



Global Birthing Home Foundation 2018 Annual Report



Global Birthing Home Foundation
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From The Executive Director's Desk

Our closing theme for 2018 was all about success at Maison de Naissance: working steadily toward the milestone of 6,000 healthy births; exceeding 200,000 total maternal and infant health consultations; and staying open without pause “24x7” for over fourteen years.

Now, moving forward with confidence (and a measure of caution), our goal is to complement success with sustainability. We have a solid foundation in place on which to build a sustainable operation – an exemplary 100% Haitian staff of 34 with an equally exemplary Director, Madame Rosena Baptiste, and a proven model of care. Together, they have generated the statistics of which we and all of you, our supporters, should be justifiably proud.

There will be ups and downs; there will be tears of joy and sorrow; there will be hurricanes, protests, and shortages of food and supplies; but with all of you working alongside us in support of the mission and vision of Maison de Naissance*, there will ultimately be sustainable, ongoing success.

For that, on behalf of myself, our board of directors, and all of the staff in Haiti, I say, “Mesi anpil”, Thank you very much.

Jim Grant, Executive Director
Global Birthing Home Foundation
Sponsor of Maison de Naissance



Were You Ever This Happy Getting a Shot?

***Our Mission:** To significantly reduce maternal and infant mortality rates in underserved communities.

***Our Vision:** Every mother and every baby, no matter what country they call home, has access to high quality and culturally relevant healthcare – the foundation of healthy, empowered communities.

What We Do

We strive to provide the highest possible quality maternal and infant health services, with respect, in a welcoming and culturally appropriate facility and manner. All patients are welcome and treated equally, regardless of their background and circumstances. We deliver healthy babies to healthy mothers. Our 2018 services included:

2018 Service Description

<u>2018 Service Description</u>	<u>Count</u>
• Deliveries	489 (ZERO maternal deaths, ever)
• Prenatal Consultations	3,198
• Family Planning Visits	7,085
• HIV Tests	2,458 (women and partners)
• Well-Baby Visits	2,124 (check-ups and vaccinations)
• Postpartum Consultations	759 (including home visits)
• Reproductive Health Visits	230
• Community Health Visits	5,327
• Total Patient Visits in 2018	21,670



2018 Milestone Moments

New Landcruiser Ambulance Put In Service at Maison de Naissance



Following a year-long fundraising campaign from late 2016 into 2017, GBHF purchased a new Landcruiser ambulance from Toyota Gibraltar, the company's non-profit division. The new vehicle was delivered to Haiti in October of 2017, then finally released from customs and put into service in March 2018. The local Episcopal priest conducted a ceremony to bless the vehicle in its service to the community, and a small celebration was held by the staff, who had been relying on motorcycles for almost 6 months.

Kansas City Star Interviews Dr. Wickstrom, Co-founder and Board President

In September, Dr. Betsy Wickstrom was interviewed by the Kansas City Star about her involvement in the founding and evolution of Maison de Naissance. The article (below) was published in print and online on January 5, 2019.

“JoCo nonprofit supplies healthcare, support to Haitian moms and babies

“For thousands of Haitian mothers and babies, The Global Birthing Home Foundation has been a blessing, allowing them to build a prosperous future.

“Founded by local physicians Stan Shaffer and Betsy Wickstrom in 2004, the Johnson County nonprofit planned and oversaw the development of Maison de Naissance (“Home of Birth” in French), a maternal health and birthing center in the southwest Haitian city of Torbeck.” Since opening, the foundation has helped support the healthy birth of nearly 6,000 babies at the center. (For the full article, please visit KansasCity.com online, and search for: “JoCo nonprofit” on January 5, 2019.)



Maison de Naissance featured as ‘model midwifery center’ at GoodBirth.net Symposium

GoodBirth.net, a network of midwifery based maternal and infant health care centers, held a symposium attended by representatives of over 50 birth centers from around the globe in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in March, 2018. Maison de Naissance was featured as a ‘model midwifery center’ in the opening address, and throughout the two day event, in discussions about successful models of care, planning to open a birth center, provision of culturally appropriate care, and cooperation with local, governmental health agencies. This was a great honor for Maison de Naissance, its Directrice, Madame Rosena Baptiste, and the entire staff, who have worked so hard to achieve truly remarkable success. The center also received GoodBirth.net’s Quality Leadership Award, proudly displayed on our website’s home page.



Courage in the Face of Adversity

In July and November of 2018, massive anti-government protests rocked Haiti. A large segment of the population, after years of poverty and multiple natural disasters, took to the streets to demand relief from inflation, fuel shortages, and allegations of misappropriated relief funds. Throughout both episodes, which included violent demonstrations, rioting, and countrywide roadblocks and strikes, the staff of Maison de Naissance kept their focus on maintaining ‘business as usual’ for the many patients who depend on the center for care. The following is a firsthand account from one of our staff.

“My name is Christanaelle Lemorin, and I am the accountant at Maison de Naissance. During the time of protests and riots in November 2018, which lasted for 9 days, it was a very hard time in the communities around Maison de Naissance.

