



PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT

FALL 2021

FACING THE CHALLENGES OF TODAY

Equity and Equality in Education, Economic Development , and Wellness

The Return of the PID Newsletter

A MESSAGE FROM GALE

A year has past since our last newsletter. To say that the pandemic has been a challenge for Partners in Development is an understatement. From a reduction in staff at the Ipswich office, loss of revenue from trips, issues with the mail, and having to do all communications with our four location remotely, we have permanently changed. While we pray daily for the pandemic to be completely ended, the experience has made PID stronger, efficient, and more sustainable than ever.

The local office quickly moved to a remote mode in April of 2020 because of the COVID-19 lockdown. We are pleased to announce the reopening of our new hybrid office located at **2 North Main Street Suite 2 in downtown Ipswich**. While the North Main office is generally open M-F 9:00am-5:00pm, sometimes it isn't. Most of time, the staff works in their home offices and only come to the workspace for meetings.

You can enter through the driveway entrance on Central Street (**but you can not park in the driveway**). There is usually parking on the street. What does this mean? It means call before you visit. 978-380-6132.

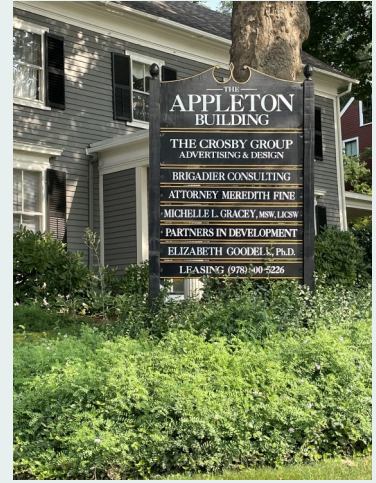
If you have a check to drop off and the workspace is not open, you can put it inside the mailbox marked "PID" on the left hand side of the entry door.

While the warehouse is still closed for most donations, we are accepting masks, gauze and glove donations. We ask that you call to schedule a drop-off.

We still love to see our donors, so please feel free to call and drop by. If we don't answer, leave a message and we will get back to you.

PID STAFF DISTRIBUTES AID AFTER EARTHQUAKE

On 14 August at 8:30 am local time, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck the south-western coast of Haiti causing large-scale damage across the region. Over 2000 people died, and 1.5 million lost their homes. Although PID does not work in southern Haiti at this time, many of our staff were born there or have family that lives in the area. Under the direction of Raymond Niquelson (lovingly known as Pouchon), our Haiti site director, as well as Mr Genoia and Jean Ones, a plan was created to reach out to areas where their families lived. Because most of these families are located in remote sections of southern Haiti, it is extremely unlikely aid from larger organizations, who are focused on areas with large populations, would ever reach them. **(continued on page 3)**



New Workspace



PID's entrance on the side

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Mariam and her 3 Children in Peru



Mariam's Old House



**Mariam's New House
(Unfinished)**

PERU REPORT FROM THE FIELD

The country of Peru is going through a complicated economic crisis. A new government has just entered, and many citizens in the streets of Lima continue to show discomfort and concern. There have been many protests, and increased economic instability is changing from one day to the next. Businesses go out of business and the price of basic necessities continues to rise. Thankfully, the PID sponsorship program has been helping the families that need it most. Every month we deliver food to sponsorship families, and we are very proud of the work that we have been able to do thanks to the support we receive from sponsors. Families continue to be hit by COVID-19, but there is relief among sponsored families.

By Nelly, Field Director in Peru

PERU EMERGENCY HOUSING

Mariam is a single mother of three that was diagnosed this past year with nose cancer. The cancer spread to one of her eyes, causing her to lose sight in that eye. She is unable to work because of this. Several times a week Mariam travels alone to get treatment. She leaves early in the morning and gets home late in the day. The treatments leave her feeling sick and exhausted. Mariam and her children are currently living with her mother in a one room house that is not big enough for everyone. Mariam's mother is old, but despite not being well herself she is still able to work a few days a week cleaning for the town. The whole family is living off her small wages. Mariam has been very worried as to what may happen if her treatment is unsuccessful. She knows her children don't have a home that they will be able to stay in. With help from her neighbors, friends, and family they were able to level the small plot of land next to her mother's house. We received enough donations to start building Mariam and her children her new home. These emergency homes are made of wood and have two rooms, doors, locks, windows, and a roof. Materials, transportation and installation costs for these houses, which change people's lives, cost \$900 (USD).

(AID AFTER EARTHQUAKE cont'd) Our staff in Haiti donated their own time to identify areas of need and organize, package, and deliver relief packages to these remote families.

