



THIRTY YEARS AND GOING STRONG: ICC'S WORK IN LES CAYES LEADS TO DECLINE OF TB DIAGNOSIS



International Child Care began working in the seaside town of Les Cayes, on Haiti's southwestern coast, in 1981 when the Crusade Against Tuberculosis expanded to the region. Today, tuberculosis is still a leading

cause of death in Haiti, and the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis continues to be a core focus of ICC. HIV infection is the most potent risk factor for developing tuberculosis, and TB is the most common cause of death in those who have been diagnosed with HIV. International Child Care added HIV treatment

services in Les Cayes in 2008.

As part of International Child Care's ongoing mission to fight TB and HIV in Haiti, a community initiative called *Projet O'Intervention En Milieu Urbain Defavorise (PIMUD)* was created to offer home visits to patients living in poor urban communities in Les Cayes. With funding from the USAID Global Fund (through 2009), and currently the Center for Disease

Control, six university-educated auxiliary nurses visit patients on a weekly basis. These patients are evaluated on how they are responding to treatment, medications, and clinical appointments. The nurses also check on the health of the other members of the family.

One such patient is fifty-seven-year-old Hermann. He is in the initial stages of his TB treatment, and lives in the La Creol neighborhood. In addition to the weekly home visits, Hermann is also required to visit Hospital Immaculate Conception in Les Cayes every 15 days for the first two months and once per month for the duration of his eight-month treatment regimen. This hospital is considered the best TB clinic in that part of the country. An entire wing of the hospital is dedicated to TB/HIV care, and International Child Care is the supervising agency. Hermann's wife and two children tested negative for TB and received information on how to prevent the spread of the disease; TB patients are only contagious for the first two weeks of treatment. An average of 1,200 TB patients are treated each year in La Creole area.

ICC nurses are assigned a specific number of patients in a territory located near a health center or clinic in Les Cayes. There are seven clinics within the city limits of Les Cayes, and two just outside the city. One of the clinics is in the village of Raynaud, where visitors must cross a tire-bridge and climb the banks of the Ravine der Sud. Many cases of TB have been reported in this particular

To reach Raynaud, a community served by ICC in Les Cayes, the nurses have to carefully cross the Ravine du Sud.



PHOTO © KEITH MUMMA

ICC auxiliary nurses visit Hermann Pierre weekly to offer free TB treatment services. They also monitor his family's health.

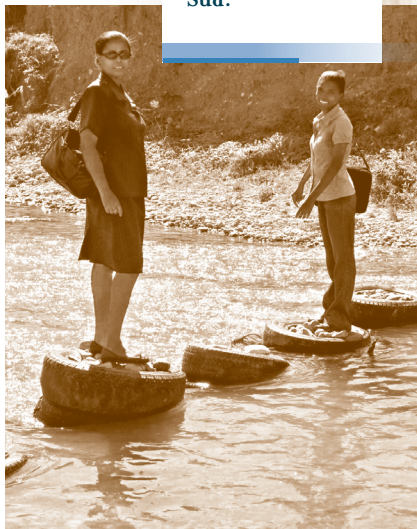


PHOTO © KEITH MUMMA



While visiting a patient's home in Raynaud it is discovered his children are sick. The nurses write a referral so that the mother, Alette, can take their sons to the Hospital of Immaculate Conception for medical care.



