

# FOTCOH

FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN OF HAITI



## Executive Director's Corner

Nathan Ruby, Executive Director

**W**hat we do with a dollar is next to amazing! We've proudly expanded programs, employ a team of 50+ Haitians, provide quality medicine with an on-site pharmacy, and are a destination of care for rural Haitians who often travel for days to seek treatment at our clinic.

### The need for healthcare continues to surge while costs continue to climb.

**Reflecting on how FOTCOH spends a dollar is remarkable.** As I embark on my 7th year of leading this organization, I'm proud of our growth, Haitian-led team, and truly how far a dollar can go to change the life of a family. *We couldn't do it without you.*

We stretch a dollar to:

- **Enroll a new mom in our breastfeeding education program**, equipping her with prenatal vitamins, and support to avoid the high malnourishment rate (which has increased by 61% in the last year) that is so pervasive in Haiti.
- **Get on the ground in local villages to provide water filters to families** who would otherwise drink, bathe, and cook in dirty water that leads to cholera and other preventable, life-threatening diseases
- **Stock our in-house pharmacy shelves with antibiotics, antivirals, insulin**, and more so that patients don't have to figure out how to pay for their life-saving medications

Thank you for continuing to keep the people of Haiti in your heart, and top of mind.

With hope and health,

Nathan Ruby



### Up for the Challenge: Country Director André Boyer Leads with Courage

**T**ransporting supplies and pharmaceuticals from Port-au-Prince to the FOTCOH clinic is more challenging than ever. Pharmacy and supply costs have skyrocketed, as well as the cost of transportation for those items.

In early February, André Boyer successfully transported our annual pharmacy items including Medika Mamba and Vitamin Angel shipments safely to Jacmel, despite ongoing conflict in Haiti. It's an arduous and dangerous process and we're grateful for his commitment to the Haitian community!



Boyer transports shipments to the clinic



The supplies arrive safely to the clinic

He shares, "Life in Haiti right now is challenged on so many fronts. I live at the clinic full time and I'm always onsite to manage the clinic, and the grounds, and protect our staff and supplies.

#### Costs have increased 10x in one year.

Something which cost \$10 is now \$100. The economic engine to run the country is not consistent. Banks are only open one or two days a week. One of the biggest challenges for people is scarce fuel.

There is no fuel for generators to produce electricity, no fishing because of the fuel shortage, and without fuel, it is hard for Haitians to travel to purchase basic food and supplies. There is little food to buy anywhere. At FOTCOH, we are committed to helping the people of Haiti now more than ever."

# Introducing: Sustainable Cloud Technology with Backpack EMR

Last year, we moved from managing our patients on paper to a simple, cloud-driven technology to collect patient information.

We can track patient trends like scabies, which is currently the #2 complaint from patients, which allows us to proactively order pharmacy supplies and medication.



Our providers review a patient's medical history at the Vital Health Clinic



Nurse Nadine Moise fills prescriptions in the on-site pharmacy

Moving to an online platform gives us the capability to do 3 key things:

1. Sync our Haitian providers with our U.S. volunteer providers for **more effective patient management and oversight.**
2. Pull up **patient records, medication information, and treatment plans in seconds** which further expedites the long lines during our Vital Health Clinics and Urgent Care.
3. **Data collection to show YOU our significant impact!** This system gives us clarity to scale and serve the Haitian population, see where our patients live, and how we can best serve them in the future.

Changing our system in Haiti for managing and caring for patients isn't as simple as you might think. Special thanks to Haitian Medical Director Dr. Nelson, Country Director Boyer, and Director of Operations Ken Kersey for leading this transition process, patiently training our staff in Haiti, and completing the change gracefully. Many thanks to our generous donors who made all of this possible! We're now all-systems-go and able to access a detailed level of patient data that we previously couldn't. Go, team!

## Now Accepting Donations Through Donor Advised Funds

With our recent tech integration, we can now accept donor-advised funds with ease online! Some of the most popular DAF providers include Fidelity Charitable, National Philanthropic Trust, Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund, Schwab Charitable, Vanguard Charitable, and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

For details visit: <https://givebutter.com/forhaiti>



# Supporting Haiti from the Mountaintops of South Carolina

Last fall, FOTCOH board members, supporters, and friends hosted an unforgettable celebration at Eagle Mountain Winery in Landrum, South Carolina. Events like these are a chance for our community to come together, laugh, dance, and most of all, help families in Haiti.

