



Quarterly Report / Fall 2018

You Make a Difference



cmmb

Healthier Lives Worldwide



Thank You

Bruce Wilkinson, CMMB President and CEO, celebrates along with key partners at the official opening of the BJSH on March 20th, 2017.

Dear friends,

I want to thank each and every one of you for your compassion and generosity. Your support helps bring [health, hope, and dignity to women, children, and communities living in poverty.](#)

Today, I am sharing our latest quarterly report, to show you the profound impact your generosity makes in people's lives. This report will take you to [Côtes-de-Fer](#), a poor, rural community in southern Haiti, where your love helped build a hospital that is saving lives every day.

Years ago, when we first went to Côtes-de-Fer, we were struck by the poverty and vulnerability of the people we met. We were moved by the impact a lack of access to

healthcare had on the community, especially the women and children. We identified that a healthcare center was the greatest need. A few years later, thanks to amazing partners like you, and a lot of hard work, [we opened the Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan Center for Health \(BJSH\).](#)

That was March 2017. Today, it is a joy for me to witness how people in this community are receiving the care they need in our state-of-the-art hospital. CMMB's work in Côtes-de-Fer is more than a job—creating lasting change for the most vulnerable is how we put our faith into action.

No one should get sick and die because they are poor. With the help

of people like you, we are making sure that vulnerable women, children, and communities receive [high-quality health services.](#) There is no better gift.

The BJSH is the culmination of a huge outpouring of kindness and compassion. Since opening its doors, the hospital has treated over 8,000 patients and delivered more than 130 healthy babies. We are excited to share stories about the lives saved and changed because of this hospital.

Bruce Wilkinson

Bruce Wilkinson
CMMB President and CEO



Fighting for Every Precious Life

“The doctors and the hospital are a blessing to me. They saved my child's life. If I had delivered at home, like my other children, I would have lost this baby.”

— Jacinthe, mother



Jacinthe watches with joy as her newborn rests at the BJSH.

Jacinthe was well past her due date when she arrived at the BJSH seeking care. The doctor on duty ran tests and confirmed that Jacinthe's baby was in danger. He rushed her into the operating room for an emergency C-section. When the baby was delivered, she was completely blue and not breathing.

“I knew something was wrong, but I wasn't fully conscious and I didn't realize what was happening.”
— Jacinthe, mother

Dr. Dorothy Emiliem - our project officer and an anesthesiologist - was called to the hospital to support the surgical team. She used physical stimulation, suction, and oxygen to get the baby breathing. Within minutes, the newborn was fully breathing, crying, and alert.

Because of your generosity, the BJSH is able to provide pregnant women with quality healthcare and a safe place to bring their babies into this world. Every baby deserves a chance at a healthy start. You are helping to make this a reality.



CMMB rated four stars, seven years in a row



Meets Better Business Bureau's 20 standards for charity accountability



Welcoming New Life in Côtes-de-Fer

CMMB works in countries with **some of the highest maternal and infant mortality rates in the world**. A lack of access to quality healthcare leads to these high numbers, endangering the health of both pregnant women and children.

Globally, our maternal health programs focus on keeping expectant mothers and their babies healthy, and alive. At the BJSH, mothers receive free pre- and post-natal care. These important check-ups help identify risks, and when necessary, treat complications before they become deadly.

Your generosity allows us to have Dr. Laguerre, the only surgeon in the region, saving lives every day. In addition, your support provides necessary equipment and a nurse anesthesiologist, making delivery by C-section available at the BJSH at no cost for women living in poverty.

By providing these services at the hospital, **we are keeping women and babies safe and healthy** in Côtes-de-Fer and surrounding communities.

Meet three babies who are alive thanks to your generosity and the care they received at the BJSH.

“The BJSH is a source of hope for the community. We are really thankful to have great donors and dedicated health providers helping to save thousands of lives.”

— Dorothy Emilem, anesthesiologist and CMMB project officer

“We thank God and all the doctors and nurses at BJSH, for all they do no matter who the patient. We know that baby Anne Flore is alive today because of their care.”

— Anicia, Jeanne Louise's grandmother

We met Jeanne Louise during her first postnatal visit at BJSH. She and her grandmother walked for nearly seven hours along a rough road of loose stone and scattered boulders to reach the facility. They took turns carrying baby Anne Flore. That kind of effort to reach the BJSH shows just how much the services here mean to families.

When Jeanne first found out she was pregnant, her grandmother remembers telling her, “We are going to the new hospital because they treat people well, with care and kindness.” Months later, when her labor started, Jeanne made her way to the hospital. After 24 hours in labor without any progress and with signs that the baby was in distress, Dr. Laguerre explained that she would need a C-section. While Jeanne Louise was not afraid, her mother and grandmother were. “No one in our entire family has ever had a surgery of any kind before. We were very afraid when Jeanne Louise went in for the C-section. We know that baby Anne Flore is alive today because of their care.”



