



Only an estimated 5% of the approximately 400,000 children living with disabilities in Haiti have access to inclusive education or specialized medical care, and the stigma surrounding disability often relegates these children to a life of isolation and abuse. PAZAPA is dedicated to supporting the treatment, education and development of children living with disabilities in Haiti, while advocating for their inclusion, protection and rights. PAZAPA means "step by step" in Haitian Kreyol, and in this way, PAZAPA has empowered over 2,000 of Haiti's most marginalized families in the past 30 years through comprehensive programs providing **specialized medical care, inclusive education, outreach, advocacy and family support.**



PAZAPA

Update
FY 2016-2017

Medical & Orthopedic



Successes

- 103 children are currently receiving anti-seizure medications, often enabling them to attend school. Epilepsy is estimated to occur 3x more prevalently in rural Haiti as in the neighboring Dominican Republic.
- 41 children with physical disabilities were evaluated during an Orthopedic Triage Clinic held by Dr Fred McGlynn on December 6th, 2016. Another clinic was held the week of December 4th, 2017.
- Dr Mark Sinclair performed 12 orthopedic surgeries for Pazapa at the CCH clinic in January. Additionally, 6 children with orthopedic deformities benefitted from surgeries performed by a team lead by Dr Fred McGlynn in February.
- 63 patients were seen at 4 Neurology Clinics held during the week of April 24th by Dr Chris Miller, who was assisted by local pediatrician (and Pazapa's in-Haiti Board President) Dr Frantso Nelson.
- Pediatric Physiotherapist Jill Lang returned to Pazapa in October for her annual visit. She had a chance to work with 8 babies in the Early Intervention class, although attendance was low due to Hurricane Matthew.
- 19 clubfoot patients are being treated with the help of visiting medical professionals and the support of Toni Antoine, Pazapa's Physiotherapy Specialist (pictured below left).
- 18 students with dental problems were seen at the Pazapa Centre by KIDS (Kids International Dental Services) in collaboration with Arts Creation Foundation for Children (ACFFC).
- The Pazapa Nurse continues to manage epilepsy medication followup, provide preventative healthcare, and offer health information sessions to the students throughout the school year, especially at times when health risks are high (Carnaval, Christmas, summer, etc).

Strategic Plan

- Constructing a fully accessible play yard (pictured) with therapeutic equipment (funded by the Canadian Embassy and CASS).
- Sourcing for phenobarbital, valporic, other meds.
- Outfitting the Physiotherapy Room and providing PT equipment for families in remote areas.
- Reaching more children through rural outreach expansion.
- Improving preventative health access - vision, dental, etc.



Special Education



Successes

- The School for the Deaf welcomed back 43 students on September 16th, 2016.
- One week after Hurricane Matthew, Pazapa welcomed 126 special education students (including Magdala, pictured at left) on October 10th. Fourteen children are receiving support for mainstreaming and six children are enrolled in Speech Therapy.
- In January 2017, Team Canada Healing Hands, lead by Karen McKenzie Stepner, continued training and curriculum development for teachers in the School for the Deaf, including Cherismène Fleurantin (pictured bottom left providing sign-language instruction).
- A Team from Shenandoah University visited Pazapa in March 2017 to work with the children in Early Intervention. They stayed for a week and their presence increased the parents' confidence in playing with their children while improving their physical development.
- Psycho Ed sans Frontieres arrived on May 22nd and stayed for a month, facilitating information exchange sessions with the Pazapa Special Education teachers (including Maryse Jean, pictured with her class at right) that focused on the impact of teachers' gestures and body language in the classroom.

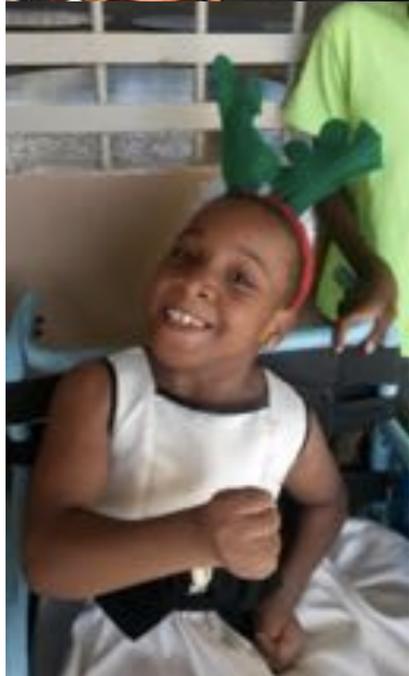


Strategic Plan

- Developing evidence-based curriculum in partnership with the Ministry of Education, the Haitian Bureau for the Integration of Persons with Disabilities, and visiting inclusive education specialists.
- Launching a dance program and other arts-based initiatives.
- Recruiting and retaining quality teachers for the Special Education School and School for the Deaf.
- Establishing a Scholarship Fund to support rural education access and professional/vocational education.
- Reaching more children through outreach expansion.