We're so grateful to Sharon and Dr. Garron Lukas, Ernie Aud, and Brian Hersey for their vision and dedication to hosting this amazing event! Over 70 guests enjoyed the 'golden oldies' music of the '60s and the opportunity to connect with the Haiti leadership team of Andre Boyer and Dr. Frantzso Nelson and our Executive Director, Nathan Ruby.

We're thrilled to share that the winery concert raised \$41,485, which is the most successful fundraising event from our South Carolina supporters ever! WOW! Words cannot express our gratitude for such generosity by the Glassy Mountain community.

Funding from the event sustains and expands the health care programs so many Haitians depend on FOTCOH to provide. Thanks to all that supported this event!



Country Director Boyer and Dr. Nelson



Nathan Ruby, André Boyer, Kim Frawley, Martha Canata, Sharon Lukas, and Brian Hersey



Dr. Steve and Becky Connelly



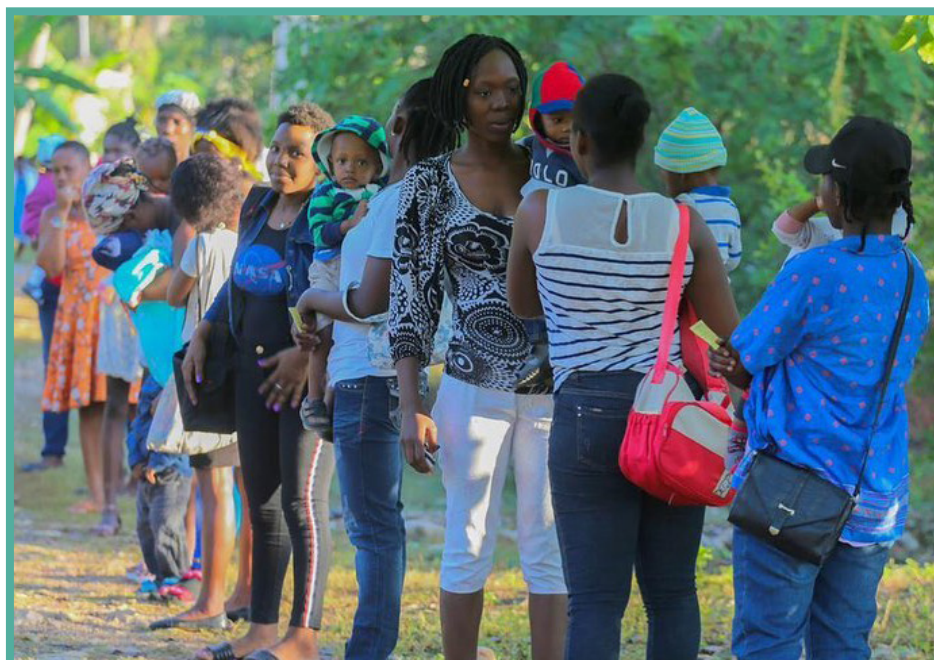
Dr. Steve and Becky Connelly, Michael and Diane Roemer, and Howard Openo

## For Haiti, Now More Than Ever

The current situation in Haiti is dire. The violence, poverty, and profound challenges continue to worsen to a level we haven't seen before.

While the debates continue about what is the best path forward, the people of Haiti need us. The need for health care, dental care, and access to clean water is more profound than ever. The lines to our 2-week-long Vital Health Clinics continue to soar past the clinic gates.

The only time we see a lapse in patient numbers is when the gang violence is so close to the clinic that families stay home for fear of their safety. We're so grateful to our Haitian-led team, under the direction of Country Director Boyer and Medical Provider, Dr. Nelson for their commitment to the Haitian community. Together, we remain hopeful and dedicated to helping adults and children in Haiti, even in the hardest of times.



**PROVIDING  
Healthcare  
& Hope  
to the HAITIAN  
People**

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**With Gratitude to  
First Mid Bank & Trust**

We're ever-grateful for community partners like First Mid Bank & Trust, who generously stepped up to match gifts up to \$1,500 on Giving Tuesday! With your support, together we raised \$8,078 for the WASH Program. This successful campaign helps ensure even more water filters get to families that need it. Thanks to all who participated in this global day of giving.



**FOTCOH.org**

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