

HELLO FROM HAITI

JANUARY 2000 - FROM THE ZACHARY FAMILY

Hey Everybody!!!

We all hope that your **Holiday Season** was filled with **blessings and joy**. Though we didn't have a "White Christmas", we were still able to **celebrate God's Gift to all mankind**. We **so appreciate** all of your Christmas cards, packages, and gifts. It adds a **special touch** to know that you all remember us during this busy time of the year. We are **so blessed with friends** from all around the States. We consider many of you family and **so greatly appreciate each and every item you send, financial support you give, and prayers you petition before the Lord**. Without your generous help and considerate support, we could do nothing. We have been **keeping busy** since the last newsletter. We couldn't take any vacation time from the clinic during the holidays and have had **4 more children through our doors** (plus the 2 boys we've had for several months). We **moved the clinic to another building and are working three days a week now** (around 400 people a week). We are getting ready to **unload a semi trailer packed with a suburban and much needed supplies**. **We are so happy to be in a position to be doing God's work in such a time as this. It is truly ALL done for HIS GLORY!!!!** ♥

Clinic Update

by Gretchen

We pray God has many special blessings planned for you this year. This month begins our **7th year** here- the **year of Jubilee** and we are expecting great victories and thanking God for all He will allow us to accomplish in His Name.

Since our last newsletter, **we have moved our clinic location**. We were

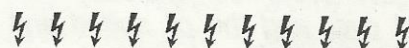
working out of a government clinic almost two years. Now we are **renting a building** which is more **secure and suitable** for our needs. We are **excited and pleased** with the facilities. The old place served us well and allowed us to win many friends and the trust of people in well over a 150 villages. We felt like we moved from a place of darkness and oppression to **one covered by God's peace**. It is called **"Grace Health Center" or "Centre Sante de la Grace Du Bon Samaritain"** (in French). We leave home at **6:30 Tues AM and stay at Cazale Tues and Wed nights** allowing us to extend our hours. We return home **Thurs around 5 or 6-tired, but oh so blessed!!**

There is no way to describe all God has done for us these last few months. We have fresh revelation of how **God can open ANY door and how He does fight our battles for us**. *He simply asks us to trust and obey and love those He sends into our path.*

Patients are **walking 6, 8, 10 hours** to receive medicine and treatment for wounds, burns, and all types of illness. This gives you an idea of the **lack of medical care available**. Every mountain has its voodoo priest or witch doctor ("**hougan**") who **takes every bit of money a family can scrape together**. But we all know the outcome is **death** - many times to the body and even more to the spirit. People come on **mules, stretchers, wheelbarrows, and beds**. Some, hardly able to stand, walk hours with canes or staffs to help navigate the steep mountain paths. **Folks, can you imagine looking into 400 pairs of eyes each week who are in need of hope and help?** As we've said countless times **JESUS CHRIST** is the **only Hope for Haiti and the people here**.

It has always been our prayer, since God touched our lives, to be on the **front lines** - in the trenches so to speak. The ministry God has given us is unique and not for the timid or weak in heart. **We praise Him daily**

for our assignment and the grace to carry it through. God has touched many hearts to join with us in trying to reach the lost and hurting. We are so thankful for **each of you**. The help and encouragement you have given us along the way is **precious to us and to the Haitians we minister to daily**. God has chosen us all to complete a special work. The needs here in this third world country at present are **endless**. We live in a **third world country**, but we serve a **mighty, loving, and merciful first class God**. Hallelujah!! We ask you to continue to join with us. **Pray for us, the people and the country**. Put on your spiritual creative hat and seek God for your part in the work here.♥



URGENT CLINIC NEEDS!!!

Because of the increase in the number of patients, there is also an **increase in the demand for meds and supplies**. These listed are extremely urgent meaning we are completely out or will be in the next week. Please do whatever you can to help us fill these needs.

*Silvadene cream for burn pts.

