

## PAZAPA Activity Report 2015

The mission of PAZAPA has continued for the last thirty years to be one of supporting the treatment, education, and development of children with special needs, and integrating them into the community-at-large. The Siloé Project in the USA has continued to serve all this time as the 501(c)3 fundraising arm of PAZAPA.

### Inaugurating New Facilities - The New PAZAPA Center

On February 27, 2015, PAZAPA welcomed donors and friends to inaugurate the new campus for its Jacmel Center. In the years following the earthquake of 2010, thanks to partners CBM (Christian Blind Mission), Plan International, BMZ (the German Government's International Development Agency), and Siloé, PAZAPA purchased new land and constructed what is acknowledged to be the model special education facility in Haiti. This earthquake and hurricane resistant center is designed to international standards of disability access. The new facility comprises special education classrooms, an early education room, library, medical clinic, and the Project-Based Learning Center for cooking and sewing classes.



**Executive Director Marika MacRae, Representatives of CBM and Plan Haiti, and the German Ambassador to Haiti cut the ribbon.**

That February day there were dance and theater performances from Deaf School students and a presentation of craft items made by students of the Center and families of children in

PAZAPA's rural Outreach areas. The celebration, highlighted by speeches made by PAZAPA Executive Director MacRae, the German Ambassador, and dignitaries from CBM, Plan Haiti and Haitian ministries, was held in the large central courtyard surrounded by the newly built facilities.

The major structure for school function is complete, but the Siloé organization recognizes that the Center still requires a handicapped-accessible and completed courtyard play area, a cafeteria, kitchen, and a guard's quarters. Over the next several years Siloé will be seeking designs and funding for these areas.

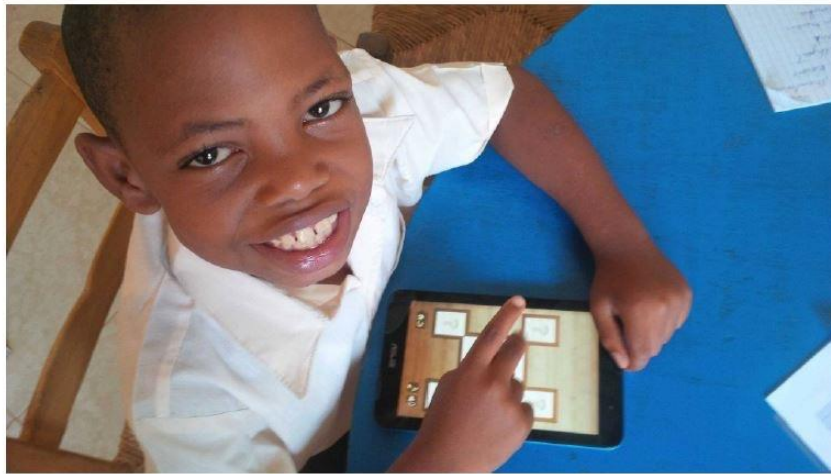
### Special Education and Deaf Education

- a) **The School for the Deaf**, welcomed back its students on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015. A total of 41 deaf students are currently attending.
- b) **The Special Education School**, was opened on Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015, for a total of 103 enrolled students.

c) **Android Tablet Teaching Aids.** The teachers and students at PAZAPA were excited to receive 14 new android tablets from Team Canada Healing Hands volunteer Karen Mallet in November 2015. The tablets with specialized apps for children who have cognitive communication deficits and for deaf children. Karen assessed student improvement from last year and offered teachers new therapy techniques, thereby increasing the capacity of PAZAPA staff to engage students and improve their lives. Karen is a researcher with The Ottawa Stroke Program, which in partnership with the University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute kindly donated the tablets to PAZAPA. **The total number of children undergoing speech therapy at PAZAPA is 24.**

Here is one of Karen's many stories on the impact of the tablets: *“One little guy whom I assessed today*

