



HBS Newsletter

Hôpital Bon Samaritain

Limbé, Haiti



Volunteers – Mainstay of HBS

Each year we receive many requests from people who would like to volunteer at HBS and this year is no exception. Since January 2015, HBS has already welcomed 43 volunteers including two surgery teams. Many of our volunteers return each year. This year, Dr. Richard Pidutti, an urologist from Johnstown, PA returned after a long hiatus as he had volunteered back in 1979 as a medical student where he worked alongside Dr. William Hodges.



Russ Fry (left) from Apollo, PA also spent a month, this time bringing his granddaughter, Sarah Ott (below), along with him. They spent most of their time helping with the renovations in the Lab and caring for the children in Kai Mira. Russ Fry has been coming to HBS for many years. HBS extends a very special thanks to Russ and his family for many years of service.

This summer we are expecting a number of volunteers, including Dr. Gail Nield from Canada and also four medical students from England and Scotland.



Kedline

Kedline is a 12 years old girl who arrived at the hospital with a broken femur of the left leg. Her family lives in a town located 30 minutes down the valley from the hospital, where villagers have to carry buckets of water on top of their heads from a spring to their houses.

Kedline was performing this task when the bucket slipped and landed on her thigh breaking the bone. Arriving at the hospital, the bone was set and she was placed in traction, often the case when patients don't have the means to go elsewhere to have the necessary surgeries done.

Thankfully a visiting team of orthopedic surgeons from Oregon, led by Dr. Brett Lantz, arrived a few weeks later and was able to perform the surgery to pin the bone for this young girl. The surgery was successful and Kedline was able to go home on crutches a couple days later.

Surgery

HBS receives about 6 surgery teams who perform surgery for one week each year. Several teams come towards the end of the year in October and November and another 3-4 teams from January to May. Every team has a general surgeon, anesthesiologists, support staff and some specialists which includes Urology, Gynecology, Ear - Nose - Throat, and Orthopedics. With two operating rooms available, every team sees many patients in that week. HBS surgery services benefit about 300 patients each year. A special thank you to all these team members for all they do!



New Lab

HBS has been renovating the Lab with a much needed upgrade. The renovations started in August 2014 and finished in March 2015. During that period the staff was temporarily re-positioned to the Diabetic Clinic. They are now back in the lab settling into their newly remodeled work area, with a much cleaner and more spacious layout. The upgrade included replacing the roof, ceiling, moving some interior walls, replacing the electrical/plumbing and installing new tiled countertops with cabinets. We would like to thank all the volunteers and staff that made this project a great success.

We hope to continue the upgrades all through the hospital. The work in the cafeteria is still in progress and afterwards we are looking to upgrade Maternity and the roofing around the courtyard.



HAPPY EASTER

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