*Ketamine-anesthesia for burn children

*IV solutions, tubing, angiocaths

*Foley caths & cath bags

*Meds for high blood pressure- cardizem, aldomet, verapamil, Zestril, Inderal, any kind

*seizure meds-dilantin, tegretol, phenobarb, depakote, neurontin

*diabetic meds - Glyburide, Glucotrol, Micronase

*thyroid meds-Iodine, Thyro-Block, Propylthiouracil

*KIDS chewable vitamins

*Meds for constipation

*Fungus Meds-Nizoral (pills and shampoo), Griseofulvin

*crutches-adult, walkers, canes

*ACE bandages

*Glasses

*Kids Antibiotic Suspensions ♥

NEW EDITIONS

BY LORI

We have had **four new little ones through our doors** since the last newsletter. One was a **two month old baby weighing about 5½ lbs.** The mother had **died** soon after birth and the father just had **no means to care for the tiny infant.** We brought him home and took him to another missionary who runs a home with 15-25 children under two who are sick or malnourished. The father is **so happy** that his baby boy is receiving top rate care. They will probably keep him for a couple of months and, with lots of TLC and prayer, **he will gain weight and develop normally.**

Another child that came home with us was a **9 month old boy with 3rd degree burns on his left lower back, bottom, hip, leg and foot.** During the night, his older sister lit an **oil lamp** and set it on the bed. The baby **rolled over and the oil spilled and caught him on fire.** He came to our clinic **one week** after the accident with a **horrid infection and a thick layer of black scar tissue.** Being so young, we couldn't keep him for a long time. We brought him home for debriding, strong antibiotics, and dressing changes. We were able to give **ketamine (anesthesia) shots** to briefly make him sleep as we took all of the scar tissue off. We were able to do this in a series of days and he was back with his mom **within a week.** I gave the mother items to change the dressings and lots of teaching on how important it was that **they come EVERY week for dressing changes.** I have not seen them again. It is **very discouraging,** but I am slowly learning that the **ultimate choice is with the patient** and I can't force someone to accept my form of treatment or therapy. It is just one of the **many** challenges we face here.

The other two are **severely malnourished children who are currently living with us.** They have a form of malnutrition called **KWASHIORKOR.** This is when they are **deprived of protein.** We've had **hundreds** of these cases and treated the majority of them

successfully. With a couple of tablespoons of **peanut butter** every day and a few **eggs,** the swelling quickly goes down. We give the parents **education** as to which foods to make and how the condition can be reversed. **These two kids touched our hearts and we decided to care for them ourselves.**

Molo came to us December 22nd. He is four years old and weighed **17 lbs.** His body was in **kidney failure** - so swollen that **his skin split open in several places and eyes were almost swollen shut.** He had not been able to walk for several weeks. Though his dad had a hard time leaving him in the hands of complete strangers, **he is glad he did. Within 6 days, the swelling was down.** In three weeks, he is up to **22 lbs and running around with the other boys.** He will probably stay for a total of **two months,** though **he's such a cutie** we would keep him forever if we could. The other is a **3½ year old girl with the same condition who weighed 17 lbs also.** She had **two older siblings who died in October of the same malnutrition.** **Estelene came January 6th** and has greatly improved. The **swelling is down and she is walking again.** She isn't quite so steady on her feet yet, but she's gaining strength.

We hope one day to have a **Rescue Center for severely malnourished children to come to stay and receive good foods and care to put them on their way to recovery.** A main requirement would be **education classes for the parents.** Please be praying for our **new editions** and for our continuing work with the **malnourished children of Haiti.**♥

DO WHAT YOU CAN
WHERE YOU ARE
WITH WHAT YOU
HAVE

That Could Have Been Me

BY CASEY ZACHARY

*A starving child who's skin and bone
An elderly man who's dying all alone
A helpless child who's always abused
A pregnant teen who's so confused*

