

Merry Christmas from Children's Health Ministries!

December 2014 - Volume 1, Issue 2



We hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the many blessings the Christmas season brings. We wish joy and peace upon you as you celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior!

As the year comes to a close we would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who has supported CHM with your prayers and financial partnership this past year! None of the great things God has been doing would have been possible without YOU!

We hope you enjoy reading about what God has been doing through CHM in the last few months! We are excited to see what He will do in the coming year!

Mickey, Liz, and the CHM team

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Join the team!

Come alongside CHM in the fight against malnutrition in Haiti by becoming a sustaining monthly partner! Make a deposit toward God's kingdom work and you will be richly blessed!

www.chmhaiti.org/how-to-help/

Malnutrition Ministry Update

God has been using the malnutrition program to save many lives! Over 900 children have been treated in our programs in Bwadjout and Demichel (Carrefour).

Without this program there are no other options for these kids. Many of these children would die or become permanently stunted both physically and intellectually. Lives are being saved by your generosity!

Each child is in the program between 8 and 12 weeks, depending on the severity of their condition. The cost of putting one child through treatment is approximately \$125. Our current monthly need to sustain the program is \$3750.

Malnutrition Program Statistics			
Children Treated	Life of Program	Year to Date	Currently Enrolled
Severely Malnourished	393	190	17
Moderately Malnourished	470	192	35
Sent for Inpatient care	88	60	22

Child Spotlight

Maylove

Maylove is the only child of a 17-year-old single mother. At five months she weighed less than 10 pounds! She was severely malnourished with beginning signs of kwashiorkor (swelling feet and legs).

Maylove's mother, who sells herbs in the market for a meager profit, had to leave baby Maylove with a younger sister. A neighbor who knew about our program brought her in to us. Maylove is now thriving on

Medika Mamba and is up to 12 pounds 6 ounces!

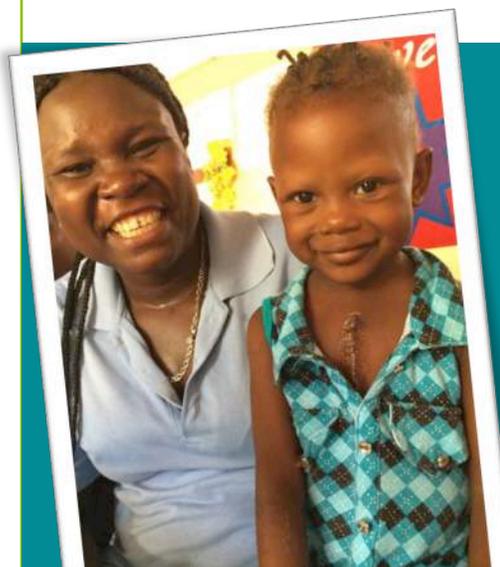
You partnership makes saving lives like Maylove's possible! Thank you!



A Heart for Andjenina

We first met Andjenina in July of 2013 when she was malnourished. She was discharged 2 months later at a healthy weight. She came back in November 2013 to our mobile medical clinic malnourished again. Visiting pediatrician Dr. Jean Fahey discovered she had a severe heart murmur. We were able to refer her to Chadasha Foundation. After a long wait, Andjenina finally had heart surgery and is doing great!

Her mother stopped by clinic the other day, and said, "I wanted to say thank you! Andjenina couldn't play well because she would get too tired too quickly. Now she is a normal little girl! I am so happy!" We are happy too!





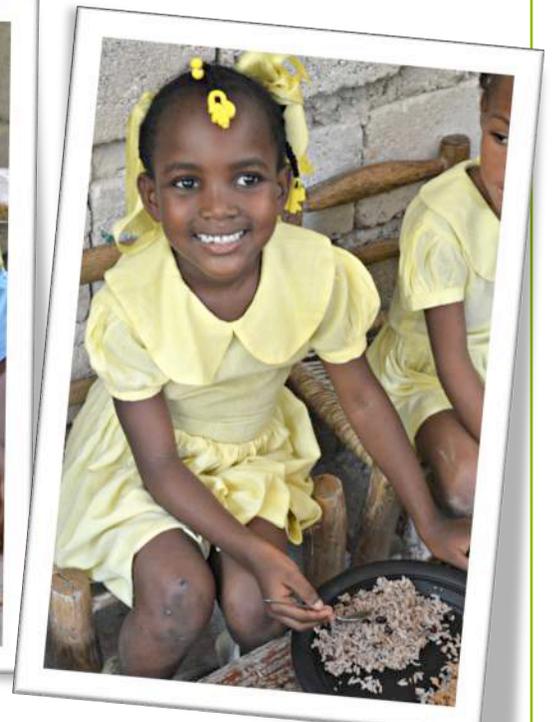
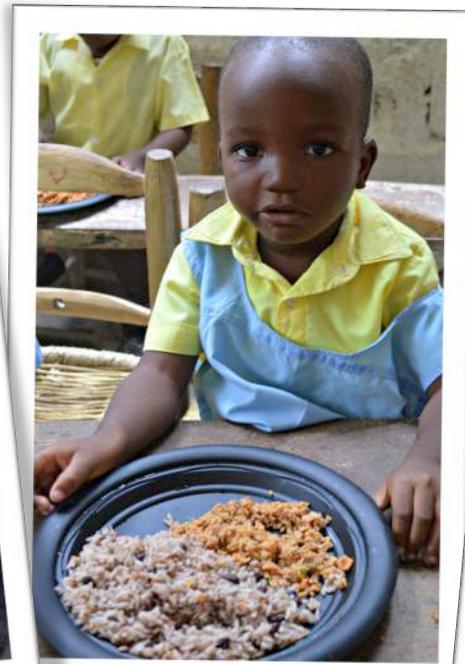
Harvest Pack Food Partnership Program

