

December 2012 www.haitifoundationofhope.org Volume No. 26

### MISSION STATEMENT

Haiti Foundation of Hope is a Christian organization addressing the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the people in the impoverished and underserved rural communities of northern Haiti.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## **JOYFUL LAUGHTER**

The other day I had a friend ask me, "Do you have fun when you are in Haiti?" Although my answer was a quick YES, it caused me to think about some of the really fun times with Haitians.

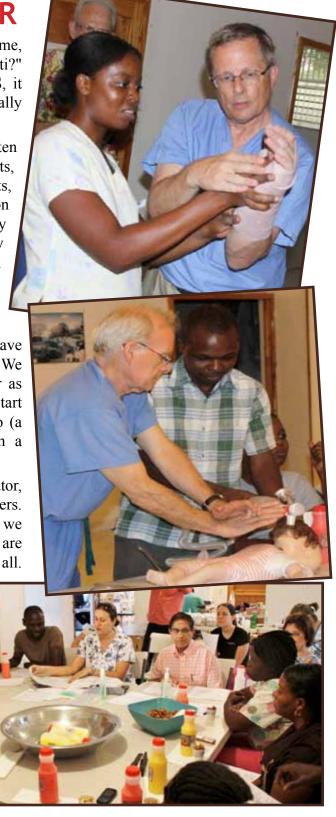
There are many sounds that we often associate with Haiti — donkeys, goats, barking dogs, motorcycles, crickets, roosters — but we often forget to mention the joyful laughter! As HFH has slowly changed its focus from "how many patients can be seen" to the education of Haitian staff, I've heard lots of joyful laughing.

Each afternoon at the closing of the very busy clinic, the teams take time to have an education time with the Haitian staff. We call these didactic teaching sessions, or as the Haitians call it, a "ti seminar." We start by sharing a few snacks and a Tampico (a favorite fruit drink in Haiti) and then a medical team member presents a topic.

After a short presentation with a translator, the subject is open for questions and answers. Questions and sharing go both ways and we all learn from each other. The sessions are often interactive, with participation by all.

This has served as a great way to build relationships with each other, and to share knowledge and our lives. We have found that often during the clinic, the Haitian staff will ask an American to join them in seeing a patient and vice versa. What a joyful fun time we have in Haiti!

Written by Linda Markee HFH board member





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View our online Gift Catalog and purchase gifts to share hope in Haiti this holiday season.

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Our **third annual MEDICAL CONFERENCE** for Haitian medical professionals was held in October while the HFH volunteer team was at the Clinic of Hope. There were 62 professionals in attendance (double the number from last year). The participants were excited about the knowledge dispensed and are hoping for a two-day conference in the future. Five people on the HFH team presented topics in English through our Haitian Creole translators.



### Making a donation this holiday season?

Ask your employer if they have a matching gift program. Some companies match the donations of their employees when given to a non-profit organization.

Merry Christmas from all of us at Haiti Foundation of Hope.

THANK YOU for everything you are doing for Haiti.

We wish you and your family a wonderful holiday.

#### **UPDATE:** Drought and Storms

The food shortage due to drought and storms continues. Following dry conditions, Hurricane Sandy hit Haiti, bringing too much rain.

You can help those in need by giving online at www.haitifoundationofhope. org.