**Pazapa receives donation of tablet computers**



*has cerebral palsy. (Note Cerebral Palsy - CP - is an all-too-common birth defect in Haiti due to inadequate pre and neonatal care.) It was always suspected that he understood more than he could say, but today, we showed that he in fact DID understand more than he could say (because of his significant speech difficulties)... Using the apps allowed him to use his hands to make things happen in a more controlled way. Then, I showed him an ASL (sign language) app to see if this*

*could be useful for him to learn how to use sign to communicate. Because of his CP it was difficult for him, but he tried. I thought it might be too difficult for him and tried changing the app, but he INSISTED on learning more signs to communicate... A GREAT MOMENT!!! Miriane and I were so excited at this possibility for him to expand his ability to express himself and communicate his needs with others!”*



d) **Inclusive Education.** Program Manager Getho Dominique and Administrator Jean Joseph Forgeas led teacher training sessions on Inclusive Education for public school teachers and administrators. When children with a variety of talents and disabilities are educated together, positive academic and social outcomes occur. The staff at PAZAPA reinforce this by giving all children a sense of belonging, and by providing the kind of timely help and challenges children need to learn and to participate.

**Instruction on Inclusive Education,  
Program Manager Getho Dominique**

## Orthopedic and Medical Services

a) **Nursing Services.** The PAZAPA staff Nurse continues to offer health information sessions to the students at PAZAPA. She held sessions for 23 students on oral hygiene and eye care in October and November. PAZAPA welcomed the nurses from Jacmel's Notre Dame University. They held a wellness clinic for the Deaf students in October.



**PAZAPA Child Recovering from Orthopedic Surgery**

b) **Orthopedic Services.** Dr. Fred McGlynn of Richmond, VA, together with a comprehensive team of orthopedic surgeons, nurses, anesthesiologists, and therapists, has been coming to PAZAPA for over a decade. An Orthopedic Triage Clinic was held in December at the PAZAPA Center and in its five rural Outreach areas, where a total of 41 children was seen by Drs. Fred McGlynn and Mark Sinclair. Over the next two months, PAZAPA welcomed medical-surgical workers from the team, Drs. Latz and Rast in January and Sinclair and McGlynn in February. who overall did 21 surgeries and follow-ups. A child is shown here following clubfoot surgery. They performed their surgeries at the new operating facility recently built in Jacmel by PAZAPA's partner, Community Coalition for Haiti. A follow up clinic on 17 of PAZAPA's clubfeet patients was held in May.

c) **Neurological Services.** Eighty students with epileptic seizures benefitted from the neurology clinic of visiting Dr. Chris Miller and local Dr. Frantso Nelson in October. They were initially diagnosed both at the Center and in Outreach areas by these pediatric neurologists, and anti-epileptic medications were prescribed. A year's supply of these medications was purchased though a donation by Siloé (~\$3,000 in 2015). Follow-up on these neurology patients is done by Dr. Nelson and by PAZAPA staff and Outreach monitors.

## Family Support Programs

a) **Ti-Commerce Microloans.** This microloan service to PAZAPA children and families is a centerpiece program started in the 1990s by founder Jane MacRae. (Ti-Commerce means "small business" in Creole.) Instead of graduating the **Microloan** beneficiaries with good return history, the PAZAPA administration decided this year to offer two loans per year to those parents and senior students. The first distribution was on December to a total of 61 participants, where 45 beneficiaries received 7500 gourdes each and 16 beneficiaries received 5000 gourdes each. (50 gourdes  $\approx$  1 \$ US in 2015.). Although a small number of participants did not return the entire loan, there was still a gain on the total return amount, so that the microloan program is self-sustaining. The interest rate is 2 % for each period of 6 months. A second distribution will occur in July 2016.

b) **Sewing Class Vocational Training.** The sewing class proceeded at PAZAPA's newly built Project-Based Learning Center with sewing machines donated by PAZAPA's partner, the Haitian Timoun Foundation. There were 11 participants (5 parents and 6 senior students). Classes started on October and for the first trimester, over the course of the 3 months they learned 8 different skirt patterns and a

straight cut dress. The goal is to teach these parents and students how to sew and generate revenue for their families by selling uniforms for the PAZAPA students at a competitive price.

