

2012 - November 19



## Haitian Artisans for Peace International

*... encouraging creativity, promoting gender equality, creating economic opportunity,*

*nurturing spirituality,*

*growing healthy communities...*



*God is our refuge and strength,  
a help always near  
in times of great trouble.*

*That's why we won't be afraid  
when the world falls apart,  
when the mountains crumble into the  
center of the sea,*

*when its waters roar and rage,  
when the mountains shake  
because of its surging waves.*

*There is a river whose streams  
gladden God's city,  
the holiest dwelling of the Most High.*

*God is in that city. It will never crumble.  
God will help it when morning dawns.*

*~Psalm 46: 1-5, Common English Bible*

## There's a 'buzz' in Mizak!

Have you visited [HAPI's Facebook page](#)? My favorite posts are 'likes' and notes of appreciation from students, studying in Port-au-Prince, who hope that one day they might be able to return and work in their community. **Today's work is their legacy.**



I don't expect 'the buzz' to slow down. 2013 promises to be a year of growth, as we live into the possibilities of the Merlet Center and advance investment in infrastructure to benefit the community. HAPI will continue an **integrated, holistic approach** that

- improves the lives of women and girls
- creates jobs which contribute to family income to pay school for children and stimulate growth within the local economy
- promotes physical, emotional and spiritual health
- paves the way for technological advances which will necessitate higher education to prepare students for careers that pay a decent, living wage

**We are about empowerment.** ...a ['Community of Shalom.'](#)

So what is the buzz all about?



**The Merlet Center is nearing completion:** the roof goes up and tile goes down! HAPI staff is engaged in operational planning. Merlet is home to our administrative offices, artisan workshop, loan services, cyber café and classrooms. We are identifying the resources needed to equip the facility to be fully functional; some of these equipment needs are identified below in 'HAPI's Opportunity to Give' list and others will evolve throughout the year.



People are talking and HAPI is listening. HAPI interviewed community members on life as a woman or girl in Mizak. Men, women and children shared about the obstacles encountered by girls in achieving education and how **women without education and jobs are sometimes "not respected by the men"**.

One of HAPI's **Nouvel Etwal dancers (New Stars)** lamented the injustice she felt in the preference of education for boys as compared to girls. She said, **"We are all human beings."** Check out HAPI's video ['Taking Care of Eve'](#).

One of the "stones" identified as a stumbling block for girls was a **lack of higher education opportunities available in the community.** Girls were less likely to travel to Port-au-Prince for a university education due to several factors, including concerns for personal safety. **This is one 'stone', collectively, we can 'roll away'!**

HAPI is soliciting a relationship with a United States university to offer distance-learning at Merlet Center. We will begin with courses to prepare students for academic life in an undergraduate or associate degree program. **The gift most needed in this area right now is prayer!** Please pray for the connections and the inspiration of the Spirit in casting a vision that will attract the resources necessary to move this to reality by Fall 2013.



Since HAPI's inception in 2007, community women have shared their hopes of a maternity hospital in Mizak. I have anguished with...the woman who had an episiotomy performed with rock salt...the women tucked so deep in the valley or perched so high on the rocky cliff that I can't imagine how they walk the path nine months pregnant—let alone in heavy labor—if something goes terribly wrong.

**My most poignant memory is the woman who attempted to deliver her baby while lying on Paul Prevost's front porch. It was mere weeks after the earthquake and more than 500 people had gathered on the property in hope of finding food. The mother hemorrhaged. In spite of our best efforts in the midst of chaos, the infant died.**

HAPI launched two new community health initiatives in 2012: family planning and maternal health. They have both been received with enthusiasm! Now we are taking the next step towards reducing maternal and infant mortality...

I am pleased to announce that HAPI is breaking ground on a new maternity clinic, February 1, 2013! 'Phase 1' will continue to deliver general community health but will add labor and delivery rooms, an operating room, and a pharmacy with lab space. We will continue to work with traditional birth attendants and improved midwifery practices while we gradually add training, staff and technology to enhance care.

I didn't ask for running shoes for Christmas...but maybe I should. It is going to be another FULL year!

**May you be blessed with 'Peace and Prosperity'!**



Shalom,  
Valerie


'Communities of Shalom' seeks to transform the world *one community at a time!* Below is a list of opportunities for individuals, small groups or congregations to participate with HAPI in the journey of one community.



**HINT: the hottest 'peppers' are at the bottom!**

 priority

  super hot

 'M'ap boule!' ("I'm burning!")

#### HEALTH

##### Pharmaceuticals - \$10

Contribute to the purchase of medications, family planning supplies and IV solution available in Haiti.  
\*List of current needed *in-kind donations* of OTC and prescription meds available to teams.

##### Birth kit - \$50 value

[Click here for HAPI Healthy Birthing kit list.](#)



### **Urgent care - \$100**

Contributes to transportation, exam, lab tests, prescriptions, shut-in meals, and surgical procedures for those patients HAPIKlinic refers to Jacmel clinic. Examples: advanced malaria, emergency c-sections



### **Start Right! (Healthy Moms & Babies) - \$600**

Sponsor a mom for one year of maternal and infant health initiative. Includes education, weekly nutritional meal, health monitoring, financial support toward delivery and necessary supplies.

## ASSET-BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



### **GROW Faith in Action - \$50**

Contribute a 'share' in growing Faith in Action Methodist Church of Mizak. Support congregation in offering programs of discipleship and outreach. Looking for 40 faithful!

### **Shalom-building - \$100**

HAPI collaborates with and provides small grants to other local, Haitian-led organizations or community events that contribute to a 'Shalom' community. Some of our community partners include:

- The Musac National School
- RCD (support for Mizak orphans)
- UFAD (support group for elderly women)
- Bainet Methodist Congregation

## PROSPERITY

### **HAPI Artisans - \$50**

Support marketing and training!

### **HAPIKredi microloan - \$100**

Give a gift that keeps on giving: a low-interest micro-business loan. 80% loan ratio to women. Help moms support their children and live in dignity! As people in Haiti ask me to tell others, "People in Haiti are not lazy. They only need a little something that they can start with and then keep on going."



### **Industrial sewing machine - \$1250**

*Price may vary with machine and shipping*



### **HAPIKredi motorbike - \$1700**

Honda 'farm bike' suited to tough terrain to follow up with client visits and evaluations.

## INVESTMENT - People, Structures & Systems



### **Field trip - \$150**

Expand horizons: sponsor 10 Peace Pal on a field trip!

### **Chickens - \$30**

Contribute to a poultry project for 4H Peace Pals

**Peace Pals - \$50**

Sponsor basic program expenses for one child for a year of Peace Pal activities!

**Shalom Singers skill-building - \$150**

Fund a young adult formation class for music-theory and theology of Shalom.

**Shalom Singers on the road - \$300**

Help Shalom Singers take the show on the road! Spreading a gospel message of faith, hope and love. \$300 rents a van and a meal.



**Shalom Singers electric guitar - \$500**

Keep them 'jammin' for Jesus'!



**Outfit an Office! - \$3700 average per office (10)**

Desks, chairs, filing cabinets, laptops, printers, and task lights. *Price includes est. duties & shipping.*



**Phase 1 Maternal Health Hospital - \$23,000**

Projected budget, Phase 1 = \$108,000

Received / pledged: \$85,000



**Keepin' it Green: Energy system for maternity clinic - \$36,500**

Solar panels, batteries, inverter, cables, electrical breakers and wiring, Honda generator with inverter. *Price includes est. duties & shipping.*

*Undesignated gifts are also welcome and will be applied to the area of greatest need.*

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