

FOTCOH

FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN OF HAITI



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



Executive Director's Corner

Nathan Ruby, Executive Director

We face persistent challenges and an uncertain future, but these hardships only fuel our determination to drive positive change. Amidst these difficulties, FOTCOH continues to provide essential healthcare, surgeries, and healthcare education to new mothers.

Your support is the linchpin of our mission. While we possess the expertise and a dedicated on-the-ground team, it's your generosity that makes our work possible. Our impact is tangible, benefiting the families, children, and communities we serve.

As the need for healthcare skyrockets – so does our impact. More patients are served, and more Haitian families receive the loving care they need.

Despite the evolving road ahead, you, as a FOTCOH supporter and donor, are an essential part of something truly extraordinary. You represent the hope, the solution, and the transformative change that Haiti urgently needs.

Together, we are catalysts for change. Your support empowers us to bring healthcare and hope to those who need it most. We deeply appreciate your commitment to our mission and your role as a guiding light in Haiti.

With gratitude,

Nathan Ruby
Executive Director

Meeting Rising Healthcare Needs in Haiti with Pharmacy Director, Roger Laguerre

In a recent conversation with our dedicated pharmacist, Roger Laguerre, we gained valuable insights into the evolving healthcare landscape in Haiti. As FOTCOH's mission continues to provide vital healthcare to underserved communities, new challenges have emerged, and Roger's perspective sheds light on these critical issues.



One concerning development is the increasing prevalence of *H. pylori* infections, a common problem in Haiti. This bacterium is responsible for gastritis, ulcers, and even stomach cancer.

Our clinic has witnessed a surge in cases of scabies, worms, gastritis, and pain, all of which lead to discomfort and suffering for those affected. Roger emphasized the importance of addressing these issues promptly to alleviate the health concerns of our patients. Having a fully stocked pharmacy on site is essential to doing so.

A well-stocked and efficiently managed pharmacy program is crucial to clinic operations. It enables us to provide timely, accurate, and comprehensive treatment to those in need. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to Roger and our entire compassionate team at the clinic!



FOTCOH's Surgical Program: Restoring Hope, One Surgery at a Time

In 2004, under the guidance of board member Dr. Garron Lukas, the surgery program began. Nearly two decades later, the FOTCOH Surgical Program has grown into a beacon of hope, offering healing and life-changing care to patients who would otherwise have nowhere else to turn.

Operating during the Vital Health Clinics, the program is led by Dr. Nelson, Dr. Victor, and anesthesiologist Dr. Plessy. All surgeries are performed at a local private hospital, ensuring that patients receive the critical treatment they need.

To date, FOTCOH's surgical team has performed over 2,000 procedures. These surgeries have not only transformed lives but have often been life-saving. The program prioritizes patients dealing with severe pain, tumors, disability, or potential cancer. From surgical supplies to anesthesia and post-operative care, FOTCOH's Surgical Program comprehensively supports patients throughout the surgical process.



Dr. Victor and Dr. Nelson

"Starting FOTCOH's surgical program has been one of the highlights of my surgical career. To be able to supply basic surgical care to the Haitian people who previously had no access to surgery has truly been a blessing." - Dr. Garron Lukas

Hope in Action: Duckensley's Path to Healing

Meet Duckensley Florestal, a brave 3-year-old who came to our clinic with a first-degree burn on his left arm. His story shows the life-changing impact of FOTCOH's work in Haiti. One day, Duckensley and his sibling were playing at home, but in an instant, tragedy struck when a pot of boiling water toppled over, severely scalding Duckensley's left arm.

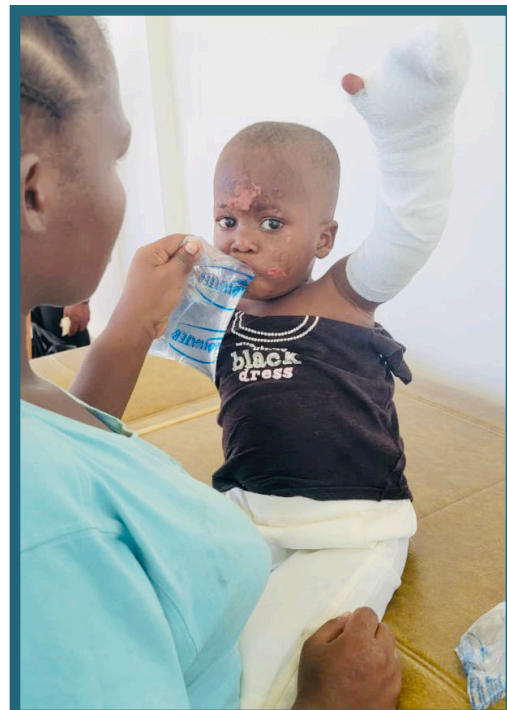


FOTCOH's clinic became Duckensley's lifeline. His mother brought him to our clinic, where our team assessed his burn's severity and provided the crucial care he needed.

Under our compassionate care, Duckensley began his path to recovery with daily wound dressings, pain management, and support.

In a matter of weeks, the transformation was remarkable. Duckensley's resilience, combined with our expert healthcare, led to his beautiful recovery. Duckensley's infectious smile returned as he played with the same joyful spirit. His grateful mother expresses immense appreciation for FOTCOH and its supporters.

This heartwarming story showcases FOTCOH's impact on children like Duckensley. Your generous contributions provide vital medical care and hope to those in need. As we celebrate Duckensley's recovery, let's also celebrate the power of compassion and change.



South Carolina's Glassy Mountain Community Comes Together for Haiti

In October, FOTCOH board members, dedicated supporters, and friends gathered once again for a memorable celebration at the picturesque Red Horse Inn near Landrum, South Carolina. Notably, many residents from the vibrant Glassy Mountain community joined the event showing their support for the people of Haiti.

Beneath the brilliant, sunny skies, guests reveled in the lively music from Carolina Nights. The music set the stage for dancing and meaningful discussions about the ongoing challenges faced by Haiti. These gatherings aren't just about coming together; they are about genuine connections, shared laughter, and, above all, a collective commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of Haitian families.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to Sharon and Dr. Garron Lukas, Ernie Aud, and Brian Hersey, whose unwavering dedication made this event possible. We are thrilled to announce that the winery concert raised an impressive \$34,270. This achievement underscores the remarkable generosity of the Glassy Mountain community.

The funds raised from this event play a vital role in sustaining and expanding the healthcare programs that countless Haitians rely on FOTCOH to provide. We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed, as your support is having a profound impact on the lives of those in need.



Top Photo (left to right): Ernie Aud, Brian Hersey, Sharon Lukas, Nathan Ruby, Dr. Garron Lukas, and Jim Kaltenbach

Center Photo: Dr. and Mrs. Steve Connelly, Sharon Lukas, Mike and Molly Cuckler

Photos courtesy of Trés Dabney from True North Productions

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October Vital Health Clinic

SHOW YOUR FOTCOH SPIRIT

For those of you who ordered FOTCOH merchandise, whether it's a mug, sweatshirt, or tee, we'd love to see you proudly wearing your items. Share a photo with us at info@fotcoh.org so we can celebrate your support in style. Once again, thank you for your incredible dedication and generosity. It's because of each and every one of you that we can continue to make a significant impact on the lives of Haitian families.

Stay tuned for a special holiday-edition merchandise campaign coming the first week of December. Make sure you follow our Facebook page for updates.



FOTCOH.org

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