



LETTER FROM PASTOR TOMMY



Friends of Grace:

As Easter approaches, we are reminded that even though darkness may seem long, the dawn comes. Today we struggle with the reality of a pandemic that is altering our normal way of life, at least temporarily. It is important to remember that we are people of resurrection and hope.

We can and must work together to rise above whatever crisis comes our way.

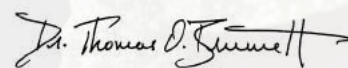
Certainly, nobody knows more about overcoming crisis and adversity than our friends in Haiti, who have prevailed despite poverty, hunger, outbreaks of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, earthquakes and now severe social and economic instability. They have shown us time and again how to press forward and prevail. In the midst of crisis, Grace has continued to keep its doors open despite fuel and food shortages, as well as social unrest and violence.

What did the staff at Grace accomplish in 2019? Remarkably, they saw more than 125,000 patients in their outpatient clinics and conducted close to 90,000

laboratory tests. More than 18,000 children were vaccinated and over 36,000 were weighed to check for malnutrition and other problems. A leader in treatment of tuberculosis, Grace also treated 100 percent of the patients they saw who tested positive, underscoring their commitment to help eliminate this disease. In their commitment to be an educational resource, they also conducted more than 3,000 education sessions in 2019, reaching approximately 55,000 participants.

We are humbled by these positive results and the strong spirit of our Haitian brothers and sisters, who have never faltered in their drive to care for those in need. We urge you to keep Grace Children's Hospital in your hearts and minds this Easter season, as they need our help more than ever.

God bless,



Rev. Dr. Thomas D. Brumett
Vice President, ICC Board
Pastor, First United Methodist
Church-McKinney, Texas

**ANNUAL STATISTICS REPORT
JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019**

Patients seen in outpatient clinics	126,779
Patients tested for HIV	4,758
Patients tested for syphilis	4,758
Laboratory tests done	87,469
Radiography	6,332
Number of children hospitalized	103
Patients seen in ophthalmologic clinic	12,398
Cataract procedures	193
Other ophthalmic procedures	48
Number of HIV patients on treatment	1,618
New HIV patients tested positive	210
New Patients enrolled for HIV	199
HIV patients lost sight found	448
Children vaccinated	18,958
Number of education sessions	3,091
Number of participants	55,179
Conducted home visits	4,920
New TB cases checked in	3,091
New TB cases checked positive	366
New of TB patients on treatment	366
Deliveries by trained midwives	844
A number of weighed children	36,316



Long-time GCH supporter recalls her defining visit

It has been 22 years since Bettye Haynes visited Haiti, yet memories from that visit still fuel her passion to support Grace Children's Hospital.

*"It was an eye-opening experience to hold those babies and love on them, **it changes you.** It truly brought home to me that every penny we give is helping vulnerable children and families."*

The wife of a Methodist pastor, Bettye joined a church mission group from Texas in 1997, visiting the Grace campus in Port-au-Prince, as well as traveling into the countryside to tour several Methodist schools. Prior to leaving, she and a group of Methodist women, (including long-time International Child Care board member Dr. Ellen L. Palmer, RN, PhD), raised money to buy sewing machines and other helpful supplies to hand carry into the country.

The trip to Haiti

Bettye recalls the group filling eight, 80-pound duffle bags, each carefully weighed prior to departure. "When we got to the airport, one bag exceeded the airline's weight limitation by approximately two pounds. The attendant told us we'd have to remove some of



Volunteers hand-carried eight, 80-pound duffle bags with supplies into Haiti.

the contents. Ellen appealed to her, saying 'We'll be leaving behind things that are going to children who have nothing!'" All bags made it onboard.

Visting Grace Children's Hospital

Bettye and her traveling companions toured the site of the original GCH hospital, which was damaged beyond repair in the 2010 earthquake. She was moved by the sheer volume of families and children in crowded waiting areas, as well as the babies in the inpatient area. Most were being treated for tuberculosis, malnourishment and other ailments. Bearing simple toys, the group interacted with children and staff during their visit, bringing a moment of much needed normalcy and joy to the families.



Bettye Haynes visiting hospitalized patients at Grace Children's Hospital.

Inside the slums

During a stop at a Haitian slum, a mother allowed Bettye to hold her little girl after a bath. This forever burns in her memory, along with seeing their basic living conditions, which consisted of a single room with a charcoal "hot plate" for all their cooking needs. Despite the oppressive poverty, she also remembers the joy on the faces of the children playing with balloons brought by several of Ellen's grandchildren, who came along on the trip.