That could have been me

A drug addict who can't say no

A homeless man with no where to go

A young gang member raised on the street

A battered wife who's just been beat

That could have been me

An orphan who's lost his father and his mother

A person who's never felt love from another

A dying cancer patient going through radiation

A willing young child who's been deprived of education

That could have been me

Should I forget these for my lack of compassion

I always say I care, to help I must act

Words are cheap, to help I must act

If for nothing else, just for the simple fact

That could have been me

ACTS 2000

January 20th we are starting an **Akamil program** for many severely malnourished children and critically ill adults with AIDS and TB. Every other week patients will be weighed and given a supply of Akamil. This is a mix of ground rice, black and white beans, corn and a grain called epitimi. Hopefully, we will have milk or peanut butter available from time to time. In December, we had one child after another with 2nd or 3rd degree malnutrition. We also had our highest amount of Kwashiorkor children. Many could not walk or even sit up. Some were so swollen with kidney failure that the skin on their extremities had split open. One Wed, we'd seen one too many, even for us who are used to dealing with such suffering. After spending the afternoon in tears, we **determined in our hearts to get a steady supply food to these children.** We immediately began setting the plan in motion. God in His ever-present love, mercy and grace sent the finances through a family obedient to His touch. Oh, the joy of serving Him and living by FAITH. God so faithfully and in a timely way provides for the needs He shows us. No one has or can write a movie or TV show as exciting as the life we live. We are truly **living the book of Acts.** No matter the battle, struggle or stress; we can do nothing, but Praise Him, Praise Him, **PRAISE HIM!!!**♥

We are starting this section to let you know about an ***extra need or expense that someone might be touched to help us with.*** Our special need for this month is for a good friend and our part time employee, ***Zaie.*** Her mother died when she was a young girl and ***she raised her 3 brothers.*** Her father helped with some money, but wasn't around much. She is now in her early 30's with three adorable daughters. ***She regularly attends church, is diligent in her job, and always helpful to those in need.*** She worked selling small priced food items outside of our old clinic to those waiting. She barely made enough to feed her family, but ***she was grateful for what she did make.*** Her bright smile and encouraging words ***always lifted us*** during the hard days. Since we have started sleeping out at clinic, we have ***hired her*** to make a meal for us and wash some sheets and clothes. She doesn't earn much, but ***she wisely spends each gourde.*** Some that have been down on teams remember her middle daughter, ***Lovely.*** She is about the prettiest little girl in Haiti. Zaie has saved enough money to ***start her own house, but not enough to finish it.*** She has gotten up a ***tin roof*** held up with ***skinny poles.*** ***Woven banana leaves*** are meant to keep out some of the animals and rain, but don't. There are holes in the walls big enough for the kids to crawl through. Though these types of homes are common here, we feel like there might be ***someone who would like to help buy the block, cement, and additional supplies needed to complete the house of this well deserving family.*** When we asked her if we could write to you about this need, she was embarrassed, but thankful. She was ***very conservative*** in her estimate of the completion cost and even suggested she could just do it in rock and mud if it

was too much money. We need around \$275 to \$300 American to finish the house in cement block. If you could make this a *special fund raiser or project for your church or Sunday School Class, it would be an enormous blessing and testimony of God's Love and Concern for His children.* Thank you for any contribution towards this *special housing need.* ♥

→ → → GRAVITATE ← ← ←

→ → → **TOWARDS** ← ← ←

NEED

THANK YOU!!!!

last month we told you about a lady who is having *many female problems* after her difficult C-section and death of her baby. We received enough money for her surgery plus extra. PRAISE GOD!! This extra money went to another lady with postnatal problems. She delivered a healthy baby, but an uneducated mountain "midwife" pulled her female organs out. After he saw what he did, he pushed them back in with a rag. An unbelievable story, but true, I promise. The first lady is scheduled for surgery Jan 20th. The second will go in sometime in the third week of January. Both are such sweet ladies cried and thanked God that He touched a strangers heart to make their "miracle" happen. ALL glory is given to God. He orchestrated the whole world's happenings before we were even born. How great is His omnipresent Grace, Mercy, and Love. ♥

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PERSONAL NEEDS

- ☒stamps ☒calculators
- ☒canned meats-chicken, ham, etc
- ☒boxed cheese-like Velveta
- ☒Ziploc bags - any size
- ☒picture frames ☒35mm film
- ☒clothes-infant to 4T, kids shoes

looking ahead

Feb 22nd to April 19th:

Zach back in the States

March 23rd to April 19th:

Gretchen in the States

April 24th-May 3:

Construction/Evangelism Team

Church on the Rock-Carroll, OH

May 3–May 11:

Medical/Construction Team

Church on the Rock-Carroll, OH

May:

Mission Team from Oral

Roberts University

June 16:

Enoch & Licia's wedding - lots
of company

God has not promised skies always blue
Flower-strewn pathways all our lives
through,

God has not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.
But God has promised **strength for the**
day,

Rest for the labor, light for the way.

Grace for the trials, help from above,

Unfailing sympathy, Undying love. ♥

LIVE TO GIVE

WhoWhatWhenWhere??

☛ To send letters, packages, or boxes. . . .

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