Baby Anne Flore



Baby Marylou

Esther planned to deliver at home with a midwife, but after three long days in labor with no progress, a CMMB community health worker told Esther that she needed to get to the BJSH. She hesitated, “I don’t have any money.” The health worker explained that at the BJSH she would receive the care that she needed no matter what, and called for help. Within hours, Esther’s baby was delivered by C-section.

“I am so grateful for a safe place to recover with my baby. I don’t know what would have happened if I didn’t have this chance.”

— Esther, mother



Baby Kathleen

After many hours in labor, Kate was not closer to delivering and baby Kathleen’s life was in danger. Dr. Laguerre determined that she and her baby were now at risk and required a C-section.

Dr. Laguerre explained, “The longer women are in labor, the greater the risk of infection and stress on the baby. After three normal deliveries, Kate should have had no problem giving birth to her fourth. These kinds of complications are unexpected and can be deadly.”

“My baby’s alive because of Dr. Laguerre and his team. They really treated me like a human being. They really cared about me and my baby, and for that I will be forever grateful.”

— Kate, mother



Haitian babies die at **10** times the rate of babies born in the United States.



Haitian women are **14** times more likely to die giving birth than women in the United States.



A Ride For Life: Ambulance Services at the BJSH

While the hospital in Côtes-de-Fer has brought care a lot closer to home for residents of this remote region, the lack of access to transportation means that the journey remains a challenge for many. Making the trek to the hospital when unwell is uncomfortable and difficult, but in the case of an emergency, it can be deadly.

Martha planned to deliver her third baby at a healthcare facility near her home. However, when labor started at 2am, she was too afraid to walk in the dark on the rough, steep, rocky paths.

After hours in labor with little progress, Martha got scared and contacted her community health worker. Exhausted and in pain, there was no way Martha could get on the back of a motorcycle to reach care. The CMMB community health worker called for an ambulance, but before it arrived, her baby girl was born.

“I remember getting the call. While I was relieved when I heard the ambulance was dispatched, I couldn’t sleep that night. I didn’t really take a proper breath until I knew the baby and mom were safe.”

— Joanne, RN, CMMB program officer

While baby Vendredi was delivered safely, Martha began hemorrhaging. The situation was very dangerous. Luckily, the ambulance arrived in time and she reached the hospital and the critical care she needed to save her life.

Martha told us, “I didn’t feel well after the baby was born. I didn’t realize that I was bleeding or how serious the situation was. I passed out in the ambulance on the way to the hospital. I didn’t realize that I could have died.”

People like you make essential ambulatory care available in rural Côtes-de-Fer. We now have two ambulances delivering services out of the BJSH.

Experience and access to emergency transportation saved Martha’s life.



“My baby is always sick. She’s sleepy all day. It breaks my heart.”
— Vilma, mom



From Spain to Haiti: When Love Travels Far

Two years ago, we launched our [Angel Investor Program](#), a one-to-one direct giving initiative that provides the most marginalized and vulnerable children with relief and a chance at a better life. Today, more than 230 children in Haiti, Kenya, and Peru are receiving life-changing support from people like you.

There are 89 angels based in Haiti, including four-year-old Rosemanette. [Her story highlights the transformative power of this program, not only for the child, but also for the angel investor.](#)

When we first met Rosemanette, she was three years old and severely malnourished. Rosemanette’s mom was struggling to care for her three children alone. They only had one meal a day. Living far from a health facility and without an income, this mom couldn’t access care or enough food for her young family.

We reached out to our global community for help and within the week a grandmother from Spain answered the call. She became Rosemanette’s Angel Investor and started supporting her with food and water. Within four months of

receiving a regular supply of nutritious food and clean water, Rosemanette no longer showed any signs of malnutrition.

After receiving news about Rosemanette’s improving health, her angel investor wrote,

“Thank you so much for the news about Rosemanette. She is so sweet and it gives me immense joy to know that she is healthier and going to school. No one could have thought that a change this big was possible in such a short amount of time. I am so happy.”

We don’t want to imagine what could have happened to Rosemanette had she not found her angel investor. The reality is that most children living in such deep poverty never find their angel.

The beauty of [a story like this](#) is that one person can truly make a difference.

Become an Angel Investor! Visit: cmmb.org/angel

You Inspire Us.



I am truly blessed that everyday I wake up in a safe home with food, shelter, clothing, and the ability to travel. I believe I must share the gifts God has given me with others. In this way, their lives may also be blessed.

I want to be a giver and help the poor. We are tight right now, but I know we do not know poverty. Prayers and many thanks!

Our gift was made in memory of our son Adam who was only 28 when God called him home. We miss him every day. Only through our faith can we move on. God bless you for all that you do in our world today. Love, Ray



I know there are many people suffering in this world and sometimes myself. But we need to give to help each other. When we give, we actually help ourselves.

I'm a retired labor and delivery nurse and I love women and children.

I just want to impact as many lives as I can. I look at how much my own children have and the opportunity to eat healthy food anytime. I want this to be the case for all children and parents in the world. That's my dream.



Share what inspires you to give: cmmmb.org/inspired

Connect with us!

