



Clinique Espérance et Vie



Since October of 2018, Clinique Espérance et Vie has been under the skilled direction of Bendson Louima, physician and general surgeon. Aside from his role as Medical Director of CEV, he also serves as the Assistant Head of General Surgery at Sarcé Coeur Hospital in northern Haiti, and Professor of General Surgery at both the State University of Haiti in Limonade and University Hospital Justinian in Cap-Haitien.

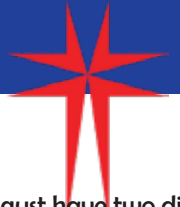
Despite these many accomplishments, Louima, like most Haitians, comes from humble beginnings. He is one of 10 children born to a family of modest means in Mombette, a rural section of Port-de-Paix in northwest Haiti. He was fortunate enough to attend school and continue on to university, an accomplishment less than 1% of high school graduates have an opportunity to do. Not only is he the only doctor in his family, he's the only one in his hometown of roughly 28,000 people.

Louima studied medicine at University Notre Dame de Haiti in Port-au-Prince before specializing in general surgery at University Hospital Justinian in Cap-Haitien and graduating in 2009. Along the way, he completed additional training in Belgium, France, and the United States.

On a fortuitous day in November 2008, long-time friend Dr. Harold Durand Fils, brought Louima to Terrier Rouge where he was introduced to Father Jean Monique Bruno. At that time, Father Bruno was hosting an American volunteer team led by Dr. Berry Rice, founder of Clinique Espérance et Vie. Louima was fortunate enough to witness the inauguration of the Clinique in 2008 and its opening in February 2009. Since that day, Dr. Louima has become part of the Clinique family, both as a consultant and physician on duty. His friendship with Dr. Rice has also been a special collaboration. They were together during the earthquake on January 12, 2010, a day that will never be forgotten in Haiti. Driven by what they witnessed in the aftermath of the earthquake, between 2011-2012 he and Dr. Rice designed the plans to add a second story to the Clinique with the vision of expanding the services offered to include maternity care, gynecology, pediatrics, emergency care, ophthalmology, dental service, general medicine, physiotherapy, general surgery, and orthopedic services.

After Dr. Rice's retirement in 2013, Dr. Louima held the position of Medical Director of the Clinic from 2014-2015 before leaving to gain greater surgical experience at University Hospital Justinian. The Clinique was never far from his heart, however, and he returned in October of last year with the same steadfast vision - to give the community of Terrier Rouge healthcare that will serve as the gold standard for all of northeast Haiti. With Dr. Louima at the helm, the Clinique is seeing the fruition of the dreams he shared with Dr. Berry Rice a decade ago. We feel blessed to have such a dedicated visionary as Dr. Louima at the helm of Clinique Espérance et Vie and look forward to many more years of serving the community of Terrier Rouge!





“Believe in Me. I told you, Believe.”

At Saint Barthélemy School, depending on whether you are a student, a teacher, or staff member, July and August have two different aspects. If you belong to the first two categories (student or teacher), you can enjoy a nice vacation; however if you belong to the other category, you must continue working hard to plan the school year which begins the first week of September.

This is a very special time, and one that challenges our faith. Planning the school year not only involves writing the curriculum but also interviewing and recruiting new teachers or other staff members, as well as preparing the new budget. It is a lot of work that is also an act of faith. It's the time that we must kneel and pray most intently to ask our Lord, our Provider, to send us the means to meet the budget's requirements and to put the right people on our path.

Providing a good education to more than a thousand children with limited resources is no easy task. This is only possible with the direct intervention of the Lord. He has always done it in the past, therefore, this year will be no exception. The social and economic situation in Haiti is getting worse these days and everybody is affected, especially the poor members of our community, whose children cannot attend school. Our mission at Saint Barthélemy is to make sure that these children have a quality education as well as the more fortunate ones.

We want to thank you, our great supporters, for the way you keep the work alive by providing scholarships to our students. The good news is, as the school year is about to begin, we have already registered more than seventy new students. The challenge we face is the need to increase the salary of our teachers and other staff, as the cost of living is increasing rapidly in our country. Furthermore, there is repair and maintenance sorely needed in our school facility and classrooms.

We're encouraging you to be an Ambassador of Saint Barthélemy by spreading the word to your friends, and by motivating a relative to sponsor a child, the hope and future of Haiti. May the Lord continue to bless you.

In His Name



Father Bruno with marching band maestro, Richley Pierre. The band won 2nd prize in a music competition. Congrats!



The 12th graders' end-of-year party with Rhetto News, a magazine they created.



