



Partners In Development

PID's Unsung Heroes

Recently, I returned to Haiti for a visit. Since February 2019, there has been a lot of unrest in Haiti, and two of my previous attempts to visit were ultimately cancelled. While there, I stood with Pouchon and watched the hustle and bustle that surrounded the clinic, the cafeteria, the education building, the admin building, the bunkhouse and the new medical depot. Outside, Nickerson worked in the yard. Those of you who have traveled with us know Nickerson. For those who don't know him, Nickerson is a young man who came into PID's child sponsorship program at age eleven, when both of his parents died.

As we stood watching, Pouchon said, "Gale, do you know how many people you have lifted up?" I replied, "Pouchon, as much as I'd like to take the credit, it is the many people working and volunteering that make PID happen. I consider it a privilege to be a part of this wonderful group of people. It is not just me that makes this happen." It was then I decided to write about a few of the unsung heroes who volunteer, travel, and work for PID in Guatemala, Haiti, Mississippi, Peru and in our Ipswich office.

Paul is a local journalist dedicated to changing the lives of others. He can be seen riding his bicycle all over Ipswich with a trash bag over his shoulder collecting recyclable cans. Last year he donated over \$1800 to PID, all from his can collections.

Alyne is a brilliant scientist. She produces instant tests for Malaria, STDs, Typhoid, and several other diseases at a fraction of the cost to many organizations all over the world. These are tests that many clinics could not provide except for through her work and dedication. When I visited her, she told me about her decision to leave her job in 2001. She left a lucrative job, committing to take a \$45,000 pay cut and live on \$25,000 a year for two years. Her hope was to make the dream of providing low cost lab tests a reality. Many times, she ate only what was ready from her garden, sometimes living off of only cantaloupe for weeks. As we ate lunch, she shared with me her secrets for keeping her living costs low (she does make more than 25,000 now. But it is still nothing compared to what she could make working as a scientist), so that she can continue to provide this service to organizations all over the world.

(cont'd on page 3)



Nickerson

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**-Gale Hull,
PID Co-founder
and Director**

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POINTS OF INTEREST

- Meet some of our volunteers!
- Read about an ongoing love story!
- See a sneak peek of our Annual Benefit!
- Check out some crafts from the areas we serve!

Update on Pouchon

In our last newsletter, we reported on the state of the medical system in Haiti, with a personal story about Pouchon (pictured left). Pouchon spent months trying to locate a doctor that would perform a routine surgery for him. We are happy to update you with the news that Pouchon received his surgery and has fully recovered!



Our 4th house in Mississippi is almost complete!

Sneak Peek of the 2019 Annual Benefit

Tasty Eats:

Appetizers - Crispy Caesar Salad, and Crusty baked bread from **Tendercrop Farm** of Newbury

Entrees from **Spinelli's** of East Boston - Fresh fassili, broccoli rabe with tender chicken pieces sautéed in olive oil and garlic. Roasted veggies. Vegetarian, gluten free option available.

Mouthwatering desserts from **Diane's Desserts** of Newburyport

A Few Great Auction Items:

African Safari (back by popular demand!)

Masonry Doctor - 3 days of masonry labor plus up to \$500.00 in materials (Super popular!)

Bridgton Maine Family Vacation House (Nice vacation spot)

Essex River Cruise trip for 2 (relaxing Cruise close to home)

Boston Bruins Tickets (for our sports fans)

Mark Warner's Martial Arts Birthday Party (New for this year- party for up to 30 kids)

A PID Love Story

Recently we received an email from the other side of the planet!

"I am an academic, researcher and activist with a strong interest in sustainability, equity, and the wellbeing economy. I am also in the market for an engagement ring. My partner is also an active permaculturalist, sustainability advocate, and zero-waste activist.

So naturally, having recently found out about PID and PID Crafts, I am very excited by the possibility of sourcing an engagement ring from using recycled glass-based gems from Haiti. This just seems a beautiful alternative to mining diamonds, in so many ways.

From your website I note that your artist, Michaelange Antoine, has a desire to expand her glass gem-cutting program through the purchase of an additional gem-cutting machine. So it strikes me that, rather than spending \$X thousand on a diamond, there may be a better allocation of money towards a donation of a similar magnitude that has lasting impact on this wonderful, high-impact small business enterprise; and in so doing, as a side effect, I might procure an engagement ring that contains a gem from recycled glass, which carries a far more valuable story than any diamond ever could.

