



# HBS Newsletter

Hôpital Bon Samaritain

Limbé, Haiti



Spring 2011

## Cholera Update



As the Cholera Epidemic hit the Limbé Valley towards the end of October 2010, HBS was overwhelmed and in desperate need of medical volunteers to help deal with this fast spreading disease. HBS was stretched extremely thin with the arrival of approximately 40 new patients a day. We were very fortunate when our request for volunteers was answered by people from Europe and Canada. Dr. Joris Legein, a Belgian doctor who has a family practice in France arrived at HBS on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November and was able to stay for a month. Together with Stéphane Peucelle, an old friend and logistics coordinator from France along with Claude Payen, a male nurse from Jacmel presently studying in Belgium, they were able to set up a unit using the old waiting area for triage and converting the pediatric ward for isolation. Dr. Legein, with the others, were able to get the

disease under control whereby they were able to save almost all the patients who arrived, even those who were brought in severely dehydrated.

Mid December, a former volunteer, Dr. Brian Sullivan, arrived at HBS and stayed approximately 3 months. Dr. Sullivan carried on the work that Dr. Legein started.

Cholera peaked about 4 months ago in the Limbé area. Thanks to all the medical supplies that were donated by Public Health Haiti, AmeriCares, OXFAM and MSF and with HBS volunteers we were able to make a difference for these affected persons. HBS has seen over 900 patients and are still receiving a small number of patients per week. The medical experts are predicting an upswing of patients during the next rainy season.



Brian Sullivan, Stéphane Peucelle, Claude Payen & Joris Legein

## Manonou the latest addition to the Hodges House



Meet Chebanie Chery (nicknamed Manonou), the latest resident of the Hodges House. Manonou is four years old and came to HBS from Bas Limbé as a possible Cholera patient. Her mother and sister, who both had Cholera, arrived severely dehydrated at HBS and sadly both passed away shortly thereafter. Manonou was left an orphan.

One Saturday, mid-December all the volunteers and children went to Bas Limbé on an outing where a number of persons recognized Manonou. A man volunteered that he had been responsible for her mother and thought all three of them had perished during the epidemic. He was very happy to see that Manonou was well. He stated that he was a fisherman and as he would be rarely home he could not take care of her. He gave

the birth certificate and asked that Manonou be cared for at HBS.

A number of months have gone by and we are pleased to inform that Manonou is doing very well. She is very outgoing and gets along very well with her new foster brothers. She has been enrolled in school which is scheduled to start in September.



## Felinda Pierre

Felinda Pierre was 18 days old when she arrived at the hospital on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December. She came from 8th section of Limbé one of the areas hardest hit by the Cholera epidemic. Her mother had been admitted several days prior for Cholera. She had left her child home with relatives, but was fed very little for days as they did not have money. When Felinda was brought to the cholera ward to be with her mother she was severely dehydrated. Dr. Silvan Vesenbeckh administered ORS via a syringe slowly in hopes to give the baby some fluids while the others tried to get an IV started. After a half hour they were able to get an IV started and the baby was transferred to the Pediatric ward for further care. Thanks to the diligent care of the staff and volunteers both mother and baby Felinda were saved and they were able to go back home in few days.

## Container of Supplies



Once released from the dock and customs, all of the badly needed donated supplies and equipment arrived at HBS the second week in November. Amongst the many items were new mattresses for the beds in pediatrics and adult ward and two replacement generators which were really needed.



The shipping container was transformed into our second motor house. Thanks to Joseph Twidwell and Father David Roehrich who volunteered from South Dakota during March, working along Shawn Hodges and his crew, this became a reality. The container was modified with louvers and a door. The generators were mounted to the floor and wired into the network with a new transfer switch. Once that was complete, they set to rewiring the hospital, a major task. They did a great job as the generators are working well and a good portion of the electrical is now redone.



HBS Foundation, Inc.  
PO Box 1290  
Lake Worth, FL 33460

Tel: (561) 775-0260  
E-mail: [hbsfl@bellsouth.net](mailto:hbsfl@bellsouth.net)  
Registration No: CH21155

# Happy Easter

