

CHILDREN'S HEALTH ministries

Healthy Kids ♡ Strong Families ♡ Hope in Jesus Christ

June 2015 - Volume 2, Issue 2

A Letter from the President

Dear friends,

Thank you for allowing Children's Health Ministries to be obedient to God's call to serve the children of Carrefour, Haiti. Your generous financial gifts and prayer support are vital to reaching the children.

A recent article published in Haiti states that nearly 50% of children in Haiti under age 5 are malnourished. Carrefour is known to be one of the poorest areas in Haiti so it is even higher here. Thanks to your partnership, we have been able to begin community-wide screening of children. Doing five such clinics has more than doubled the number of children in our malnutrition program.

Since we first came to Haiti in 2012, God has made it clear that we are here for the children. Now He is opening ways for us to reach more children - specifically those under 6 months of age - through breastfeeding coaching and formula distribution when the mother is dead or unable to breast feed. If you could see and experience the heartbreaking sight of a 6-month-old baby who weighs less than 10 pounds, which we frequently do, you would understand the urgency of this new program.

World Health Organization (WHO) has also begun to stress ever more strongly that the first 1000 days of a child's life are most vital for future health, learning capacity and escape from poverty. Those 1000 days start at conception and end at 2 years of age. We have begun pre-natal vitamin, folic acid and iron distribution among pregnant women. The need for additional pre-natal care is unfortunately beyond our capacity at this time, though the need weighs heavily on our hearts.

Please read about the work we are doing in each of these programs in the newsletter, join us in prayer and as financial partners in whatever way God calls you. You are here fighting this battle with us every day and we cannot do it without you!

God's Blessings,



Mickey McRoberts
President, Children's Health Ministries

Malnutrition Ministry Update – Screening Clinics

We have reached deeper into our surrounding communities via FIVE screening clinics. The goal of these clinics is to assess children for malnutrition and also provide life-saving deworming medication and vitamin A supplements. Children with more severe illnesses were also able to see a doctor and receive free medications.

These screening clinics more than doubled the number of malnourished children in our program! We now have 120 children in our outpatient malnutrition program. We are happy for the expansion because more and more lives are being saved! We intend to continue reaching out with more screening clinics as time and resources allow.

Screening Clinic Statistics

Children seen:

0–6 months: 48

6–12 months: 83

1 year – 5 years: 515

Total: 671

Children admitted to malnutrition program: 63

Children given de-worming medication: 481

Children given vitamin A supplementation: 543



Hi! My name is Dieu Watson!

My mom brought me to CHM's screening clinic by my home in Ti Mango. I'm three and a half years old, but I only weighed 22 pounds. The people in the clinic gave me yummy peanut butter to eat and now I'm getting bigger and stronger!

My mom also brought my baby sister Betshida to the clinic. She is three months old and she was only eight pounds. She also had a really high fever and pneumonia. She's doing much better now! They also give my mom some food so she can nurse my little sister better. Betshida weighs almost 11 pounds now!



Hi there! I'm Herly!

My daddy brought me to the screening clinic in St. Rock. He carried me a long ways to bring me in because he was worried about me. He knew something wasn't right. The nice doctor told us I have a heart murmur. This made my daddy very scared. A few weeks later we saw some heart doctors who were visiting Port au Prince. They looked at my heart with a special machine. They told my daddy that I have a small hole in my heart but that it will heal by itself as I get older. He was very relieved.

I also got some good peanut butter to eat because I was so small. I'm getting so big now and my daddy is so happy!

NEW Prenatal Vitamin Program!

Nutrition begins at conception! The World Health Organization says that the first 1,000 days of a child's life are the most critical. This begins at conception and continues until a child is two years old. Because many of the pregnant women in our communities are malnourished themselves, we are delighted to have begun distributing prenatal vitamins, folic acid and iron to them. This is a simple thing that we can do that will have long-term impact on both the babies' health and that of the moms. The infant and maternal mortality rate is far too high in Haiti and by distributing vitamins and iron we hope that we are able to have a small impact on this. The need for additional pre-natal care is unfortunately beyond our capacity at this time, though the need weighs heavily on our hearts. We wait for God's timing and provision to be able to pursue maternal health further.



