



Friends of the Haiti School Nurse Project Newsletter

Volume 2 Edition 1

February 2020

We are pleased to report that schools have re-opened in Leogane and our school nursing project has resumed, bringing health care to 2,000 children in the community. Dr. Jessie Colin, in a January 14 conference call, reported that the people in Leogane, especially the parents, insisted to the protesters that the schools must re-open which they have. She shared with us that conditions in Leogane are improved.

The nursing school resumed classes in mid-December. As this is the start of their school year, there are 43 new nursing students beginning their studies, the majority from Leogane. She also shared that during her visit the school celebrated its 15th anniversary, with many graduates returning to join in. A picture of the celebration shown below.



Collaborating with HNF going forward – As we reported in our last Newsletter, we are developing a strong relationship with the Haiti Nursing Foundation (HNF). That is the 501C(3) organization out of Ann Arbor, MI that is the primary supporter for FSIL. Their staff and their Board chair joined us on the January 14 conference call. In addition to the support provided to date, they expressed a commitment to continue making school nursing a priority in their fund raising, noting the compelling story of bringing health care to the children in the community through FSIL's school nursing initiative.

What is the vision for the future for the school nursing project? Dr. Colin and Dean Hilda Alcindor see the first need is to continue the project at the current three schools. They are also exploring the prospect of adding two more schools – public schools - in the community. They are also discussing sustainability, and how to get to that point. Conditions in Haiti with the disruption to the economy and inflation make this more difficult. We asked about the need for more materials and assistance for the nurses. Dale Yoe of our team noted that she continues to receive donations. We discussed the need for materials. They agreed that more were needed. We also noted that our successful program here at FSIL and Leogane can serve as a model for other communities in Haiti. Furthermore, the nursing students are gaining invaluable experience in providing school and community nursing through our project and may possibly be school nurses in the future.

The need for continuing support. We ask for your continuing support, especially during the upcoming Lenten season. Our team will be pleased to come to your organization with a presentation on the project. Send donations to Middleham and St. Peter's, PO Box 277, Lusby, MD 20657, noting that it is for the Haiti School Nurse Project.

FSIL 2018-19 Academic Year at a Glance. Many of you have expressed interest in the nursing school. Here is an informative description.

	STUDENTS	105 BSN students - 39 First-year, 26 Second-year, 17 Third-year, 23 Fourth-year • 12 RN to BSN students • 18 Graduate students - Family Nurse Practitioner & Nurse Midwifery
	STAFF	32 Full-time (including 7 instructors) • 6 Part-time • 10 employees with 5+ years of service
	FACILITIES	Academic building with 4 classrooms • skills lab • computer lab • auditorium and infirmary • Administrative building with offices • 3,000 volume library • cafeteria • 2 dormitories • Guest House • Dean's residence.
	OUTREACH	School nurse project in three Léogâne schools, serving 2,000 children • Monthly health clinics for residents of the town of Trouin • Annual Christmas party serving 700 area children and their families • Neighborhood summer camp