

PAZAPA Activity Report 2016

The mission of PAZAPA has for thirty years been to support the treatment, education, and development of children with special needs and to integrate them into the community-at-large. This year our programs found ways to improve the education of deaf children from rural areas, to relieve the devastation of Hurricane Matthew, and to make fuller use of the vocational training facilities of our new Center. The Siloé Project in the USA has continued to serve all this time as the 501(c)3 fundraising arm of PAZAPA.

Deaf Education and Special Education

a) The School for the Deaf enrolled 42 students in its classes from pre-school age up to high school age. The School for the Deaf is fortunate to have attracted for several years a team of educators from Team Canada Healing Hands. Under Speech Language Pathologist Karen McKenzie-Stepner, this team came in both January and May 2016 to instruct deaf students and to provide in-service education for PAZAPA's teachers. They taught a hands-on approach so that teachers worked with time-related sign language, mathematics, and teaching methodology.



In-service Education to Teachers of the Deaf
by Team Canada Healing Hands.



"Our kids were beyond excited to meet their very first non-Haitian deaf person!"



Angie Reyes with deaf students of PAZAPA
and co-worker Andreceene.

An exciting way was found for deaf children from Southeast Haiti's rural mountains to take advantage of a PAZAPA education. When PAZAPA connects to deaf children in the countryside through its outreach program, they are of course welcome to classes at the PAZAPA Center. However, without relatives in central Jacmel and with only rudimentary transportation, many families cannot afford the cost of boarding their deaf child in town. Fortunately for PAZAPA and these children, our partner, American volunteer Angie Reyes (to the left), has taken on the awe-inspiring responsibility of providing room and board for

these children. Angie's independent NGO called *Hearingheartshaiti.org* provides a weekday home-away-from-home near PAZAPA so that in 2016, nine deaf children from rural PAZAPA Outreach areas could attend PAZAPA's School for the Deaf. These are children who would otherwise be forever disconnected from the world and their families. Now they live in a supportive and loving community, where their studies and communication skills thrive. These children are pictured at their living quarters in the company of an instructor from Team Canada Healing Hands, who herself is deaf. In meeting that instructor, they were astonished to discover that there are deaf people who are not Haitian!

b) **The Special Education School** opened with eight teachers and 126 students from pre-school/early intervention to high school. There were an additional 14 students mainstreamed into local government schools. Here we see participants in the early intervention program in a new classroom designed for that program.



The Annual Christmas Party, with thanks to Canadian Association Step by Step (C.A.S.S.), was held at the PAZAPA Center. This year the party was particularly special and welcome because it occurred only two months after Hurricane Matthew. The PAZAPA children and their families were sorely in need of a special day to celebrate and to forget the difficulties of post-hurricane existence. Everyone enjoyed the festive moment, with Christmas songs, skits, and even a fashion show. A hot meal was served to the children and their parents, totaling 300 participants, and 170 gifts were handed out to the children. The day was one of harmony and peace.

Family Support Programs



Vocational Training in Cooking Skills



**Vocational Training on Sewing Machines
Donated by the Haitian Timoun Foundation**

a) **Cooking Project Vocational Training.** PAZAPA cooking classes are underway. The cooking project was relaunched in October 2016 with a total of 25 enrollees. If students want to build on their success at school, they need to learn a trade. They are taking great pride in the results of their first efforts, learning professional cooking skills alongside community peers. The students learned to make classics of the local cuisine such as Haitian chicken.

b) **Sewing Class Vocational Training.** PAZAPA was delighted to receive four sewing machines from our friends at the Haitian Timoun Foundation (HTF). The HTF also provided sponsorships to support 66 children with disabilities through its contribution of \$14,000 to Siloé. HTF brought the machines straight down to the Center in Jacmel, which was no easy task! Starting on October 5th, there were tailoring classes teaching eight students to make dresses, blouses, shirts and school uniforms. A major concern now is to obtain fabric for practice and for the uniforms that the participants can sell. PAZAPA is seeking a donation toward the fabric, which is estimated to cost \$900.

c) **Ti-Commerce Microloans.** The Ti Commerce (Creole for “small business”) Program is now successfully running twice a year with distributions in July and December. The distribution on July 14th served a total of 67 participants. 51 families received 7500 gdes (= \$120) loans and 16 families received 5000 gdes (= \$80) loans. The second distribution on December 14th provided microloans to a total of 63 participants. 48 beneficiaries received 7500 gdes and 15 beneficiaries received 5000 gdes. Over the past year, only three families have defaulted on their loans.

d) **Home Visits to Children with Severe Disabilities.** Monthly dry food distributions were made to 15 families of Home Visit children, who are so incapacitated and excluded by their disabilities that they would be institutionalized in the developed world. These children are in desperate need of nutrition, but unfortunately PAZAPA was only able to continue distributions through June 2016. Continuing this program would require \$5,000 in donations that would be greatly appreciated by these children and their families.

