

Partners In Development, Inc.

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Since 1990, PID has been serving the extreme poor in the developing world.

Through child sponsorships, micro credit loans, housing opportunities, and medical care we aim to transform communities so they can be self-sufficient.

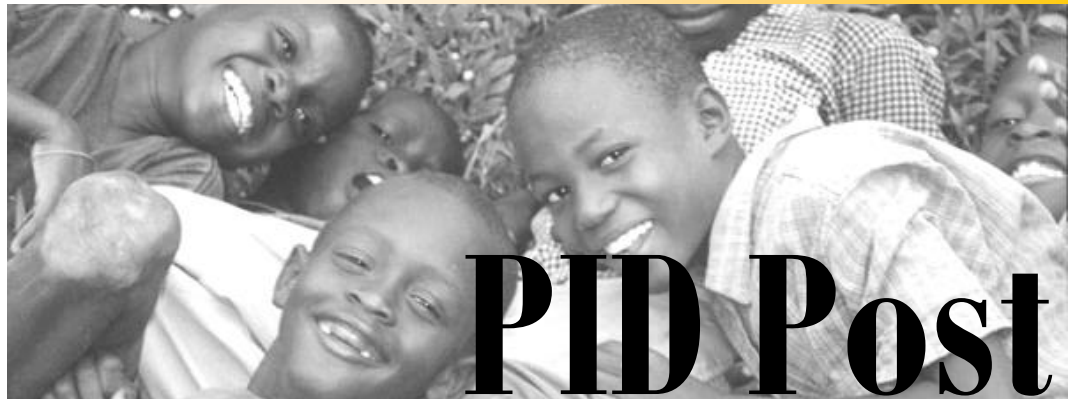
We serve thousands of people each year in Haiti and Guatemala who are determined to break the cycle of poverty.

PID is a 501c(3) nonprofit Christian service organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

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PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Summer 2013

Clinic Advances in Haiti



PID's Medical Clinic in Blanchard, Haiti serves 26,000 people a year, providing free, quality primary care to those who could not otherwise afford it.

PID is proud to announce that we have received our public clinic license from the Ministry of Health in Haiti.

The license expands PID's abilities as a health care provider and creates a collaborative relationship with existing services in Haiti. We will soon be able to set up a vaccination program and participate in other public health programs sponsored by the government. PID will also be exempt from paying customs duty on items we ship!

With the license, we are also required to have a midwife on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for emergency deliveries. One of our Haitian nurses at the clinic, Sultane, is a qualified midwife and is excited to fill that role. Congrats to our clinic staff in Haiti for making such great progress!

University Study for PID

After years of doing informal studies on parasites in Guatemala we are excited to announce PID's first formal parasite study. The study is being done in partnership between PID, the San Antonio, Guatemala Ministry of Health, Yale University, and Framingham State University. This year, Julie Merriam (Yale) and Rachael Cooper (Framingham State) returned as research assistants to Guatemala on June 5th to begin the study.



The women are working under PID and the guidance of their universities to produce formal and publishable results. They will be visiting the three largest schools in the villages where PID works: Ixtacapa Sur, Ixtacapa Norte, and Desierto. Over the next two months they will be examining every student for soil transmitted parasites and working with the PID clinic to treat those who test positive.

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Journey Back to Haiti

By Lisa Lassey

Thirteen years ago I made my first trip to Haiti. I was struck by two things: despair and strength. I wondered how an entire population living in extreme poverty could be so strong in spirit. For a decade I worked for PID learning and observing how to make a difference in the lives of those we served.

At that time, PID has purchased land in Blanchard, a barren piece of land, with nothing but a few skinny cows, scattered piles of trash, pitted dirt paths used for roads, and a few basic dwellings. However, it was located on the outskirts of Port Au Prince and was suitable to build multiple cinder block homes. In the years that followed I lead several teams to Haiti and slowly watched the landscape change.

My last trip to Blanchard was three weeks before the earthquake of 2010. What happened to PID following that tragic event is still burned into all of our memories. The long wait for news concerning our Haitian staff made our hearts heavy, but Haiti needed us and we somehow made a plan amidst the chaos and sprang into action.



PID has currently built homes for six families in Canaan, and has permission to build many more!

Phones rang off the hook and our in-boxes were jammed with people's offers to help. Overnight, the demands on and size of the organization burst. We went from seeing 6,000 people a year in our small clinic to over 50,000 in the months following the quake.

Later that year, I took a job close to my home in Maine. Gale and I agreed that once I was settled in my new position, I'd return to Haiti to see how much PID had accomplished since the earthquake. We had sent hundreds of team members and thousands of pounds of supplies.

I was looking forward to my return trip, but my plans changed unexpectedly when at age 36, I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. I had seen people with no health care in Haiti, where I knew cancer was a death sentence with no doctor or resources for treatment. I had cancer

in the US and could get the best treatment possible. Still, I had to face something terrible and scary, similar to what the citizens of Haiti had to do after the earthquake. I'm proud to say I won my battle and as soon as I was medically cleared, I called Gale to book my next trip.

In May of 2013, I returned to Haiti after nearly 3 1/2 years. Leading up to my trip, I wondered what I would see. Would the tent cities still be everywhere? Would there be rubble? Would the people have the same spirit? What was life like for the Haitians friends I left there?



Lisa Lassey worked for Partners In Development for 10 years and was essential in helping grow PID in its early years and organizing after the earthquake. She remains closely connected to PID and writes the quarterly newsletter.

After our team landed we took a tour of Blanchard viewing house by house, family by family, a flourishing community with neighbors, homes, water, electricity and businesses instead of a barren field. I was excited to see the change. PID has built and put additions on over 70 houses in this area. I was also amazed at the changes in the clinic. When I was in Haiti last it was an unfinished shell of a building and now it was a fully operational clinic, serving 26,000 people a year. The Haitian friends I had left behind were alive and well and still remembered me.