“The main road to our facility was completely blocked. As I was the only one available in administration, I was obliged to ask the staff to meet the birth center’s truck (Landcruiser) at a bridge outside of Les Cayes, near an alternate route to Maison de Naissance. The normal route was very hard to pass because there were roadblocks everywhere, with burning tires and trees across the road. We were obliged to give bribes to remove the roadblocks every time to get through.

“Usually, the staff are picked up and dropped off at their homes, but it was not safe to drive into Les Cayes, so they had to walk to the bridge on the outside of town.



“As the truck was new and did not have a Maison de Naissance logo to prove it was our vehicle, I printed out a paper with our logo on it and put it in the windshield. It was a very difficult time for myself and for all of the staff who live in Les Cayes, especially.”

“I remember one day, as we arrived at a bridge they threw a lot of rocks at the truck, and the driver had to turn around quickly while everyone in the truck had to duck below the windows in case a rock hit them. We encountered another roadblock, but fortunately, the husband of a woman who gave birth at MN was there, and when he saw the paper MN logo in the windshield, he gave strict orders to let us through.”



We appreciate the courage and commitment of our staff through all times and types of adversity!

Goals for 2019

Moving forward, we must maintain a long-term outlook and vision, with an increasing emphasis on sustainability. This can be a difficult and complicated task, but it is critical to the growth and success of our mission. It raises the issues of economic development and the ultimate goal of independence for Maison de Naissance from the charitable support of the foundation. This is not just our goal, but the stated goal of the community we serve. It also raises the question, “What additional services can be provided to fulfill our mission statement?”

Cervical Cancer Screening and Treatment

In a new Rotary funding partnership, the Prospect-Goshen, KY Rotary Club has pledged to fully fund the implementation and roll out of phase one of a cervical cancer screening and treatment program (“See and Treat”) at Maison de Naissance, by early 2020. There are not currently any cervical cancer programs available in the communities served by Maison de Naissance, yet it is the leading cause of cancer deaths among women in Haiti (18.3 deaths/100,000 annually of the adult female population).

There are three phases to this program. Phase one (early 2020), “See and Treat”, which uses an acetic acid detection test, and thermo-cauterization to remove the cancerous cells. Phase two (Late 2020, early 2021) will be to set up remote “see and treat” outpost locations, using portable equipment in existing structures (schools, churches, medical clinics). Women who need additional screening will be referred to Maison de Naissance for lab tests. Phase three (estimated in 2022) will be the introduction of an HPV vaccination program, to provide prevention in addition to screening and treatment. This phase will be incorporated into in-house and outpost treatment programs, for all patients and their family members, male and female between the ages of 11 and 46, to ensure maximum coverage.



Cervical Cancer Screening Will Be a Part of Routine Prenatal Care

Maison de Naissance as an International Internship Site for USA Trained Midwives

GBHF is partnering with Global Aurora Foundation, which focuses on training international health workers for disaster response, and/or longer term work abroad in developing countries.

They have selected Maison de Naissance as an optimal site for introducing USA trained midwives to work in resource limited environments, before they make a commitment to this type of work. They will spend time observing operations, accompanying community health workers in the field, visiting the local public hospital, and will receive onsite training from the birth center staff, including how to manage operations in the event of a natural disaster from a team which has firsthand experience at the birth center! This program is expected to kick-off in the fall of 2019 with the first group of senior/recently graduated midwives.



Global Aurora's Erin Ryan (left) leads a Disaster Preparedness Course For Maternal Health Workers Going to Developing Countries

Continuation of Visitor Program and Immersion Trips

The Maison de Naissance visitor and Immersion Trip programs are a vital part of the services we provide to our donors. Immersion trips are an excellent way to introduce travelers to the beauty, culture, and charm of Haiti not normally seen on the news. Also, our visitor program can have a lasting effect on those who choose to volunteer at Maison de Naissance, as illustrated in the email (below) we recently received from Emilie Kim who visited almost six years ago:



“Some 6 years ago, Maison de Naissance became a truly life changing influence on me. Torbeck, Haiti was the first place that helped me visualize the process of running a much-needed midwifery based maternal health clinic in a resource poor, rural setting. There were concepts I could only learn at Maison de Naissance, such as the need for a septic system for operating a medical clinic, or a van and a driver to transport midwives or patients who otherwise may need to walk miles for an appointment to receive prenatal care. Most importantly, I carry with me the memories of a near 100% Haitian-staffed Maison de Naissance (2013)* where local midwives of Torbeck and Les Cayes are given the opportunity to care for patients from neighboring towns.



