

Village Partners

●●● International



Summer Newsletter

2026

FOCUS ON HAITI

The history of Haiti has been intertwined with that of the United States for centuries, in ways that define both our compassion and our cruelty. But throughout this time, there has also been a connection that has grown, as these beautiful people, whose lives have been filled with heartbreak and suffering, have touched our own hearts in ways that have shared our common humanity. As we learn the lessons they have to teach, we celebrate all that they have given to us, as our teachers, our examples, and our friends. And so we focus on the small community of Mombin Crochu, tucked away in the mountains of the northeastern part of the country.

Working with the small clinic located in this village, Village Partners International has been involved for over 2 decades in helping to develop programs supporting clean water, patient care, mobile clinics, public health issues, medication and vaccine distribution, a malnutrition program for infants and toddlers, and more.

We highlight a few of those to share with you here.

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TREATING THE CRISIS OF MALNUTRITION

Food insecurity in Haiti has reached critical levels, with 52% of the population currently facing this crisis. The effect on children is felt most acutely, in both survival and development. With the discontinuation of USAID support, the severity has worsened.

In 2016, a meeting was held between VPI and the village elders surrounding Mombin Crochu, where a plea for help was heard. Twenty-six children had died during the previous year from malnutrition, and a desperate need was identified. Working with hospital staff, a program was launched in 2017 as together we addressed these needs.

Since its launch in July 2017, the program has screened over 10,000 children and has intervened on behalf of more than 200-300 infants and toddlers yearly suffering from malnutrition. In addition, the program has provided “medica mamba” nutritional supplement as well as classes for parents on the importance of balanced food intake. An average of 2000 children have been provided with deworming medication yearly, which greatly increases their ability to retain needed nutrients. Countless lives have been changed forever due to the dedication and compassion of the staff involved.

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THE MOBILE CLINICS: REACHING THE UNREACHABLE

The dusty dirt roads that surround the village of Mombin Crochu are carved from the rock of the mountains, barely passable by cars, if cars are available. Most travel is done by motorcycle, donkey or on foot. As a result, those in need of medical care, either acute or chronic, are often unable to reach the small hospital in the village.

“Mobile Clinics” offer an opportunity for these patients to receive much needed care. Once or twice monthly, a group of doctors, nurses, and community workers supported by VPI travel to different pre-determined remote sites where an average of 100-150 individuals are evaluated, treated, and given medications; if indicated they are transported back to the facility for more intensive care.

By reaching those who otherwise would be unable to be evaluated, hope and healing are shared, and those previously left untreated receive often lifesaving and lifechanging care.

The dedication of the staff to bring care to the most vulnerable demonstrates true compassion and healing care.

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MEDICAL MISSIONS: BRINGING SPECIALTY CARE TO THE MOUNTAINS

Since 1996, medical and surgical teams from the US have traveled to Mombin Crochu through VPI to deliver specialty care and surgical procedures to those living in this remote area. However, since the pandemic, and subsequent political unrest, this has not been possible.

Therefore, under the direction of Dr. Miles Cherefant and a grant from the Allegany Franciscan Ministries, a VPI supported program was developed in 2023 to utilize Haitian medical personnel from the cities to care for the underserved.

Each year, the number of procedures performed, patients seen and treated, and medications distributed has increased, and the addition of dental services has further expanded the program.

The incorporation of Haitian physicians, nurses, and other medical professionals allows VPI to give support in more cohesive and sustainable ways for the future, and shares hope for tomorrow.

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CLEAN WATER: THE GIFT OF LIFE

The need for clean water is essential for life, especially in the mountains where there is no infrastructure. Building wells is a possibility, however the cost is prohibitive.

Therefore, engineer Vincent St. Fleur, with the support of VPI, developed a simple, yet effective method of trapping clean spring water in a cistern that could be accessed by villagers, thus preventing the contamination often found in the rivers.

Working with individual communities, together they have built these cisterns, which they maintain and care for monthly, ensuring their continued functioning and safety. VPI is proud to support and grow these local initiatives.

The programs highlighted here are a few of the many ways these industrious, hardworking and compassionate people care for their own.



***Village Partners International
is only able to accomplish its work
because of your belief in our work,
your support, and your donations of
your time and your resources. Your
gifts have changed lives forever, as
compassion, kindness and care reach
across all boundaries to unite us in
love.***

Thank you for helping us help others