We received 16 pallets of food in November! It was an excruciating wait. The Denton Program (military flights that transport the food at no charge) stopped during their September year-end. We waited to hear they had restarted, then to hear that our food was in the queue. Finally we heard the good news! The food will be at the airport in Port-au-Prince Sunday, November 9!

The actual receiving of the food was an experience in itself. We lined up in our truck with about 20 other trucks from other organizations and drove out onto the tarmac and waited some more. There was a huge military plane with the back open and load-by-load the pallets were unloaded. The whole process took most of the day (while we waited on the tarmac). At last our truck was loaded and we headed for Carrefour.

It was dark by the time we arrived in Carrefour so the loaded truck was stored overnight at someone's home. It was simply too dangerous to try to unload the food at night. It would likely have been stolen, possibly at gunpoint! It was all taken care of the next day.

Praise God, the kids are now being fed meals at school three days a week. They sang us a song in gratitude for the food! So sweet!



CBS' 60 Minutes: 'Miracle Food Saves Lives'

We recently came across a reporting piece from CBS's 60 Minutes entitled Miracle Food Saves Lives. This 11-minute video features Plumpy Nut (aka Medika Mamba) that we use in our malnutrition program. The story ran in December 2012 and although it is set in Niger Africa, the story is virtually identical to what we experience daily here in Haiti. You can view the video at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-qkTmHqW5k> or type '60 Minutes Miracle Food' into your search browser.

World Health Rankings reports Haiti worst in the world for malnutrition deaths. Many mothers are too poorly fed themselves to produce adequate milk for their babies or they don't know the importance of breastfeeding. They do not have access to formula or nutritious substitutes so feed their babies crackers and water. Often the water is contaminated. For slightly older children the only food they eat is white rice – no protein, no fruits or vegetables, no fats.



sugar, milk, vitamins and minerals and can be used on malnourished children starting as early as 6 months. The recovery is incredible!

There is now a product that is a literal cure for malnutrition. It is called Medika Mamba or Plumpy Nut. It is made up of peanut butter,

Even better, this product is produced right here in Haiti by Haitians using Haitian grown peanuts! It helps the floundering economy, too!

We hold weekly clinics and weigh and measure each child and compare their height/weight ratio to a chart that tells us where they are on a nutritional scale. We also examine each child and ask the mother many questions to determine whether there are other underlying illnesses. Moms are given a one-week supply of the Medika Mamba and must return for more.

There is a window during which we must reach malnourished children if we are to save lives and have an impact on their future health and development. That critical window is the first 3 years of life. We see many children that are already too short, too thin and too underdeveloped at the age of 3 and even 4 and 5. We need to be able to reach and find them before they become irreversibly damaged physically or even die. In our time in Haiti we have lost 22 children that came to us too late. We mourn every one. But we are even more determined with every death to reach more children sooner.

Dr. Milton Tektondis, Chief Nutritionist for Doctors Without Borders says in the video, “(We can) solve so much of the underlying death. So we gotta do that now . . . wasted life, just totally wasted life for nothing because they don’t have a little bit of peanut butter with vitamins. What a waste!”

We can impact the 1 in 14 children who are dying because of malnutrition in Haiti that are wasted life and we can save brains and bodies for the rebuilding of Haiti -- brains and bodies that are now being wasted because of lack of early nutritional intervention. This is a true story. We live it every day.



“If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.”
Isaiah 58:10

How to Help

Is God touching your heart for the least of these in Haiti? Here’s how you can help!

1. Come to the front lines in Haiti with us by becoming a monthly sustaining partner of Children’s Health Ministries! No gift is too large or too small!

Visit www.chmhaiti.org/how-to-help/ or mail a check to:

Children’s Health Ministries
8049 White Sands Blvd
Navarre, FL 32566

2. Are you a prayer warrior? Want to be? Join our intercessory prayer team! Please e-mail info@chmhaiti.org if you are interested!

3. Do you have time and talents you would like to donate to Children’s Health Ministries? Would you like to come volunteer in Haiti with us? We’d love to hear from you!

Don’t forget to ‘Like’ us on Facebook to keep up with all the



100% of donations go straight to mission programs and are tax deductible!