Sponsor a student for less than a dollar a day! Education is the key to Haiti's future. For just \$300 year, you can provide education, health care, and a nutritious lunch each school day to a child in desperate need. Visit our website to set up easy installments of \$25/month or a single payment of \$300. You may also sponsor by check using the enclosed envelope. In the blink of an eye, you can make a difference that will last a lifetime.

Did You Know...?



Hibiscus, known as choeback or rose kayenn in Haitian Creole, is the “unofficial” national flower of Haiti. Not only is it beautiful to look at, it has many practical purposes, as all parts of the plant can be used. As a tea, hibiscus, which is high in antioxidants, is used as a remedy for the common cold, constipation, and high blood pressure, among other things. The dried flower can be made into jellies, candies, and desserts. In day-to-day use, the oil from the flower can be used as shoe polish, and shampoo can be produced from the leaves! What a powerhouse!

Sources: myhaitea.wordpress.com; naikainbalance.com; ndsu.edu; flora-treatises.blogspot.com

Save the Date!



Hops for Haiti



Let's Raise a Glass to Good Health!

Friday, September 27, 2019, 5:00 - 9:00 pm
Southern Brewing Company, Collins Industrial Blvd, Athens, GA 30601

Proceeds benefit Clinique Espérance et Vie in northeast Haiti

Jatrofa Projeno

Marching Uphill A year and a half ago some families at St. Paul's Episcopal in Newnan, Georgia and at First Presbyterian in Athens changed the life trajectory of some Haitian families by giving them the resources to plant their steep land with agro-forests. With that jump start, those families scored. Tree and crop cover are up, erosion is down, and optimism for their kids' future is growing, all of which has given us the confidence to expand the idea to other communities - four of them in fact. The goals remain the same - help the land produce more, protect it for the future, and build household income - using new cropping techniques and equipment to make value-added commodities. Juice from guava fruit, roof rafters from eucalyptus trees, bread from manioc roots, soap from Jatrofa seeds - there are so many plant-based possibilities because Haiti is in the tropics. When farm communities can tap those possibilities, their economy improves. Bethlehem Ministry is helping them do that. Thank you all. JP's new project called Land and Livelihood Transformation on Steep Land, is a three-year project focused on 500 participants and beneficiaries with economic benefits reaching many more. It is ambitious but on the strength of the St. Paul's /First Presbyterian trial balloons, we know we can pull it off. One of the lessons we've learned is that to build St. Barthélémy from a dream and an empty lot is, stick with it even if you don't see the results yet. It has become JP's marching orders and I invite you to march along. If you do, you can have your cake and eat it too, because JP is marching up some mighty steep slopes.



Rob Fisher

Director, Partner for People and Place



One of the lucky families high in the mountains who got help from some Bethlehem Ministry families to plant trees and crops on their steep land.

Raffle Roundup

And the Winner is...

KIMBERLY LIEBOWITZ!

Many thanks to all of you (and congrats to Kimberly) for helping to make our first-ever raffle a success! You raised over \$5,500 in support of our ministry in Haiti! That's \$5,500 towards educating children, feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, and restoring the land in northeast Haiti.

Spotlight



It has been my privilege to serve on the Board of Bethlehem Ministry for the past five years and as a volunteer for seven. As a Board member, I visit Haiti 1 – 2 times a year with a team of U.S. volunteers to tour the projects that Bethlehem Ministry sponsors, provide service to the people of Northeast Haiti, and deepen my relationships with the people working on our projects and living in the communities we serve. The most impactful parts of my visits are building relationships and being in fellowship with Haitians, learning more about Haitian lives and culture, and having time to reflect on my own American life and how I might live out the lessons that I learn from my Haitian friends.

I have developed a deep respect for the people of Terrier Rouge and those living in outlying communities. The genuine care and concern people have for the wellbeing of their neighbors, their promotion of youth development, and their entrepreneurial spirit are enviable! Haitians are also some of the most welcoming and open people I have met. Bethlehem Ministry's partners are always out and about in the streets of Terrier Rouge listening to and ministering to people, seeking ways to provide assistance in solidarity with the community, and empowering Haitians to improve their own situation.

Over the past 7 years, the changes that I can see in Terrier Rouge are palatable. The school has grown, businesses have been established, housing and sanitation have improved, and access to high quality health care is constantly expanding. People also walk a little taller, children look happier, and there is a buzz in the streets that was not there when I first visited Terrier Rouge. Residents know that Pere Bruno and his projects have made a significant difference for them and they all readily welcome his American guests.

I am proud to be a part of Bethlehem Ministry and am honored that I can make a small contribution to a large effort that is making great strides for the empowerment of the people in Northeast Haiti. I plan to be a part of "B'Min" for years to come!

Deb Myers

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