Medical Services

a) **Orthopedic Services.** Building on a decade of service to PAZAPA families, the team of orthopedic surgeons headed by Dr. Fred McGlynn paid visits for triage, operations, and follow-up. The total number of surgery patients was 18, and there were 158 medical consults. Shown below, PAZAPA's Tony Antoine (left), along with Dr. Kevin Latz, Dr. Fred McGlynn and Dr. Brian Deignan, join a mother and her son who just came out of a corrective tibial surgery performed in February.



Medical Professionals Provide Essential Care

b) **Neurological Services.** In the spring of 2016, neurologist Dr. Chris Miller diagnosed 76 seizure patients, assisted by local pediatrician Dr. Frantso Nelson. Due to the increasing number of diagnosed epileptic seizure maladies and the fact that USA pharma has vastly increased the cost of generic drugs, Siloé sought out new supplies of the anti-seizure medications Tegretol and Valproic at lower prices. After a search that even included a discussion with Paul Farmer, we found Blessings International, a philanthropic NGO that sells low cost medications to nonprofits like Siloé/PAZAPA. The anti-seizure medication costs, though significantly increased from last year, have stabilized at about \$6,400, an expense that was largely covered in 2016 by generous donations from First Presbyterian Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



Anti-seizure medications (tegretol and valproic) delivered Oct. 2016 to PAZAPA nurse.

Outreach to 165 Rural Children with Disabilities (CWDs)

For many families living in outlying villages, a trip to Jacmel and to the PAZAPA Center is a luxury they cannot afford. Through its Outreach programs, PAZAPA serves children with disabilities in five of Southeast Haiti's rural areas: La Montagne Belle Vue, Lamontagne Lacroix, Montagne La Voute, Lafond, and Cayes-Jacmel. Paid local monitors (i.e., **Community-Based Rehabilitation**, or **CBR** workers) oversee the social, educational, and medical welfare of these children. PAZAPA's Outreach Director, Pierre-Paul Exilus, works with remote monitors to distribute essential medications and educate families on how best to care for their children with special needs. As a recent example, Pierre-Paul, himself a former School for the Deaf teacher, partnered PAZAPA with *Hearingheartshaiti.org* to enable deaf children from the Outreach areas to be educated at the Center while living at a home away from home near Jacmel.

In the village of Montagne La Voute, monitor Nicole Bernard traverses the hills on foot for over an hour each way three days a week to reach the PAZAPA Outreach post in the area. Nicole established a highly effective local center providing support and learning to children with disabilities and their families. Pictured below is a meeting in Jan. 2016 of PAZAPA Outreach families at the Montagne LaVoute center.



Rural Center in Montagne LaVoute, Jan. 2016
founded by PAZAPA Monitor Nicole Bernard (right foreground).



Hurricane Destruction, Oct. 2016,
to Rural Center for Children with Disabilities in
Montagne LaVoute.



Goat Replacement after Hurricane Matthew

In October 2016, Montagne LaVoute was targeted by Hurricane Matthew, and the school there was severely damaged. Throughout the rural areas, families suffered losses of crops and livestock coupled with extensive property damage. In the wake of Hurricane Matthew, PAZAPA sought to address the devastation. Siloé, with the help of contributing partners Church Stretton UK and Canadian Association Step by Step, replaced goats (shown here) and food crops of plantain, corn, and peas. The current owners of the goats are required to return two goat offspring to share with other families in need. The total philanthropic outlay for Hurricane Matthew relief was about \$9,400.

Conclusion

Building on the success of 30 years in service to children with disabilities, in 2016 PAZAPA continued to bring hope and empowerment to these marginalized families by providing medical, educational and socio-economic support. Only an estimated 5% of the approximately 400,000 children and young adults living with disabilities in Haiti are enrolled in educational or therapy programs, and PAZAPA is among the few organizations in Haiti creating positive, lasting change in the lives of children with disabilities by supporting their treatment, education, development and inclusion as contributing members of their communities. With the generous help of our supporters in 2016, PAZAPA's core programs continued to thrive and local staff found more creative ways of improving the lives of children with disabilities through advances in outreach to the deaf, vocational training, and humanitarian relief.

PAZAPA INCOME AND EXPENSES

Period: 7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017

Grant Income

| | |
|---|------------------|
| The Siloé Project* | \$155,500 |
| Haitian Timoun Foundation, donated through Siloé | \$14,000 |
| First Presbyterian Ann Arbor, donated through Siloé | \$5,000 |
| Church Stretton UK, donated through Siloé | \$7,600 |
| Canadian Step by Step | \$5,900 |
| Fees (School and Registration) | \$2,900 |
| Total Income | \$190,900 |

Expenses

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|--|------------------|
| Teachers and Staff Salaries | \$137,600 |
| Supplies [Includes Hurricane Relief (\$9,400) and Anti-Seizure Meds (\$6,400)] | \$34,300 |
| Vehicle Expenses | \$1,200 |
| Tuition & Fees | \$3,100 |
| Utilities & Maintenance | \$400 |
| Services (Internet, taxi and bus, meals) | \$10,000 |
| Non-Operating Expenses (Haitian Social Security) | \$12,600 |
| Total Expenses | \$199,200 |

*Please see accompanying 2016 IRS 990 Filing for Revenue and Expenses of the Siloé Project.

PAZAPA Operating Expenses By Program