Bettye holding a little girl after her bath.

Girl Scout project helps GCH patients track their recovery

Traveling to the mountains

The group also ventured into remote, mountainous areas, where life was even more basic. "When we got to a school, there was nothing else there. Looking closer at the mountain side, we saw little trails of smoke where the people lived. The children had to walk down from the mountainside to go to the school." She remembers taking instant "Polaroid" photos, giving the children and parents copies as keepsakes. Many had never had a photo taken of themselves, especially those living up in the mountains.

Betty continues to fundraise and donate to Grace. In the early years following her trip she collected grocery coupons, putting her savings into a jar for Haiti. She also organizes activities with her Sunday school class, which has budgeted yearly donations to Haiti since 1977.

Because not everyone can make the trip, Betty emphasizes the importance of keeping Haiti alive in our hearts and mind through stories, photos and other forms of communication.

She also stresses the importance of teaching youth about the challenges Haitian children face. "It's about creating a connection, because Haiti needs our support as much as ever and our youth must continue the work."



Instant "Polaroid" photos were a big hit, as many had never had a photo taken before.



Dr. Junie Hyacinte, MD,
and Dr. Ellen L. Palmer,
RN, PhD, receive
patient packets from
Jessica Halderman.

Following outpatient medical instructions and documenting ongoing progress can be a daunting challenge for families of patients treated at Grace Children's Hospital in Haiti. Jessica Halderman, a youth member at First United Methodist Church in McKinney, decided to tackle this problem head on, having heard about it from International Child Care Board member Ellen L. Palmer.

"Dr. Palmer told me about the problem with tuberculosis in Haiti and how patients struggle to fully heal because they lose their paperwork and are not tracking their symptoms.

For my Girl Scout Gold Award project (one of Scouting's highest honors), I decided to make little bags with folders and notebooks to help families keep up with medical records and track their outpatient care."

Jessica and her Sunday School class made 180 bags, which also contained hand-written notes of encouragement inside. The first batch were hand-carried to GCH by Rev. Dr. Junie Hyacinte, MD, following her visit to FUMC-McKinney in March. Dr. Junie heads King's organization in Haiti and students from her nursing school have attended hands-on classes at the GCH Simulation Lab, which is part of Grace's Education Center, using manikins to learn proper techniques for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), as well as use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) device.

Update from ICC-USA Board Chairman

International Child Care USA continues to monitor the current situation in Haiti. As recently as March 5, 2020, the U.S. Department of State issued a Level 4 travel warning to Haiti due to increased outbreaks of crime, civil unrest and kidnapping. We will continue to monitor the situation and do all we can to help support Grace Children's Hospital, being mindful of the extreme dangers they are experiencing in Port au Prince. Even with all this turmoil the GCH staff continues to provide life saving care and education to the people of Haiti. Please see Jan-Feb 2020 stats:

GCH Services	Jan-Feb 2020
Patients seen in outpatient clinics	17,040
Laboratory tests done	15,414
Patients seen in ophthalmologic clinic	3,359
Cataract procedures	49
Number of assets HIV Patients on Treatment	3,259
Number TB Patients on Treatment	501
Number of children vaccinated	5,244
Number of education sessions	631
Conducted home visits	814
Deliveries by trained midwives	164

To help us achieve the board's strategic goals, which will be concentrated on maintaining and developing the programs at Grace Children's Hospital and Integrated Community Health and Education, I am pleased to report that we have added the following new members to our board who will help deepen our professional expertise in marketing, development, communication and budgeting: Jaclyn Borgiel (IL), Jehu Chesson (NY), Veena Katragadda (MN), Jo Ann Preissner (MI), and Sarvani Yellayi (WA).

Sincerely,



Brad Prickett, Board Chair
International Child Care USA Inc.

On behalf of the Board, the doctors, nurses and patients of Grace Children's Hospital, thank you for all you have done and continue to do to positively impact the lives of those we serve.



SAVE THE DATE:

Race For Grace
August 29, 2020

R4G riders at the start of the 2019 Hotter 'N Hell event in Wichita Falls, Texas.

ICC/USA
1100 N Main St #103
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
iccusa@internationalchildcare.org
www.InternationalChildCare.org
facebook.com/InternationalChildCare
Twitter & Instagram: @icc_usa

Advance:
Grace Children's Hospital: 418520
Integrated Community Health: 418847



Make a difference
DONATE