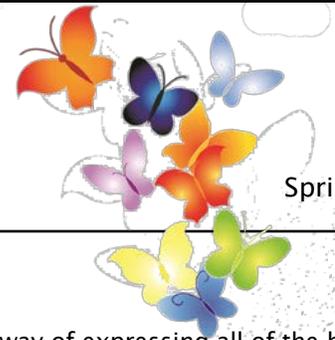




HBS Newsletter

Hôpital Bon Samaritain

Limbé, Haiti



Spring 2013

Geralda

As any short or long term volunteer in Haiti understands, words seem an insufficient way of expressing all of the blessings, challenges, and emotions that HBS evoked in me. With the orphanage, surgical teams, pharmacy, and other hospital areas, I have felt that my life has been demanding, yet pleasantly full. However, this is one of the stories about which I have been bragging and will continue to symbolize my time here.

Geralda is three years old and arrived around the same time I did on my return visit of three months in February. Even though Geralda is three, she is the same size as Vanessa, who just turned two. Geralda was so malnourished that her hair turned blond. During her first month in Kai Mira, she was very withdrawn and depressed, never smiling.



After a week of caring for her and receiving lots of love and attention by all the volunteers, I heard her infectious giggle for the first time. Now she has captivated the entire hospital with her adorable and charming personality. During our walks we must say "Bonjou" (Good day) to the pharmacy staff, where she wins over the patient bystanders' hearts with her healthy chubby cheeks and smile!

By Abby Engwall



Yvesneau Victor

Yvesneau Victor is an 8 year old boy who has spent almost a month in the hospital with a large open wound (7 x 2in) on the inside of his upper left arm.

Yvesneau and another boy were carrying a piece of lumber on their shoulders when it fell and hit his upper arm. His arm became 3-4 times its normal size even though it was not fractured.

Yvesneau is the fourth of five children and due to his family's poor economic situation they did not want to hospitalize him hoping he would get better. After a few days when the wound worsened, they returned and Yvesneau was then hospitalized and placed on antibiotics.

Thanks to the visiting surgery team from Minnesota, Yvesneau benefited from a skin graft over the wound after the infection cleared. Along with some packs of food from "Feed my Starving Children" which the team brought with them, he is now doing much better. Yvesneau will also receive physical therapy as his arm is still very stiff and painful.





Joanna Update

On 18 April, Joanna achieved the milestone of 90 years old. Her birthday was celebrated by members of her church and family. Many thanks to all those that remembered her with prayers and special cards.

On a sadder note, Joanna's eldest daughter, Susan, passed away on June 3rd in Lakeland, Florida after a prolonged struggle with cancer. Susan worked as a RN in the Pediatric Ward of HBS for many years. Our condolences go out to her family and friends. She will be greatly missed by all.



Requiescat In Pace



Ronald Destine

Ronald Destine, 18 yrs old from Garde Cognac, arrived at the hospital with a severely swollen and infected ankle. A week prior, Ronald was hit in the ankle by a rock thrown by another boy. An X-ray revealed that he did not have a fracture. He came to the hospital when he saw that the swelling continued and the infection worsened. The wound was debrided (**Debridement** is the removal of unhealthy tissue from a **wound** to promote healing) in surgery and he was given antibiotics to clear the infection. Once the infection cleared, the next visiting surgery team placed a skin graft over the wound to speed up his recovery. Ronald is grateful that all went well and that he is now healing normally.



Please donate so we can continue to provide care for the people of the Limbé Valley, especially the little ones.

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Vanessa, Geralda and Nicodem