PHOTO © KEITH MUMMA

HELPING TO CHANGE LIVES IN LES CAYES

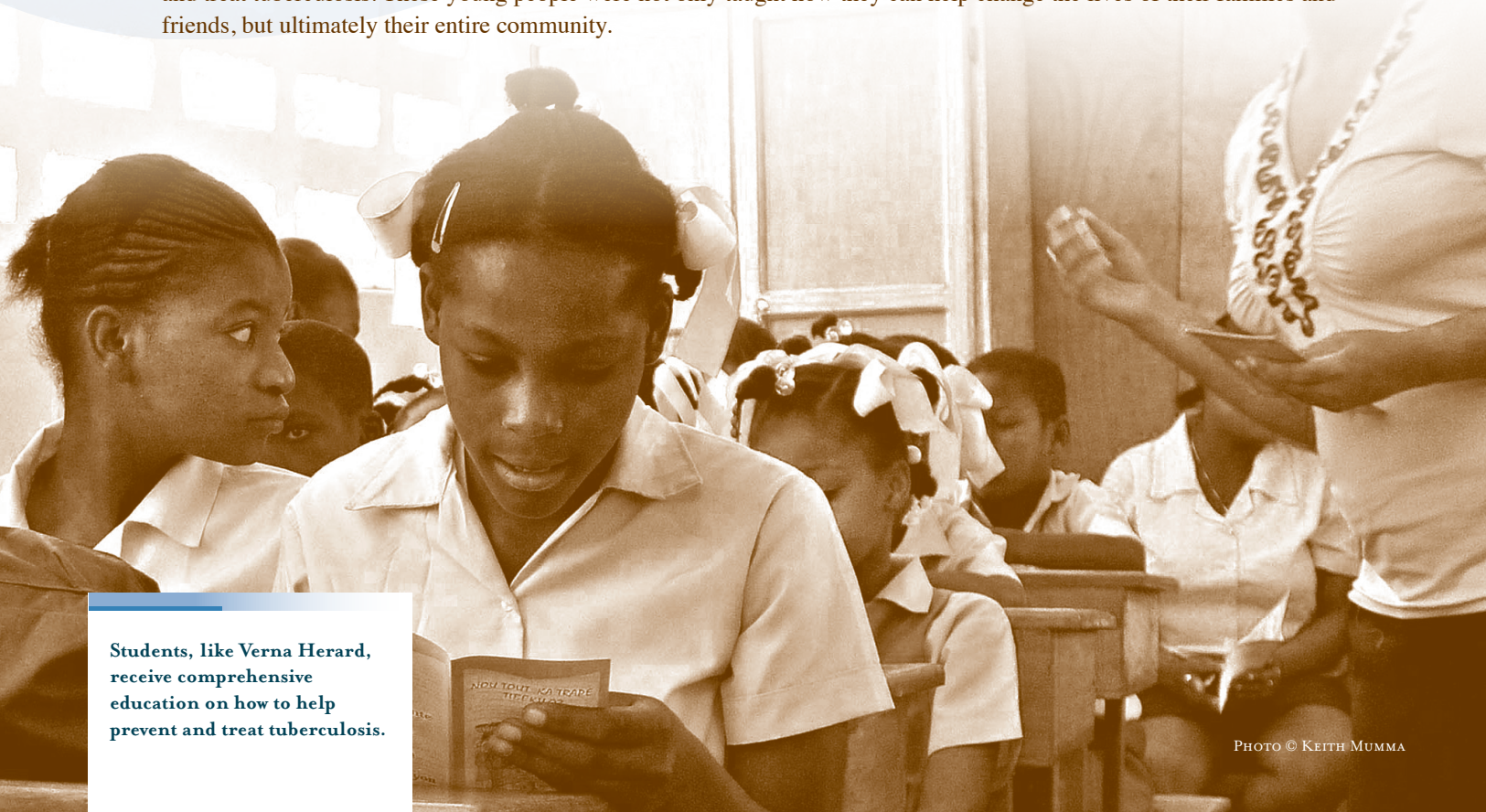
As part of our community health outreach in Les Cayes, the ICC auxiliary nurses dedicate one day per week to educating the general public. During one outreach, the nurses visited the Community School of Derriere Fort – named for an old fort located behind the school building. The school has 590 students with an age range of 8 – 18 spanning grades K - 6.

The nurses offered a health education session on tuberculosis to a classroom of 40 students grades third through sixth. Nurse Bènèche began the session by asking the students what they knew about tuberculosis. Eighteen-year-old Kenson raised his hand and said, “TB is a disease that is contagious, but can be treated.” Verna, a fifth-grade student, offered, “When someone is coughing you have to bring them to the health center.” Dennise then added, “Bacteria causes TB and if a person doesn’t go for treatment they could die.” Nurse Bènèche responded with an enthusiastic “Bravo!”

She was impressed with the students’ basic knowledge of the disease (due to previous ICC health education sessions) and continued by further explaining the causes of tuberculosis, how to prevent the spread of TB and how to treat the disease. Nurse Bènèche emphasized that TB treatment through ICC is free for everyone – regardless of their age, religion or social status. As the session came to a close, Nurse Bènèche gave brochures to the students to share with family and friends. She also requested the students encourage both family and friends – with persistent coughs – to be tested and, those with TB to take their medications properly.

During this ICC sponsored health outreach the children received comprehensive education on how to help prevent and treat tuberculosis. These young people were not only taught how they can help change the lives of their families and friends, but ultimately their entire community.