So... I would like to enquire as to the specific possibility of my donating a gem²-cutting machine to the Haiti-based glass gem business, in exchange for a custom engagement ring.

Depending on the type of machine Michaelange requires for her business, it may or may not be within my budget (I am just an academic after all!). But I would really like to try this...!"

- James from Australia



Above: Michaelange in the new gem-cutting building at PID!

Right: Michaelange crafting a gem for a very special ring!

A gem more precious than a diamond! Gale recently returned from Haiti with the first of three gems created by Michaelange for the ring that will travel half way around the world. When Michaelange learned just how special this order was, she was beaming. To create a gem, Michaelange first chooses the glass and rough cuts it. Secondly, she takes the glass and glues it to the holder. Then, she spends hours grinding and polishing the glass, following the complicated pattern provided by Dr. Steven Bridge of Saint Joseph's College of Maine. With her first 3 gems completed, she will now work on three heart shaped gems for the ring. The smile on her face and the pride in her work says it all!

Check out more of Michaelange and her team's creations on our Etsy page:

www.etsy.com/shop/PIDcrafts



(Unsung Heroes, cont'd from page 1) The First Ipswich Bank had a "Wear Jeans to Work" day, which raised \$200 for Partners in Development. They also worked with us to develop a low cost alternative loan to keep building costs in Mississippi affordable.

Rick, of Lowe's in Batesville, MS, continually helps us with construction and helps monitor our construction costs because, as he said, "Miss Gale, I believe what you are doing is the right thing and I want to help you. "

Two children, ages eight and nine, raised \$25 by conducting their own church service at home, after their aunt attended a benefit concert for PID, because they wanted to make a difference.

The Kerr family who, after one family member traveled to Guatemala, set a goal of raising money for the salary of the librarian at our new location in Solala, Guatemala.

This is just a small sampling of the individuals, both past and present, who have given their time, their lives, and shared their finances, to make PID what it is today. We all stand together in gratitude that we have the chance to lift up so many people that were born in areas of low to no opportunity. Seeing the smile of Nickerson reminds me of why we will never quit.

- Gale Hull

We want to give a special thank you to the families of David Kerr and Barbara Beeman, for encouraging donations to PID in lieu of flowers. David and Barbara were long time PID supporters who, sadly, recently passed away.

PID CRAFTS CORNER

Our new and improved Etsy shop is up and running! Visit our online shop at www.etsy.com/shop/PIDcrafts or in person at our Ipswich office to shop for handmade crafts from Haiti, Guatemala, Peru, and the Mississippi Delta! Also, check out our Caribbean Crystals line—hand cut gems from Haiti made from upcycled glass. All proceeds from the sale of our crafts and gems go right back into our programs!

Look for us at Boston University's Global Bazaar on October 5, 2019 and at the Topsfield Fair on October 12, 2019!



A Note About Volunteers

We rely heavily on the volunteers in our office to help keep up with the daily and weekly tasks involved with running our program. We'd like to introduce you to some of our volunteers. Some were with us for the summer, while others have stayed into the fall.

Jackie, a student from Pingree, came to help this summer for the 3rd year in a row! After learning about PID when her 8th grade class came to visit, she has been dedicated to help each summer since!

Long time volunteers Merrily and Sue continue to come weekly to work on a variety of tasks including translating and mailing letters from sponsored children to their sponsors and helping with our Etsy shop!

Summer volunteer, Maddie, was essential in helping us take our Etsy shop to the next level!

New volunteers for the fall include Carissa (an intern from UMass Dartmouth), Gwen (a home school student), and Kelly (a registered nurse who has helped tremendously in our warehouse).

Starting soon in our office will be Elizabeth and Rochelle, respiratory therapy students from North Shore Community, who will be helping us work on our Annual Benefit. We will also have Astrid, who previously volunteered when she was in high school, and has decided to come back.

We want to thank our current and past volunteers for their dedication to helping those living in extreme poverty. We could not do what we do without them. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit www.pidonline.org/get-involved/volunteer to apply.



Partners In Development
174 High Street, Suite 106
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Partners In Development

19th Annual Benefit And Fund Drive

silent auction, dinner and live entertainment

funding programs for individuals living in extreme poverty in Haiti, Guatemala, the Mississippi Delta, and Peru

SATURDAY OCTOBER 19, 2019 at 6PM

VITTORI-ROCCI POST

143 Brimbal Ave., Beverly, Mass. 01915

RSVP by October 8, 2019

978-380-6132 or pidonline.org or mail

Tickets \$50