PID has now expanded to an area called Canaan. Similar to Blanchard 13 years ago, Canaan has a barren landscape, much like a desert. Prior to the earthquake, nobody lived there; nobody would want to. The families that now call it home live in tents and shacks in various stages of disrepair. There is no work, no public transportation and no hope. But that is where PID shines.

When our truck full of Americans arrived in Canaan each morning, the people there were unsure of us, just as they had been in the early days in Blanchard. They stood around the worksite and watched us dig and carry rocks. Yet in time, trust, friendships, and hope grew into today's thriving community in Blanchard, drawing others to move there as well. And I know that the next time I return I will see this same transformation in Canaan.

I left Haiti this year a happy person, knowing that work of PID has helped so many families and will continue to as we work in partnership with Haitians, who, with their resilience and strength of spirit, march on and a new generation of hope and perseverance is born.

Get Involved

Take Action

Help Us Help Others



December 21, 1980 - May 18, 2013

John Boisrond: We Will Never Forget

PID has suffered a tragedy with the recent, untimely death of one of our beloved directors in Haiti, John Boisrond. John oversaw our Housing and Small Business program and sadly passed away after a motorcycle accident. To honor him, his dedication to PID and to the people of Haiti, the decision has been made to re-name the Medical Clinic after him. A plaque will be displayed with the following inscription:

Nan memwa lanmou nou pou John Stefford Boisrond, yon'n nan direktè CEMEPID ki chanjé lavi tout moun li té rankontré sou chimin li. Nou pap janm bliyé li.

In loving memory of John Stefford Boisrond, one of the directors of CEMEPID, who changed the lives of everyone he met. We will never forget him.

University Study for PID con't

This summer, every student will be examined for parasites twice in order to test the efficacy of the deworming medication, Albendazole. In addition, Rachael and Julie will be testing every student's hemoglobin to examine a connection between anemia and soil transmitted parasite infection.

Lastly, the girls will be administering questionnaires to every family of school-aged children to analyze demographic patterns as they relate to infection. This study has the potential to affect the way parasites are treated worldwide. Stay tuned for updates and results.

Save the Date!

PID's Annual Benefit & Silent Auction is on
Saturday, November 9, 2013

Please let the office know if you have auction items you'd like to donate.

**Check out our website
for upcoming Trip Dates!**



Have you liked us on Facebook?
It's a great way to stay connected with our staff in Haiti, Guatemala and the US, and fellow team members! Find us at: www.facebook.com/PIDonline

Exploring the Possibilities

By Gale Hull

Recently I made the first visit to a possible third location for PID's programs. Everyone keeps asking, "Where is this place?" and, "are you really going to a third country?" The board of PID has always had the goal of working in three locations, and we felt it was time to start searching because we have been established in Haiti and Guatemala for many years now. Although we have narrowed it down to one specific place, we have not announced the location because it is not confirmed to be the next addition to PID. We do not want to excite everyone and then decide PID is not a good match. We hope to make a decision by August and announce it at our Annual Fundraiser on November 9th, 2013.

I had a great exploratory trip with the biggest challenge being able to look at the location through new eyes. I remember on the first trip to Haiti when I couldn't stop crying and couldn't tell the difference between the extreme poor and the okay poor. I remembered how on my first trips to Guatemala I kept comparing Haiti and Guatemala. Even though I have learned through much experience how each place was so different, this time around I found myself again comparing the experience and information to both Haiti and Guatemala. I had to keep reminding myself to look at it as a new place with its own unique challenges.

On this trip I spent time with teachers, leaders, medical persons and church leaders. I am excited to return to interview those living in poverty. I want to learn their view of the solution to their problems. Do they want PID work there?

Here are some of the statistics that I was able to verify:

- Life expectancy is 48 for men and 52 for women.
- It has the highest suicide rate in the world.
- Over 50% of adults over age 40 have diabetes
- The unemployment rate is equal to that of Haiti (80%).

The place presents many challenges and obstacles to running a successful program. PID has never shied away from challenge. We hope this population will want to become partners with us. We will all know very soon and so will you.

Summer Interns!

Our summer interns hail from various places around the US, but with one common motivation to help serve the poorest of the poor, whether through our US office or on the field abroad.

Lily's interests in global and child health, and Greg's pursuits in community health and health education are both proving to be a great match with the work of PID. Carolyn will join them in the office in August. Patrick worked on water filters in Guatemala for over 3 weeks, and is finishing his internship in the US office.

Zach, Holly, and James have returned to Haiti this summer, lending support to PID's many programs serving the communities there.



US Interns (from left to right): Lily, Greg, Carolyn, & Patrick. The latter also spent part of his internship in Guatemala.



Haiti Interns (from left to right): Zach, Holly, & James.



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Let Your Light Shine

While every donation is special to Partners In Development, many supporters have given gifts from the heart in honor or memory of their friends and loved ones. We would like to acknowledge these noteworthy contributions:

- Donald & Nicole Kerr and Mark Kerr made a donation in honor of Faye Kerr's birthday**
- Melissa DiDomenico contributed in honor of Alyssa Alvarez**
- Palmira & Stanley Fischer gave in memory of Fred (Art) Duvolou**
- The Beacon Campus of North Shore Christian School held a fundraiser for a house in Guatemala for Vanessa & her family, in memory of Wes Evans**

If you would like to donate in someone's honor, in memory of a loved one or as a special gift, you can make a contribution on our website www.pidonline.org or send a check with a note of how we should acknowledge your donation.

Checks can be sent to: PID, 55 Market St, Suite 201, Ipswich, MA 01938