Our relief packages include tarps to build a temporary house and a one-month supply of food. Because of our experience with the earthquake of 2010, we learned tarp houses are a good way to provide shelter quickly. Tarp houses can be set up in one day by the family and can be moved if needed, providing immediate shelter from the weather and a place for the family to store any supplies. The family has time to regroup and map out a new future. As of this writing, we have raised \$35,000 for relief thanks to our generous donors. PID has already delivered supplies to 400 families in the L'Azile area of Southern Haiti. We have a goal to raise \$1500 more, which will give us enough to help 100 more families and enable us to reach our goal of helping 500 families. .

We ask that you continue to keep our Haitian friends in your prayers during this difficult time.

Relief Package Distribution in Southern Haiti



THE TOUGH QUESTIONS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Beyond earthquakes and assassinations, Haiti's most recent appearance in the news underscores American's intolerance of injustice. Notwithstanding conflicting positions on immigration law, media and viewers of all political spectrums demanded accountability from the few border guards behaving unprofessionally toward a group of Haitian asylum seekers.

However, powerful corporate and political actors benefit by restricting Americans' innate passion for justice to such a sphere of individual accountability. Better to shape the narrative of a few bad actors operating within a greater framework of benign international policy than to ask embarrassing questions about what role that policy has played and continues to play in generating the "huddled masses" of Haitian and Guatemalan asylum seekers pressing at our border and "yearning to be free."

We at PID's department of history and social justice dare to ask those questions, knowing the answers are not always those we wish to learn. Yet, through historical analysis and consultation with scholars and activists from the four regions in which PID operates, we aspire to grow as informed advocates, using our American citizenship to encourage US state and corporate policies that support, rather than sabotage, struggles for equity and justice led by communities of the oppressed in Haiti, the Mississippi Delta, Guatemala, and Peru. ---If you would like to sign up for my next formal course or for a personal tutorial, or would just like to learn more about how you can participate in this work, send me an email (James Hull) at james@pidonline.org

REPORT FROM THE FIELD - HAITI

Despite the increased violence in Haiti and in our area, the clinic is full every day. The staff opens the gate to over 140 people and sorts to choose 60 in most need of care. Then the prenatal, diabetic, hypertensive patients, and those needing follow up and requiring lab tests enter. We are the only clinic in our area providing visits, labs, and medical care completely free. Our wound care nurse continues to care for the diabetic patients and other wounds. Gunshot wounds have increased dramatically. We obtained a large donation of wound care supplies that we shipped to Haiti.

Haitian Staff Conducting a Training at the Clinic



We are currently spending \$1000 a month on PPE equipment for the staff. In a recent fundraiser we received and shipped 13,000 masks and gloves to Haiti helping to contain covid protection costs. Another 7,000 masks were collected and will be shipped later next month.

The child sponsorship program continues to do well. Because we have a new design for receiving and translating letters, we will save a minimum of 250-300 paid work and volunteer hours on the US side for the Christmas and mid-year letters. After months of trying different digital methods, we were successful at transferring the translating the letters to Haiti, saving even more volunteer and staff hours in the US and providing three new jobs in Haiti.

The after-school program continues as usual. The computers for the after-school program finally arrived; but because of earthquake in southern Haiti, the start date of the program is on hold. Children will be able to do schoolwork, practice with computers, and prepare for future careers.

Lessons During the After School Program in Haiti



REPORT FROM THE FIELD—MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi is our most vulnerable program. For the last year, we have been able to provide schooling for all kids that do not have access to the internet or to chrome books to do their homework. We have been able to do this thanks to receiving the McGovern grant (Bridging the Digital Divide), a grant from a family foundation, and from house payments we receive from our homeowners in MS. The summer program was a huge success! They played softball and made visits to the pool. When it was determined the kids would be returning to in-person school, I asked our MS staff to design a program where they could continue to work 28 hours per week and incorporate the computer piece from the McGovern grant. In response, the staff designed an elderly care program for 3 hours per day which includes: exercise, crafts, cooking, computer use and a meal. The staff picks up elderly people from the surrounding areas and brings them to PID so they can attend. In addition, the staff reopened the drivers licensing program, and the first drivers license was received on Tuesday 9/28. Currently, there are four more people studying for the test. Once school started this fall, the kids began coming for the afterschool homework program. However, quickly after school started, it went remote again due to COVID. The staff readjusted the after-school program to accept students full time, split the staff, and moved the elderly program to the clinic. The staff is adjusting, but are exhausted from the constant adjustment and changing of the program.



Our Drivers License Program is Up and Running!



We finished our 5th house in Mississippi.
Welcome Home Kendra!

REPORT FROM THE FIELD - GUATEMALA

The clinic in Guatemala remains open and is serving the surrounding community. We are excited to announce the hiring of a new full time lab tech and triage nurse for the clinic.