Advocacy



Successes

- Disability awareness events:
 - * The Annual Christmas Party (Lynn, 6 years old, is pictured celebrating below left) was particularly special because it was held two months after Hurricane Matthew. The Pazapa children were desperate for a special day to celebrate and temporarily forget the harsh realities of post-hurricane life. During the party the children sang Christmas songs and staged a fashion show.
 - * On February 24th, 2017 Pazapa celebrated its 21st Carnaval, an important event for promoting inclusion and respect for equal rights. The queen this year was Ismaelle Petit, a very shy student in the Special Education School. The float was followed by Pazapa children and staff, and crowds of people cheered them along the way as the radio host read inclusion messages.
 - * An organization called VIPHA hosted a Summer Camp at the Pazapa Centre. 11 children from Pazapa were able to participate. A number of students also joined the annual Haiti Timoun Foundation Summer Camp at the beginning of July.
 - * Pazapa celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (pictured at right) on December 3rd, 2017. The event was a huge success in partnership with Plan Haiti, the Ministry of Education and BSEIPH. Attendees included Fabenson (pictured), a 20 year-old with quadriplegia who is attending school to become a disability rights lawyer on a Pazapa scholarship.
 - * PAZAPA continued community meetings in outreach areas, and radio broadcasts by administrator, Tijo to promote awareness about the causes and consequences of disabilities.
- These efforts are rewarded by a gradual shift in how communities view and accept people with disabilities, who are often referred to as “cocobai” — a Kreyol insult implying that they are worthless and disgraceful. We see signs of this shift everywhere, including in an exclamation of “Gade, Bèbè kap chante!” (“Look at that, the deaf can sing!”) overheard at a rural church service where Pazapa students participated in hymns.
- Pazapa is working in partnership with other organizations to address the fact that girls and women with disabilities face double discrimination in Haiti. They are further marginalized by the widely held belief that their disabilities are the result of a hex that may affect their families and neighbors, and those who are deaf are even thought to become werewolves at night.

Strategic Plan

- Developing improved M&E systems to better understand the realities facing Haitians with disabilities, and how Pazapa can increase the impact of advocacy efforts.
- Creating, piloting and evaluating an innovative advocacy curriculum.
- Partnering with families and other organizations to promote compassion, inclusion and respect.
- Preventing violence against women and girls with disabilities.
- Expanding community advocacy gatherings and parent support meetings.
- Increasing recognition of the capacities and contributions of Haitians with disabilities — through visual and performing arts, and economic empowerment.



Outreach



Successes

- Monthly dry food distributions started in September 2016 and ended in June 2017 for 15 Home Visit Children (with severe disabilities) and other students who are in desperate need of nutrition.
- In September 2016 a total of 21 children were mainstreamed in the five outreach communities. Pazapa continues to pay their school fees and purchase their textbooks. Additionally, children from outreach communities (pictured at right) are provided weekday accommodation to attend Pazapa.
- On November 10th and 14th, 2016 a series of distributions were held at Pazapa (pictured). Goats and banana plants were donated to 63 Pazapa families in Jacmel and outreach areas to replace crops and livestock lost during Hurricane Matthew. In March 2017, an additional 111 families benefited from a distribution of goats, banana plants and seeds.
- On March 15th, 2017 CASS board members donated 2 new motorcycles to Pazapa for the Outreach and Medical Programs. These motorcycles are critical for the home visits, community meetings and other activities in remote areas that are inaccessible by vehicle.
- Pazapa's Outreach Coordinator, Pierre Paul (pictured above left) personally visited 35 families, and together with the Community Rehabilitation Monitors, staff reached 160 children in remote areas.
- A total of 11 community meetings have been held this year to discuss what the Pazapa Outreach Program offers, the importance of community inclusion and solidarity, and the causes and consequences of disabilities.

Strategic Plan

- Expanding the Outreach Program into 2 new rural areas and meeting with community leaders to increase collaboration.
- Selecting and training 2 new Community-Based Rehabilitation monitors.
- Restarting the food distributions for especially vulnerable families.
- Providing inclusive education trainings to teachers and administrators in rural government schools.
- Improving medical, nutritional, educational and vocational access for families in remote areas (like the mother at left, who walked for 3 hours for her baby to receive care at Pazapa).



Family Support



Successes

- Pazapa's microfinance program, *Ti Commerce*, is now successfully running twice a year with distributions in July and December to 78 participants.
- The cooking project was relaunched in October 2016 with a total of 25 enrolled senior students and parents (pictured). By the end of the year, they had learned 34 menus, as well as preparation and service. 20 senior students and parents will graduate next semester.
- On graduating in June 2018, the culinary students (pictured bottom right with instructor Madame Lubin) will launch a line of Pazapa-branded prepared goods to sell locally. This initiative will generate revenue for the families and Pazapa, as well as community awareness about the contributions of people with disabilities.
- The sewing class (senior student, Leo Mirielle is pictured) currently has 11 participants learning the trade, with the goal of producing uniforms and other pieces for sale.
- For those older students not interested in cooking or sewing, PAZAPA continues to partner with vocational schools and businesses to provide internships in carpentry, cosmetology, masonry and mechanics. The team sits with each student to discuss and identify the opportunity best aligned with their capacities and passions.

Strategic Plan

- Launching the PAZAPA brand line of prepared goods.
- Supporting the instruction and materials to provide livelihood development opportunities to more senior students and parents (funded by the Ansara Family).
- Expanding the economic empowerment programming to reach families in more remote areas (2 new outreach villages).
- Developing new partnerships (Jacmel School of Law, Ciné Institute, etc) to offer graduating students more diverse vocational opportunities.



Accessible Infrastructure



The original Pazapa Centre was demolished in the devastating 2010 earthquake, but we kept our programs going in temporary shelters and in 2015 we opened the doors of the new facility. With the help of generous donors to rebuild, we're proud to operate the first accessible, para-seismic, hurricane-proof school building in Haiti.



But our work isn't done, and we need to raise \$330,000 to complete Phase III (pictured below left) of the Pazapa Center, which includes an urgently needed reconstruction of the cafeteria (pictured right). Students are provided what is often their only regular meal at Pazapa, and the temporary cafeteria desperately needs a rebuilt floor to accommodate children with mobility issues.

