



PAZAPA 2009 Report

Orthopedic and Medical Services

PAZAPA continues to provide clinical evaluation; orthopedic, neurological, and plastic surgery; physical and occupational therapy and rehabilitation for physically disabled children. CURE International partners with PAZAPA to cover all



serial casting, orthopedics, and surgery for children under the age of 2 with clubfeet. This program serves approximately 20 patients per month. Local and international volunteers provide all treatment for children with foot, knee, and hip deformities. Cleft palate and hydrocephaly patients are referred to Healing Hands Haiti upon diagnosis for immediate treatment. The staff nurse and physiotherapy technician provide pre- and post-operative care to ensure the best results during and after treatment.

PAZAPA provides medication, free of charge, to control epilepsy, arthritis, and infectious bone disease as prescribed by local and international physicians.

The mission of PAZAPA is to support the treatment, education, and development of children with handicaps and to integrate them into the community. PAZAPA was established in 1987 and has been registered as a Haitian NGO since December 1997. More than 1,800 children from Haiti's Southeast Department have enrolled at the PAZAPA Center. All services are offered free of charge, including medical, educational, and social-economic programs.

Marika MacRae,
Executive Director

Special Education

The PAZAPA School currently provides special education to 75 children from infancy to late teens with developmental/mental challenges. Early intervention (0-3 years) focuses on working with mothers and other caregivers to ensure that stimulation therapy and socialization techniques are learned and carried out in the home. The early school level (4-10 years) emphasizes motor, language, and social skills while helping children develop confidence in their abilities. The senior class continues the academic program, assisting those students who can manage a regular school curriculum to be "mainstreamed" in an afternoon public school program. Senior students who have achieved their maximum academic level are taught life skills, cooking (for home and commercially), sewing, carpentry, and other skills either at the Center or through an apprenticeship arrangement. Four hearing-impaired young girls are currently



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learning sewing at a local professional school. Three young men, also deaf, are interested in mechanics, carpentry, and sewing; however, there are no local professional schools willing to teach them. The Center remains focused in finding all alternatives available to teach and properly integrate these students.

Eleven children with multiple, severe disabilities who are unable to attend the school are seen in their own homes by PAZAPA teachers and visiting volunteers. Two years ago, distribution of dry food to the home visit children, funded by Catholic Relief Services, was canceled. The PAZAPA monitors watched as these children became more and more malnourished and consequently unable to progress. Subsequently, requests for funding have been submitted and approved, and in the near future, food distribution will be re-established.

School for the Deaf

For the past two years, PAZAPA has provided education for local deaf students from kindergarten to national certificate level (grade 6). Currently, 30 children attend the PAZAPA School for the Deaf. We are proud to announce that six of the seven students who took the national exams this year passed.



Outreach

At least 700,000 residents of Haiti's Southeast Department live in isolated rural areas.

PAZAPA's Outreach Program has brought help to more than 300 of these children; however, we know that it has reached only the tip of the iceberg. PAZAPA now has a total of six outreach locations, where local monitors work closely with parent groups to identify children in need of seizure medication, orthopedic treatment, birth control, and other services. Monitors and parent groups are also planning small community projects to generate income, incorporating both parents and disabled children.

Family Support Projects

PAZAPA has facilitated independent commercial ventures through small business loans to families of PAZAPA children and to senior students. A total of 20 parents and graduates are currently benefiting from these loans. Previous family support projects have included a solar fruit-drying project; courses in sewing, pattern-making, and cooking leading to a government-recognized diploma; and literacy and bookkeeping classes.



PAZAPA depends on the continuing generosity of individuals and organizations to continue its activities.

To make a tax-deductible gift to PAZAPA, please mail your check to:

PAZAPA, P.O. Box 447, Dexter, MI 48130

Or, you may make a credit card donation by visiting www.pazapa.org and clicking on the "Donate Now through Network for Good" button. The PAZAPA Foundation (also known as the Siloé Project) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.