



HBS Newsletter

Hôpital Bon Samaritain

Limbé, Haiti



Winter 2013



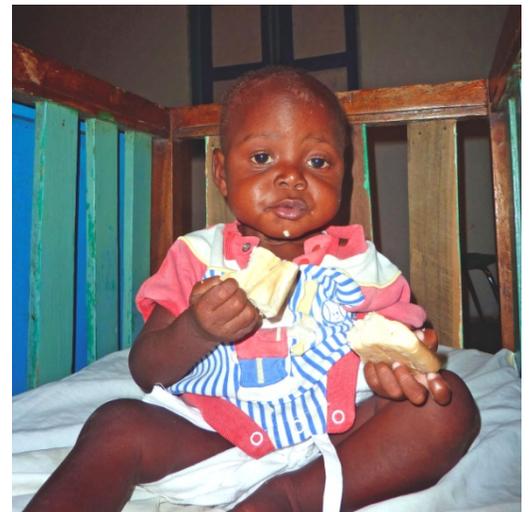
*December 1492, Christopher Columbus spent the days before Christmas with his ships anchored in Acul Bay. On Christmas Eve he wrecked his flagship, **Santa Maria** on the outer barrier reef resulting in the establishment of **La Navidad**, the first European Settlement in the New World. William Hodges spent many years researching the location of **La Navidad**.*



Meet Wency Bonsam

Wency, a nine month old baby boy, is our newest addition to the orphanage. He was found abandoned in the hospital waiting room the first week of November. Placed in Kai Mira, he was quickly admitted to pediatrics suffering from malnutrition and typhoid fever. After spending a couple of weeks of intensive medical care in pediatrics, Wency fully recovered and returned to the orphanage.

All the other children in Kai Mira were asking where Wency went and even got to visit him in pediatrics. Now back in Kai Mira, Wency seems a little overwhelmed by all the attention though he is eating well and hopefully he will soon be playing with the other energetic toddlers.



Dentistry at HBS

Dr. Jeff Jaeger returned to Haiti for his 4th visit this past November, providing dental care to the Limbé residents. Every trip he sees between 110 and 120 patients in a week performing extractions, filling of cavities and cleanings.

Since his first visit three years ago, he has moved the clinic from a small room near Kai Mira to a more spacious setting in the Diabetic Clinic. This allows patients to wait on the nearby benches, rather than standing in line for their turn. Some of the more difficult extractions can take up to 20 minutes, but Dr. Jaeger has been very impressed with how stoic the Haitians can be.

When he first came a dental chair was recovered from the storage area where it had been for many years collecting dust. It needed some fixing but it works. A portable dental unit provides compressed air that powers the suction and drill hand piece that he uses to do his work.

Future plans include involving dental students, both Haitian and American, and continue to provide dental education to area schools.



Memories of Haiti

I learned about HBS from a doctor acquaintance that volunteered in Limbé during the Cholera epidemic in 2010. Before leaving for Haiti I heard a lot about the local medical work, still I was excited to get my own experience. Letting go of all possible expectations, I felt like I was quickly adapting to life at HBS. Feeling welcomed by everyone right from the beginning helped me a lot.

While working in the clinic most of the day, the medical staff taught me a lot in diverse fields. Also I have been able to share some of my knowledge when working hand in hand with the nursing students trained at HBS.

Thinking back, memories of the time spent in the orphanage now come first to my mind. Giving love and shelter to these children that suffered different setbacks in life appeared as one of the most important missions to me.

When leaving Limbé I realized how emotionally attached I got to these children in such a short time.

I am grateful for all the beautiful moments and blessings I experienced during my stay at HBS and I truly hope to be able to return after finishing Medical school.

By Sophie Brackertz
Medical Student
Berlin, Germany

Note from Marg Brickman October 2013

When I arrived at Hôpital Bon Samaritain last week, I was greeted very enthusiastically with many hugs, kisses, handshakes and smiles. There was some sadness on their faces when they heard I was only staying one week.

I spent most of my time working with the beautiful children in the orphanage. Five very lively toddlers are in there now who keep life very busy and interesting each day! It is great to see them doing so well after overcoming many challenges. The four children in Hodges House Foster home are back in school and doing very well. They are still as energetic as ever and put many smiles on my face with their antics.

The hospital was very busy during my stay with many births, some deaths and pediatrics overflowing into the already very busy medical ward. The daily out-patient clinic and the HIV clinic were bustling each day as well. The needs are ever increasing and HBS is finding it very difficult to make ends meet. On behalf of everyone at HBS, thank you so much for your ongoing support. Everyone is so very thankful. They asked me to say "blessings to everyone."

Throughout this trip I am getting strong confirmation that we definitely need to carry on to do what we can to help the precious people of Haiti.

Blessings,
Marg



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HAPPY NEW YEAR