Rosemene is expecting twins any day now!

NEW Breastfeeding Program!

We are excited to announce our new breastfeeding program in collaboration with Feed My Starving Children! Virtually all malnourished infants we admit to our malnutrition program were not exclusively breastfed for six months. When we ask why, the mothers tell us that they did not have enough food to eat to produce enough breast milk (many do not even eat one meal daily). With this problem in mind we began experimenting with giving a small amount of FMSC food to mothers of non-thriving infants or babies who were already being given food (as early as 2 weeks old!) and encouraging them to breastfeed exclusively. The results were ASTOUNDING!

We are now providing 18 mothers with FMSC food and they are now exclusively breastfeeding. They have gone from being sad and defeated to beaming, proud mommies... and the babies are chubby and healthy! Praise the Lord!



Liz and Andy, VP of Marketing and Development for FMSC, after Liz was interviewed about the new breastfeeding program using FMSC food



Hi! I'm James!

My mommy brought me in to the malnutrition clinic when I was just two weeks old. My dad told

my mommy to throw me away because my face looked funny. She loved me too much to do that! She left my dad and went to live with some relatives. They didn't have enough food, though, so mommy didn't get enough to eat.

The people at the clinic give my mommy food so that she can eat every day and produce enough breast milk for me! They also showed her ways to help me nurse better. Sometimes it's hard for me because of my cleft lip! I'm now almost four months old and am so big and strong!! In just a couple months I will go and see some other doctors who can repair my lip!

NEW Formula Program!

The area we live and work in is so devastatingly poor that when a mom dies during or shortly after birth, the baby often follows due to malnutrition. No one can afford to purchase formula for their babies if breastfeeding is not an option. Often families turn to crackers or porridge in place of milk.

We are currently assisting 12 children whose moms have died or who are twins and moms can't produce enough milk or other unforeseen events have occurred. These are children who will not need Medika Mamba at 6 months! Praise God we are able to PREVENT malnutrition rather than treat it!

Hi! I'm Samuel!

My twin brother, Joseph, and I were two months old when our mom brought us to CHM's malnutrition screening clinic. We only weighed 7 and 8 pounds. Our mommy didn't have enough breast milk for both of us. Now mommy gets yummy rice to eat so she can make lots of milk and we get formula when mommy's milk isn't enough. Nobody can believe how fast my brother and I are growing! We are happy and healthy!



How to Help

Is God touching your heart for the least of these in Haiti? Would you like to support God's work as he expands CHM's ministry? Read on!

1.

Come to the front lines in Haiti with us by becoming a financial partner of Children's Health Ministries! Monthly commitments are giving gold and help us SO MUCH!

Please visit www.chmhaiti.org/how-to-help/ or mail a check to Children's Health Ministries
8049 White Sands Blvd

Don't forget! 100% of all donations go directly to ministry programs!!

2.

Are you a prayer warrior? Want to be? Would you like to join us in lifting the sick and malnourished children of Haiti? Join our intercessory prayer team! Send an e-mail to info@chmhaiti.org if you're interested!

3.

Do you have time and talents you would like to share with Children's Health Ministries? We'd love to hear from you!



Don't forget to 'Like' us on Facebook to keep up with all the latest updates!

Intern Spotlight: Emily

We are pleased as punch to introduce you to Emily, our newest intern! Emily is a recent college graduate with a pre-medical degree. She has made a one-year commitment to working with CHM with the possibility for staying for longer. Her current goals include returning to the US for medical school and then returning to serve as a physician in Haiti.

This is Emily's fourth trip to Haiti. She has served previously for short periods of time in a rural village near Real Hope for Haiti's clinic. She has a passion for helping children and is particularly passionate about infants and neonatal care.

God brought Emily to CHM in His perfect timing! When we began to plan for her arrival we didn't yet know that our ministry would soon grow to include prenatal and neonatal care! His ways are better than ours!



We are excited to see how God will work in the year to come! Welcome to the CHM family, Emily!!