

March 2021 update



...hope in this life and the life to come...

Whether you have been supporting us from the beginning of our 27 years in Haiti or just started this month, we have exciting news! Building has started!

PLANTING HOPE is the first phase of construction on our land and we would love for you to hear about the opportunities to sink physical roots in Cazale to bear fruit that will remain.

Real Hope for Haiti operates an outpatient medical clinic that includes a wound care clinic. We often have patients that require extended care. Consider a patient with a serious diabetic foot wound that needs daily or even twice daily dressing changes, but they live 3 hours away. Our current space is inadequate to accommodate such a circumstance. We improvise ("degaje" in Creole) and make a place, but it is not optimal for patients or staff.

For example, we received an 18 year old girl with new onset diabetes and diabetic ketoacidosis. She was treated with an insulin drip, IV fluids and frequent labs. We put her on a cot in the pharmacy, hanging IV fluids from the shelves. By the grace of God, we were able to stabilize her, but the situation was not ideal. The patient is now doing very well, by the grace of God.



Last week, her sister Lynda came to clinic with a horrible abscess. All patients with severe infections/wounds have their blood sugar checked: hers was greater than 600. Subsequent labs revealed anion gap acidosis - diabetic ketoacidosis. Lynda was placed on an insulin drip, received IV fluids, frequent labs and blood sugar checks and twice daily wound care for the abscess. She stayed on a second bed in the wound care clinic - which is a 12 by 10 foot room. The other bed in the room is used all day long for patients coming for wound care. Again, not an ideal situation. Diabetics are immunocompromised, especially when blood glucose levels are uncontrolled, as was the case

with Lynda at presentation. It would have been preferable to place Lynda and her sister in isolation, and to have proper space to place IV poles and monitors. We try to maximize our space and resources, but it is obvious to us that MORE SPACE WOULD BE AWESOME FOR OUR STAFF AND OUR PATIENTS!

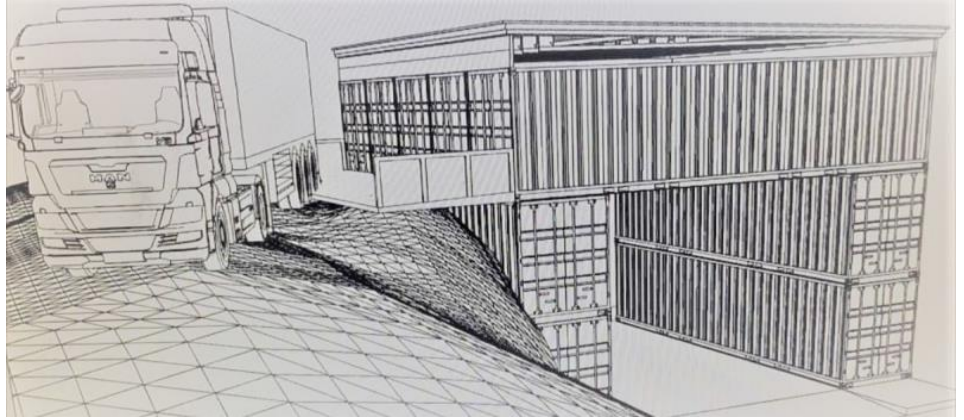
Want to learn more about Phase One Construction?

Watch a video about "PLANTING HOPE" here:

https://youtu.be/cfCdPV1W_yM



We connected with a Haitian contractor who designs structures by repurposing shipping containers. He presented us with a unique design proposal for a depot/workshop that we wish to pursue. The containers will keep building materials and tools safe; and later, after construction is complete, serve as secure storage for needed materials used within ministry. In the space underneath, there will be a shady area to build, repair, and do mechanical work.



Gretchen and Isaiah are spray painting the first stakes in the ground for the new staff houses. They are excited to experience planning, building, and moving into their Haiti home. These homes will provide housing in close proximity to the clinic (once moved to the repurposed cholera treatment center) yet give enough privacy for family time and rest. One of the buildings will host the Real Hope Academy missionary students and provide a homeschool room for years to come.

*Lord, bless these homes
with love and laughter.*

"I want to give my thanksgiving as a sign of politeness, love, and gratitude as an employee expressing happiness with the group of people that sacrificially support and give in one or many different ways to the work here. In this spirit, I want to tell you that all the staff of RHFH thank those that are faithful in helping us with medical materials so that we can do our work well.

We want you to know that the aid you give us helps us, improves health, and saves lives. Your gifts have extreme value in our eyes and we give them much importance. When we get this aid, the work is easier, the patients are cared for better, and the services are reliable.

We pray to God that He will give you more blessings to help others and give them good care. May God pour out grace on you and your families. We love you! Thank You!"

-nurse Madelene



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