6th grader Kenson Helien-Jean participates in the ICC sponsored health education session at the Community School of Derriere Fort.



Students, like Verna Herard, receive comprehensive education on how to help prevent and treat tuberculosis.

PHOTO © KEITH MUMMA

A BABY NAMED TERESA

Reflections by Teresa Betts-Cobban



PHOTO © TERESA BETTS-COBBAN

THREE-STONE FIRE: A NOVEL OF HAITI IN 1982

Former ICC-US Board President Baz Cunningham has released his book *Three-Stone Fire: A Novel of Haiti in 1982*. The book is available through the ICC USA offices for \$17.00 plus \$4.00 shipping. If you purchase *Three-Stone Fire* from our offices, ICC USA will receive more than half of the proceeds to support our work in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. While we are grateful for the kind and generous support the author is offering ICC, ICC USA wants to emphasize that we are not endorsing the content of the book; it is a work of fiction, and any questions or concerns should be directed to the author of the book. Please call 800-722-4453, or email iccusa@internationalchildcare.org to order the book.



In November 2010, I made my first trip to Haiti as a member of a Mission Education Encounter Team with Epworth United Methodist Church from Toledo, Ohio. I am a certified women's health nurse practitioner and nurse midwife, and my hope was to simply offer the Haitian people basic medical care and health information. Our team travelled with over 20 suitcases filled with health kits to disperse in the program sites where International Child Care works. During the trip, our team spent time volunteering in Les Cayes where ICC serves children and families. With the aid of an interpreter, I volunteered to make rounds on the women's ward of the Hospital of Immaculate Conception. This bustling ward consisted of one large room with approximately 30 female patients in various stages of active labor, those awaiting caesarean section deliveries, post partum patients with their newborns, and those with other gynecological issues.

The patients had to bring their own water, food and caregivers to the hospital. There were a few medical assistants taking vital signs and administering medications, but not really providing personalized medical care. Having spent much of the morning assessing the needs of the patients, I returned in the afternoon to distribute medical and infant supplies.

While distributing supplies it occurred to me that I had not seen where the laboring patients delivered their babies. I was taken to a small room adjacent to the women's ward where I saw a woman trying to give birth. At the Hospital of Immaculate Conception the women walk themselves into the delivery area, get up on the exam table, lift their clothes and try to deliver. There is no pain medication or anesthesia. Meanwhile, a birth assistant is on standby waiting to do the delivery.

I decided to put on a pair of latex gloves and assist. The first patient I came to was almost ready to deliver when another woman walked in to the room, squatted by the exam table and proceeded to give birth. I quickly went to her, stooped down and caught the baby. I then clamped and cut the cord, handed the baby girl to the birth attendant and helped the mother onto the exam table where I then delivered the placenta.

While the infant was being cleansed, the mother got herself dressed and walked herself back to the women's ward, climbed on a gurney bed, laid down and waited for the attendant to bring her baby so she could begin breastfeeding. There are no words to describe the physical and emotional strength that Haitian women have. They are the most courageous women I have ever met!

A few minutes later I went over to visit the mother and her newborn and discovered that she had named her baby Teresa. Having them name their precious baby after me is an honor and privilege I will never forget. I may never know what happens to this mother and my namesake, Teresa, but I will keep them in my prayers and surrender them to the loving grace of God.

COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION:

- Rehabilitation services provided to 337 children with disabilities
- 13,447 home visits were made by rehabilitation workers
- The program currently has 3 CBR coordinators, 8 CBR supervisors and 24 Community Rehabilitation Workers
- All rehabilitation workers received in-service training consisting of 7 weeks of training workshops and 8 self-growth training sessions

SCHOOL INCLUSION:

- 64 children with disabilities were placed in 22 regular public school classrooms and one in a regular private school in their own communities and received weekly follow-ups
- 22 teachers received special education training, while all teachers of the involved schools and students of the involved classrooms received orientation about the rights and the assistance needed for the children with disabilities included in their schools

Dear Friends,

It's with a mixture of joy and sadness that I write today. As you may know, ICC's work in the Dominican Republic has been positively impacting the lives of children with disabilities since 1988. We celebrate that! Eighty percent of people with disabilities live in developing countries like the Dominican Republic and through ICC's Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program many families have been given hope. Our mission is to expand our programs to reach even more children with special needs.

