

HAPI begins construction of a new maternity clinic, 'Felisane Klinik,' in honor of Madame Felisane Prevost, HAPI's 'birth mother.' Direct inquiries to Valerie Mossman-Celestin at valeriemcelesin@gmail.com.



"Take care of *Eve*" ... The Felisane Legacy

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"Take care of Eve."

43 years ago, Felisane Prevost's parting words to her 15-year old son, Paul, changed the face of a community.

If one of Paul's four sisters had been named *Eve*, the story would have ended that night on Madame Prevost's dying breath—but not one sister bore the name *Eve*.

A determined Paul searched for the elusive *Eve* and discovered her in

the feminine image of God. Paul's mother had prophesized to him to recognize the sacred worth of women and to empower them to contribute to their society.

Since 2007, I have had the privilege of walking alongside Paul and an



Start Right!

'Start Right' is HAPI's maternal care initiative to support expectant mothers physically, spiritually and emotionally through their pregnancy and the early months of their newborn's life. The women meet weekly for one year, receiving physical exams, lab testing, vitamins, a nutritious meal, prayer support, and an educational seminar for pre or postnatal care.

incredible Haitian staff who are living out Madame Prevost's legacy to her community.

HAPI now has the opportunity to build upon the legacy of our "birth mother": we are proud to introduce 'Felisane Klinik', a new maternity and community health care clinic.



The English version of Felisane is 'Felicia;' Felicia means "happy!"

Thanks to the generosity of private donors and teams, the first level (Phase 1) is currently under construction. We have future plans for a second-story, after the lower level is fully operational.

YOU ARE INVITED TO BE A PART OF THIS LEGACY.

HAPI is requesting \$50,000 to be pledged by December 31, 2013.*

These funds will be used to complete Phase 1 general construction, to increase by 4kw our solar-generated power capacity, and to provide the initial durable medical equipment and supplies.

This clinic will 'open doors' of improved health and reduced maternal and infant mortality. The first floor of the clinic will include a pharmacy, 2 general exam rooms, 2 labor & delivery rooms, a scrub room and surgical room. Plans are to add a dental chair and to gradually increase dental services. Limited lab services will begin on the first level and will be expanded on the second level.

HAPI will recognize the 10 most significant gifts, individual or group, with a commemorative plaque with their name on one of 10 doors within the clinic.

Join the Felisane legacy and 'Take care of Eve.'

Mothers who faithfully attend receive \$50 before delivery to assist their medical expenses and infant supplies and \$50 afterwards for food or supplies.

Recently, our Community Health Care Director, Yolande Zephir, inscribed a 22-year old first time mother. She is an orphan, living with her aging grandparents. They had no means to support the impending birth. The father of the newborn rejected the new mom and the infant. Her grandmother said, "I do not know how to thank God for the organization he has sent to this community!"

\$600 supports one mother for one year. [Donate](#) \$50 to support one month!



A personal note...

When I began working with HAPI artisans, I often would ask the women about their hopes and dreams for their community. Time and again, they spoke of a maternity hospital. I would smile, nod and agree with them that this was a needed resource, never imagining HAPI to have a role in realizing that dream.





*Based upon projections and contingency. Any surplus will benefit the 'Start Right' maternal care initiative. (See righthand column)



What else do we do?



HAPI began with a foundation of

economic empowerment which continues to grow with new **artisan products**. Shop embroidered cards [here](#) or other product [here](#).

HAPI Kredi provides



micro business loans for women who would not qualify for a traditional bank loan. \$100 provides a 'starter' loan.



Peace Pals continue to gather

What's next?

HAPI's next newsletter will introduce our plans to 'open doors' of higher education, beginning with ESL and computer courses for academic preparedness. This will be the first step toward distance learning for a college diploma!

[Donate](#)



THE ADVANCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH [#3020490](#)

HAPI is an approved 501c3 and is eligible to accept donations directly to HAPI through our online giving, checks or cash. A PayPal account is not needed to process your donation.

[DONATE](#) (PayPal)

In 2010, I visited the community in February following the earthquake. I was traveling with a team of 21 persons and we pitched in with relief activities, including games to distract the children and food distribution. On the day of the distribution, better than 500 adults and children were filling up both Paul's porch and the adjacent, empty field that is now home to our 'Shalom Zone' and pavilion. Paul and I had gone to the clinic and were returning when a child ran to us and said, "A woman is making a baby on your porch!" I was a bit startled until Paul explained that "making a baby" meant "having a baby!"

The team nurses pitched a makeshift tent on Paul's porch out of the blue tarps we were distributing to cover damaged roofs. The woman was lying on the concrete in heavy labor. Curious children peered through the edges of the tarp, while 100s more played games and crafts, their laughter drowning out the labor pains.

The woman was in distress. She began to hemorrhage. The only choice was to try and transport her in the back of a Toyota truck down the

deeply rutted mountain road to a hospital overrun with earthquake victims some 50 minutes away.

The truck was only gone for maybe 10 minutes.... The driver pulled back up to the gate, stepped out with a dead infant and asked, "Where is your trash?"



weekly
and to

diversify their activities including HAPI Brigad, a 4H club, and 'Nouvel Etwal' (NE) – those *Eves* on the cusp of womanhood who are learning to express themselves with confidence and grace through **dance** and now **photography**. [Like NE FB page!](#)

The
**Merlet
Center**



continues to live into Madame Myriam Merlet's vision of a new society where *"One should be able to realize and express one's full potential and not only one's social condition."*



The
Center
has
hosted

community events:
graduations, business

training, zumba, dental clinics and more while also housing a new artisan retail area, product development, lending offices and administration.

By check payable to:
HAPI
P.O. Box 68227
Grand Rapids, MI 49516



Support a Deaconess

A United Methodist [deaconess](#) is a professionally competent lay woman commissioned to ministries of love, justice, and service. My Deaconess appointment is in service of Haitian Artisans for Peace International. If you would consider supporting my compensation, you may do so through **The Advance #3020490**, [PayPal donations](#) or by check. Simply designate 'Deaconess support' on your preferred method of giving. THANK YOU! ~Valerie Mossman-Celestin

Since then, God has been working on me to join my Haitian sisters and dream bigger. Creator God is at work here. We are merely channels of God's blessing!

Shalom,
Valerie

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