c) **Cooking Project Vocational Training.** The cooking project was relaunched again at the Learning Center in October for a total of 20 enrolled senior students and parents. They started with theoretical classes. The project is unfortunately on hold once again because there are not enough funds to fix the refrigerator and oven, or cover the installation of the propane. Obtaining several thousand dollars for ingredients and fuel is a major future goal for this vocational project.

d) **Home Visits to the Severely Disabled.** Monthly dry food distributions continue for the **15 Home Visit Children** who are in desperate need of nutrition. These are children with severe disabilities who would be institutionalized in the developed world, and would not have access to care if not for PAZAPA. This series of distributions started in October 2015 and will end in June 2016. Due to lack of funding, with only \$5,000 available when \$10,000 is needed, the food portions have been reduced.

### **Outreach to 160 Rural Children with Disabilities (CWDs)**

**PAZAPA Rural Outreach.** serves children with disabilities in five Southeast Haiti rural areas, La Montagne Belle Vue, Lamontagne Lacroix, Montagne La Voute, Lafond, and Cayes-Jacmel. It oversees their social, educational, and medical welfare through the oversight of paid local monitors (i.e., Community-Based Rehabilitation, or **CBR** workers).



**PAZAPA Rural Outreach  
Child With School Supplies**

a) **Communicating with CWDs and Their Families.** From July to December, the Outreach monitors held a total of 123 home visits to CWDs and their families. The parents of children with epileptic seizures were highly concerned about the need for neurologists in the South East Department. They were asking for the date of the next available specialist, like Dr. Chris Miller above. They know that proper treatment and medication for epilepsy makes their children's lives safer and enables many to attend school.

b) **Mainstreaming Children with Disabilities.** In September a total of 8 children were mainstreamed into public schools in the 5 Outreach communities. The Outreach Coordinator, PAZAPA staff member Pierre-Paul Exilus, met with each concerned principal and PAZAPA paid the school fees in full. Books were purchased and distributed to the children. Here we see one such child with his books and educational materials. Children were followed up to ensure that the integration was done successfully. Feedback about these mainstreamed children regarding their classroom work and their peer interactions has been positive.

c) **Training Outreach Monitors.** In July and August 2015, the organization Sant Kore Lavi out of Port au Prince provided CBR Training to 15 monitor participants on how to increase the autonomy CWDs. These children are often overprotected by their family, stigmatized, or discriminated against. The monitors were taught how to reinforce the children's self-esteem through awareness from the home to the community level. Sant Kore Lavi next provided

training on how to empower CWDs in everyday life, including income generating activities so that they can connect with the community and to some degree achieve financial independence.

d) **Natural Disaster Planning**. 5 community meetings were held to discuss family and community emergency plans in preparation for Natural Disasters (Lafond and Lavoute). These were timely meetings because in October 2016 these communities were hit by Hurricane Matthew!

### **Conclusion**

Every year there are different challenges, some brought on by external events, like the 2010 earthquake, and others brought on by PAZAPA's own higher expectations for improving its services to children with disabilities and their families. This year we see in the completion of the new building a major step in the recovery from the 2010 earthquake. PAZAPA's special education, deaf school, medical service, family support and rural outreach all have instigated new and improved programs.

## PAZAPA INCOME AND EXPENSES

Period: 7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016

Grant Income		
The Siloé Project*	\$133,000	
Canadian Step by Step	\$1,900	
Christian Blind Mission	\$26,200	
Fees (School and Registration)	\$3,100	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$164,200</b>	

Expenses		
Teachers and Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$122,300	
Supplies	\$11,300	
Vehicle Expenses	\$2,700	
Tuition & Fees	\$3,000	
Utilities & Maintenance	\$1,100	
Services (Internet, audit, taxi and bus, meals)	\$12,300	
Non-Operating Expenses (bank fees, taxes )	\$9,800	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$162,500</b>	

\*Please see the accompanying 2015 IRS 990 Filing of the Siloé Project for Revenue and Expenses of the Siloé Project.

### PAZAPA Operating Expenses By Program