Because the schools in Guatemala went totally remote, our library/computer lab became a hub for learning. Each day kids arrive to be tutored by Dulce and Brenda, with local teachers dropping in to help too. Older children have their classes online, so they schedule computer time to keep up with their schoolwork. In addition to the regular students, over 60 students per week drop in to use our online English classes and resume building classes.



The Library/Computer Lab has been bustling in Guatemala!



TRIP UPDATES! GUATEMALA

On Oct 10th our first team will return to Guatemala, with two other teams following soon after. The teams will be small (fully vaccinated) medical teams, and have experience in working during the pandemic. They will work in the Ixtacapa and Boca Costa clinics. The local staff and Tali, our assistant director, have been working hard to develop a protocol to protect the travelers and the Guatemalan nationals. We are excited to be able to travel and hope in 2022 we will expand the types of teams we will take as well as the areas of travel. We can't WAIT to return to see our friends!



WELCOME AMY AND ELIZA

We are happy to welcome Amy and Eliza to our PID staff in the US!



Amy is our administrative coordinator helping us through the transition to a hybrid work model. Not only does she provide classes for our Ipswich staff and volunteers, but she will do trainings in all our areas on the new tools we need to work remotely. As a bonus, she speaks Creole and has lived in Haiti off and on since 2013.

Welcome Amy!

Eliza, a recent graduate from Gordon College, joins the child sponsorship team working on communications between the US and the national staff.



Welcome Eliza!

CRAFTS

Want to help those in southern Haiti who lost everything in the recent earthquake? Purchase any item from the PID craft store through the month of October, and 100% of the profits from sales will go to those individuals who need it the most. Help us reach our goal of giving 500 families tarps to build houses and a one month supply of food. Go to www.pidonline.org and click on "crafts"

BENEFIT UPDATE

With the continuing instability around social gatherings due to the pandemic, the board and staff have decided to have an online event in lieu of our regular Benefit night again this year. For the month of December, we will be having an end of the year fund drive. Our hope is in 2022 to return to an in person event together to celebrate the work of Partners in Development.

Donations in Honor of a Special Person

Robin Earle for her generosity and love—Gordon and Betsy Stevenson

Jan Marc Genoio in appreciation— Paul Hegelson

Mildred and Richard Clark in honor of their 70th wedding anniversary

Gabby Quarantiello and Teddy Clements for their wedding -Betty Levine and Alan Neustadt and Adrian Carnie, Janet Voight

Jeanne Leffers for her work in John Leffers

James Flynn for his generous spirit and loving support— Sarah Diamond

Barbara Wilson in her honor by her daughter Mary Brady

Emi Shell and Phillip Ouelette in their honor-Scarlet Shell

Cherith and Jeff Smith in their honor— Gale Hull

Madeline Walker in her honor— Thomas Walker

Cathy Utzschneider in her honor—Cathy Parisi

Jasmine Greenamyre and Kevin Lewis for their wedding— Robert Donahue

Maia and Nina Little in their honor - Rosemarie Galini

Etosha's first Christmas— Sandra Barnes

Jenna Kennally in her honor— Roberta and James MacDonald

Happy Birthday Donations

Carrie Parisi from Deanna Parisis

Thomas Moses from Leanne Moses

Susan Moses from Leanne Moses, Susan Schaeffer, Jennifer Ross, Janice Thoen and Maura

Lizzy Koah from Scott and Linda Barnes

In Loving Memory of

Harriet Hammell by Mary Catenese

William Flynn by Sarah Diamond

Rev David Kerr by Faye Kerr

Florence Travers by Gina Looby

Sela Nelson by Daniel Oldman, Dan Oldman, Cathy Starkweather

Stanley Fischer by Michele Gauthier and Vincent Buscemi, Lorriane Consilio

Ellen Looby by Gina and Steven Looby

Lucille Doyon by Gina and Steven Looby

John Blunda by Phyllis Blunda and Sandra Hanwell

Mary Guay by Gina and Steven Looby

Antimo and Arlene Petrella by Sharon Verraneault

Peter Albrecht by Joan Toomey

Marilyn Smith

Frank Bognaana Jr by Gina and Steven Looby

Phillip Mcmanus by Joanne and Paul Harder

Phil Sampson by JoAnne Sampson

Rose Marie White by Gina and Steven Looby

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR YOUR SPONSORED CHILD

If you would like to send a monetary gift to your sponsored child, please send them either online

through our website www.pidonline.org (click donate, click on individual sponsorship then fill in the necessary information) or mail a check, made payable to PID to:

PID
PO Box 901
Ipswich, MA 01938

We recommend a gift between \$10 -\$100. We request that in lieu of a card, you write a brief letter that can be translated and sent to each area digitally.

To ensure Christmas delivery of gifts, please send your gift by December 10th.