“Due to this experience of volunteering at Maison de Naissance, I have since started studying medicine, taken on global health research, and helped create a club which collects unused medical and surgical supplies at the University Hospital to be autoclaved and sent to global surgical health missions and partner clinics in Sierra Leone, Ghana, Peru, Syria, Puerto Rico, and Haiti. Maison de Naissance has solidified my career path in global health, but most importantly it has taught me to base my thoughts on the model of capacity building and sustainability.” – Emilie Kim, Rutgers University

*(100% Haitian staff as of 2014)

Who We Are

Global Birthing Home Foundation (GBHF), a 501(c)3 nonprofit charity based in Leawood, Kansas, operates Maison de Naissance as a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti. The Diocese owns the grounds, buildings, and equipment of Maison de Naissance, all of which have been purchased through generous donations to GBHF and its predecessor, Maison de Naissance Foundation. GBHF shares local oversight of operations with the Diocese and is responsible for fundraising to support all clinical programs and administrative operations.

Co-Founders of Maison de Naissance:

- Dr. Elizabeth Wickstrom
- Dr. Stan Shaffer

Foundation Staff:

- Jim Grant, Executive Director
- Mikayla Seabaugh, Intern
- Rabab Al-Araji, Contractor
- Daphnee Boncoeur, Social Media Reporter (On site at Maison de Naissance)

Board of Directors:

- Elizabeth Wickstrom, MD, FACOG, *President*
- Abbey Masonbrink, MD, MPH, *Vice President*
- Guy Montes, *Treasurer*
- Janice Taylor, *Secretary*
- Pere Frantz Casseus, PhD
- Erin Teeter, MD, MSCR
- Pere Frantz Casseus, PhD
- Margaret McCann, PhD
- Sean Mawhirter

Maison de Naissance Staff

- Rosena Baptiste, *Director*
- Christanaelle Lemorin, *Accountant/Administrator*
- Pierre Lackson Chery, *Facilities Manager*
- Beatrice Lotin, *Senior Midwife*
- Marie Michelle Belteus, *Midwife*
- Imene Rigueur, *Midwife*
- Pierre-Line Forges, *Midwife*



- Margarete Medela, *Auxiliary Midwife*
- Rose Guerline Cesar, *Auxiliary*
- Marie Yolaine Cius, *Auxiliary*
- Fanelise Boisrond, *Auxiliary*
- Marie Osseline Gerard, *Auxiliary*
- Gerline Rosier, *Auxiliary*
- Fanelise Boisrond, *Auxiliary*
- Rose Myrlande Lamarre, *Lab Technician/Manager*
- Coeur Marthe Magalc, *Lab Technician*
- Lamarre Louis-Jean, *Mechanic/Driver*
- Pierre Carly Cherestal, *Ambulance Driver*
- Jean Pierraud Vital, *Ambulance Driver*
- Fednor Berlus, *Security Guard*
- Dieudinor Michaud, *Security Guard*
- Lucner Louis, *Security Guard*
- Fednor Berlus, *Security Guard*
- Marie Marilene Guillaume, *Custodian*
- Nicole Joseph, *Custodian*
- Marie Denise Prospere, *Custodian*
- Sylvestre Ketline Salomon, *Pharmacy Clerk*
- Merline Guerrier, *Laundry Attendant*
- Myson Lys, *Purified Water System Operator*
- Perpetue Jean Claude, *Community Health Worker*
- Marie Rosenie Sainte Paul, *Community Health Worker*
- Louna Julien, *Community Health Worker*
- Jean Irel Josil, *Community Health Worker*
- Enel Henry, *Community Health Worker*

Affiliations and Partners

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our partners in the USA and Haiti:

- Episcopal Diocese of Haiti:
 - Reverend Louis Toussaint Rosanas, Maison de Naissance community priest
 - Reverend Dr. Frantz Casseus, Ordinary to the Bishop, South District, Diocesan Liaison and Global Birthing Home Foundation board member
- The E. Grey Diamond MD Program in International Medicine of the University of Missouri – Kansas City, School of Medicine
- The Episcopal Diocese of West Missouri
- St. Luke’s Hospital, Kansas City, MO
- Direct Relief International
- Hope for Haiti
- Midwives for Haiti
- Food For The Poor
- Olive Tree Projects Birth Center



- GoodBirth.net (Global Freestanding Birth Center Network)
- Global Force for Healing (Maternal Health Network)
- Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (Haitian Ministry of Public Health and Population)
- Kansas University Department of Architecture
- Klinik Fonfred
- Little Footprints, Big Steps
- Medical Benevolence Foundation
- Haiti One
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock nonprofit academic health system
- Feed My Starving Children
- Prospect-Goshen Rotary Club, Louisville, KY
- Riverbend Rotary Club, New Orleans, LA
- Les Cayes Rotary Club, Les Cayes, Haiti

2018 Financial Overview

2018 Revenue: \$290,625

2018 Expenses: \$290,625

- Clinical operations in Haiti: \$253,666 87.3%
- Development and Communications: \$15,382 5.3%
- Foundation Administration: \$21,577 7.4%



All funds received by Global Birthing Home Foundation are spent in support of Maison de Naissance, as the foundation's operating expenses are solely devoted to fundraising and oversight of the birth center's operations.

We wish to offer our heartfelt thanks to all of our donors, without whom none of the work at Maison de Naissance would be possible, and we hope you continue on this journey with us as we strive to do ever more with your support in 2019!



This is why we do what we do!

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