear:

First, we must continue to increase SBH's capacity to care for patients. As one of the only fully functional health care facilities remaining in the region, we must always be able to welcome every patient in need.

Second, we must build a health system that delivers high-quality care and withstands natural disasters and other crises. The people of Haiti should not have to decide between their health and feeding their families. At SBH, we have proven that this is possible. And we can make this possible across the region, with our dedicated staff working alongside Haitian communities and with passionate supporters like you.

This work will not be easy, and it will not be quick. But I am heartened by how far we have already come. And **I know you will be with us every step of the way**, even through the hardest of times.

Kenbe fèm,

Conor

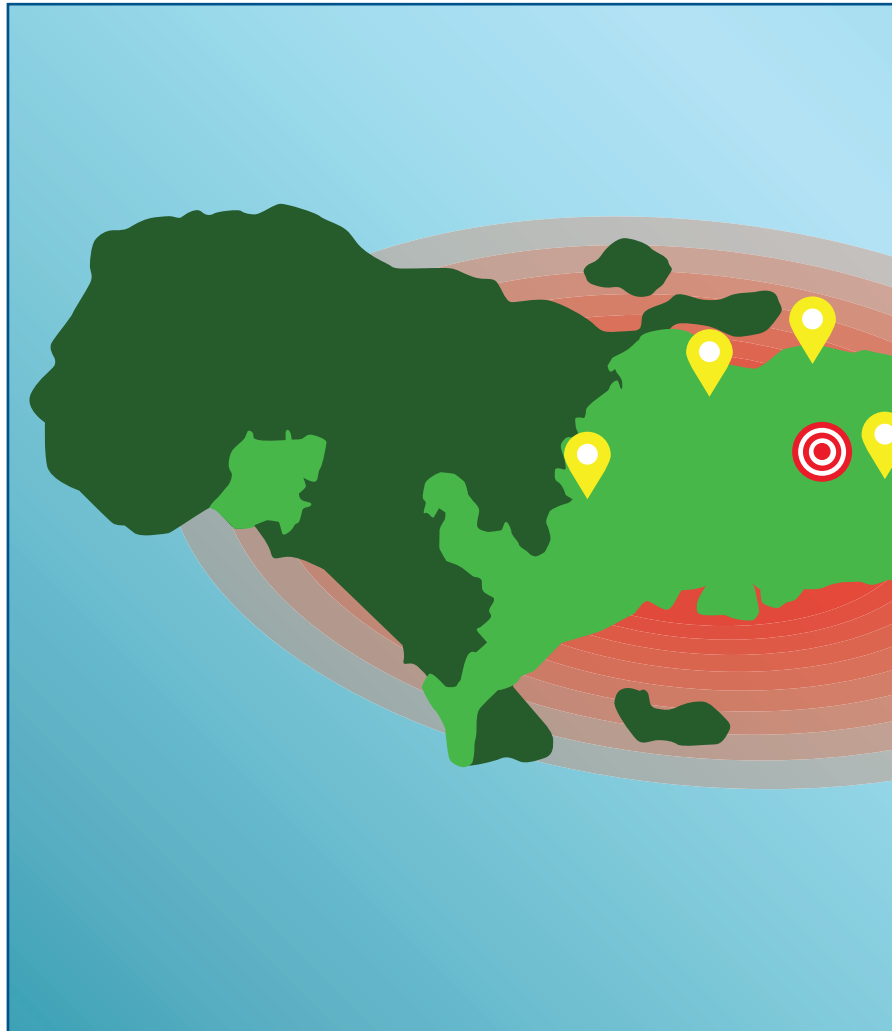
AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE

HEALING SOUTHERN HAITI

The earthquake **damaged or destroyed** more than **55% of health care facilities** across southern Haiti, leaving hundreds of thousands of survivors without access to even the most basic health services. HEI/SBH launched **five mobile clinics** and helped staff four earthquake-impacted health care facilities to restore access to primary care in the most devastated communities, with key support from the Haitian Ministry of Health, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, and Project HOPE.

Thanks to generous support from thousands of individual donors and partners, **we were able to lead the recovery effort** and extend the compassionate health care for which SBH is known across southern Haiti.

The **map below** shows the incredible reach of our mobile clinics and supported health facilities throughout the region.



Learn more about the impact of your support and make a gift today!

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF OVERVIEW TO DATE

100,000+ visits to mobile clinics and sites supported by SBH

89 communities visited by mobile clinics

Increase in patient load at SBH in the 6 months following the earthquake*:

12% increase in outpatient visits 13% increase in ER visits

250+ orthopedic surgical procedures

900+ visits to orthopedic outpatient clinic

* Compared to the same period in the previous year.



MÈSI ANPIL

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

So many earthquake survivors have wanted to say *mèsi anpil* to everyone who helped make the mobile clinics possible. Here are their words of thanks:



BERTONY



For me the mobile clinic is **very important**. There are many sick people who need care and who don't have the means to go to the hospital. I congratulate the staff who chose to provide care in the Anse-à-Veau area after the earthquake.



KETLIE



What SBH is doing for us ... **there are no words to say thank you**. It's not only after the earthquake. Even before, whenever a person was seriously ill in the community, that's where they would go [to SBH]. I bow down low in the name of the people who live in the Giroud area to **give you my thanks**.



BINAU



The mobile clinic is truly important for us in Lièvre because we don't have a hospital. Even the little health center we had was destroyed [in the earthquake]. I think it is [SBH] that gives us the greatest help. I say thank you to the staff who made this decision to come help Lièvre.

VISIT WWW.HEALTHEQUITYINTL.ORG



STAFF PROFILE

INTRODUCING SBH'S NEW HEAD NURSE

Miss Rachelle Laguerre first came to SBH as an intern in 2013. After gaining experience at medical facilities in Les Cayes and Port-au-Prince, Miss Rachelle joined SBH as a maternity nurse in early 2017. She earned **steadily increasing responsibility**, becoming assistant to the head internal medicine nurse in 2019, manager of our COVID treatment center in spring 2020, and initial field coordinator for our earthquake response in 2021. Now, as Head Nurse, Miss Rachelle leads SBH's nursing staff and service provision across the hospital. "My vision is to treat all patients in their entirety," she says, **"Not just giving them pills, but also soothing their spirits."**

SAVE THE DATE

HEI/SBH'S 2022 GALA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27
7 PM ET

Honoring HEI/SBH Board Member Emerita Barrie Landry and our Hospital Heroes



Formal invitation with details to come



Tickets and sponsorship opportunities available at healthequityintl.org/gala2022

OUR MISSION

Health Equity International is dedicated to providing essential health services to the people of southern Haiti, especially the most vulnerable. We are committed to building a comprehensive, efficient, and resilient health system that provides high quality care. We believe that ensuring access to life-saving and life-changing health services is a critical component to building strong and productive communities.

STAY UP-TO-DATE!

JOIN US ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ONLINE:

healthequityintl.org

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