The Dominican Republic has recently been re-classified as a "middle income" country. This means that foreign governments and large NGOs will no longer fund this kind of assistance for the impoverished people living in the barrios in and around our program areas in Santiago. Some funding organizations have already begun to pull out.

However, ICC plans to stay and continue its work with these deserving children. What do these little children know of international politics and country classifications? All they know is that they are suffering and the assistance they receive from ICC helps make their lives a little easier.



PHOTO © KEITH MUMMA

The Dominican people still need us, and we remain committed to doing everything we can to improve the lives of children with disabilities and their families. I trust that you feel as I do, and we need your help! I ask that you, too, remain committed to helping ICC in its mission to offer health and

wholeness to these children. Please consider a gift today to support the Community Based Rehabilitation program. Your generous gift will help us make a difference and will meet a critical need.

For the Children,

Keith Mumma

US National Director

P.S. Please take a moment to review ICC's Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program highlights from 2010. YOU can help us to continue this wonderful outreach!



YES! I WANT TO HELP INTERNATIONAL CHILD CARE MAINTAIN THEIR LIFESAVING PROGRAMS IN HAITI AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

- Please designate my gift to where most needed
- Please designate my gift to the urgent need in the Dominican Republic

Payment Options:

- Enclosed is my check for \$ _____
- Please charge my Mastercard/Visa/AMEX for the following:
 - A one time gift of \$ _____

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ 3 Digit Security Code # _____ (on back of card)
 Name on Card _____ Email _____
 Billing Address _____ (if different from address below)

OR

- A recurring gift of \$ _____ to be deducted from my checking or savings account
- Monthly Quarterly Annually Start Date _____

- I authorize International Child Care, USA to initiate electronic debit entries to my:
 - Checking Account Savings Account
 - Financial Institution Name (please print) _____
 - Routing Number _____ Account Number _____
 - Financial Institution City & State _____

Financial accountability and integrity are very important to International Child Care. At least 80% of all contributions are used on programs serving children and families.

Signature Agreement: I authorize International Child Care, USA to charge my credit card or initiate electronic debit entries to my checking or savings account as stated above. I understand that I may notify International Child Care, USA by phone or in writing, should I choose to discontinue these charges at any time.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____



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"But I will heal this city and restore it to health. I will heal its people, and I will give them peace and security." Jeremiah 33:6

Grace International Child Care
Children's Hospital

NEWSLINES

THIRTY YEARS AND GOING STRONG... (CONTINUED)



ICC also monitors TB patients in nearby Gelèe Beach. Gelèe Beach is known throughout Haiti for producing a sweet called Tablet. Locally grown almonds are shelled and boiled with vanilla, sugar and other ingredients. When the mixture cools it becomes hard like peanut-brittle. Clairola Raymond, whose neighbor is in the PIMUD program, makes and sells Tablet to help support her family.

PHOTO © KEITH MUMMA

area. Disease spreads easily, due in part to small homes where germs can breed and poor nutrition, which lowers the strength of the immune system.

Once the dedicated nurses make the challenging journey to Raynaud, they may discover a patient isn't home. While patient Lukener Dominique wasn't home for a recent visit, Nurses Jean-Claude and Bènèche discovered that Dominique's young children were sick, they wrote a referral to the general hospital and gave it to their mother, Aliette. The following day Aliette was spotted at the hospital; the dedicated mother had brought her two small children on the hour-long walk in order to receive the treatment they needed.

Although tuberculosis is still a serious threat in the Les Cayes region, the rate of TB diagnosis is declining overall in Haiti thanks to programs like PIMUD. Providing in-home visits ensure treatment protocols are being followed, and lower the risk of relapse or development of drug-resistant TB.

THE RACE FOR GRACE RIDES AGAIN — YOUR HELP NEEDED TO SUPPORT HH100 RACE IN TEXAS!

The HH100 Bike Race draws thousands every year to Wichita, Falls TX, where bikers ride up to 100 miles through the Texas summer heat in a feat of endurance and strength. This year, the HH100 falls on Saturday, August 27, and will once again feature a team of riders raising money for International Child Care. The Race for Grace team will participate in the HH100, registering in advance for the 10K, 25, 50 mile, 100K or 100 mile events, and then commit to raising money and awareness for International Child Care's work in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. You can learn more about participating at www.icraceforgrace.org or by contacting the ICC USA offices. Past participants in the Race for Grace team have registered as families, church groups or individuals; others help by raising money to support those already registered.

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