

## OUR MISSION:

To bring urgently needed humanitarian aid in the form of healthcare to the impoverished people of the Republic of Haiti, the poorest nation in the western hemisphere.

Winter 2015



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## NOVA's 19th Medical Mission and Clinic Inauguration



In April, a team of seven medical professionals, seven Creole translators, and five non-medical support volunteers comprised NOVA's 19<sup>th</sup> Medical Mission. It was a landmark mission -we stayed at our own brand new residence! For the first time in 13 years, our team did not have to travel two hours per day back and forth to a hotel (in a yellow school bus). This allowed NOVA to keep the clinic open for an extra two hours each day and treat more patients as well as allowing our team to spend more time with the people in the community we serve. We held three movie nights for the local children, complete with popcorn. Our original plan was to host two nights but the kids loved it so much they asked us for another!

NOVA also inaugurated our new building during the 19<sup>th</sup> Medical Mission. The inauguration was conducted by a special guest: Haiti's first cardinal, Cardinal Chibly Langlois who led a prayer service and then blessed our clinic room by room. We then celebrated the inauguration with a reception attended by local and visiting dignitaries. Other longtime NOVA volunteers flew to Haiti just for the weekend to attend this special occasion, including Rev. Bob Stagg, Pastor of the Church of the Presentation.



**NOVA'S MISSION NOW HAS THREE COMPONENTS: OUR PERMANENT CLINIC WHERE OUR STAFF OF 14 PROVIDES MEDICAL CARE 5 DAYS A WEEK, OUR VOLUNTEER MEDICAL MISSIONS WHERE WE PROVIDE SPECIALIZED CARE AND OUR SATELLITE CLINIC IN BOILEAU .**



## NOVA Goes Green with Newly Installed Solar Panels

The first week of January of this year, NOVA Hope for Haiti's new clinic and volunteer residence was fitted with a new solar energy system to provide our electricity needs and alleviate our need for running generators to provide our facility with power.

Now NOVA's facility is completely powered by the sun. At our 2014 Haitian Happy Hour fundraiser in New York City, a generous friend of NOVA offered \$15,000 toward solar panels which kicked off the project.

The entire system was installed at a cost of \$30,000. NOVA is now completely green and will not have any monthly energy bills for the 20 year expected life of the system.

*“NOVA's pharmacy is the best stocked pharmacy in southwest Haiti and provides medication for over 500 patients per month.....”*



### How much does it cost each month to run our clinic in Haiti?

In 2015, our annual budget for our medical staff salaries and medication totaled \$57,000.

Here is the monthly breakdown:

Medication	\$1,700
1 Doctor	\$1,500
1 Head Nurse	\$ 500
3 Nurses	\$ 200 each
3 Pharmacists/Lab Techs	\$ 150 each

Please consider sponsoring a staff member or providing medication for a month. Visit our website [www.novahope.org](http://www.novahope.org) for details.





### NOVA's Clean Water Well

NOVA's mission is to provide much needed healthcare and health education to the people of Cavaillon and surrounding villages. As part of our building project we installed a new well to provide our facility with water. We were lucky, when we dug our well, to tap into an aquifer that has abundant clean water about 100 feet down. The Board of Trustees decided to place the well on the northwest corner of the property and create a separate entrance in our front wall to allow us to open the well to the people in the neighborhood. Like most people in Haiti, our neighbors had no access to clean running water. Twice per day, each family must go to some water source to fill plastic containers to have water in their homes to drink and wash with. It is a tough life. In addition, many times the only water sources close by, like the Cavaillon River, does not provide sanitary potable water. A source of clean drinking water makes a huge impact on the life and health of the people in the community.

Now NOVA's well provides that clean water to the many families who never had access to healthy water.



### NOVA's 20<sup>th</sup> Medical Mission!

In November 2015, NOVA Hope for Haiti hit a great milestone: we sent our 20<sup>th</sup> Medical Mission to Haiti!

This is a great gift to our friends in Haiti who rely on the medical care NOVA's medical missions bring. NOVA's 20 medical missions have brought care, comfort and healing to thousands of people in Haiti and have **SAVED LIVES!** Over the years, we have seen the children who come to our medical missions grow up strong and healthy. Years ago, NOVA's medical missions gave birth to a dream of a permanent medical facility that would provide medical care to the people of Cavaillon and the surrounding villages year round. In late 2014, that dream became a reality and NOVA opened our permanent clinic in Cavaillon. Today our clinic treats between 400 and 500 patients each month!

Also for the first time, a volunteer dental team joined our team to provide critically needed dental work. We are excited to begin partnering up with other volunteer groups who can provide supplemental care and different specialties to the community we serve.

NOVA is dedicating our 20<sup>th</sup> mission to all of the volunteers and donors who have made this happen. Thank you all for a job well done and congratulations on the 20<sup>th</sup> mission!





## Haitian Happy Hour

In October, NOVA hosted its second annual Haitian Happy Hour at the Hafele Showroom in Manhattan. Our sincere thanks to Hafele for generously donating the beautiful space and providing staff to help ensure the success of our event.

Our guests enjoyed a taste of everything Haitian - delicious food catered by Nadege Fleurimond, authentic Rhum

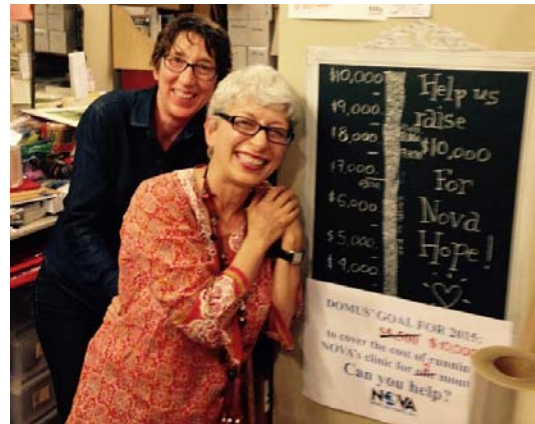
cocktails, Haitian beer and lively music by Monvelyno. Our evening was highlighted by 'A Year in Review' video capturing the accomplishments of NOVA over the past year

The purpose of this event was to raise awareness of NOVA to our New York City friends and launch the campaign to raise \$20,000 to cover the annual salaries of the second doctor NOVA is currently hiring as well as a part-time clinic administrator. We are pleased to report that we raised \$4,000 towards our goal that evening with the generous \$1,000 match pledges each from Kevin Carroll and a friend of NOVA - please consider helping us hit our target by remembering NOVA around the holidays.



## Did You Know?

- ◆ In November 2015 NOVA conducted our 20<sup>th</sup> Medical Mission to Haiti.
- ◆ NOVA's Solar panels are providing 90% of the clinic's power.
- ◆ Our well water was tested and contains no bacteria so it is safe for consumption.
- ◆ NOVA treated 5,175 patients during the first nine months of 2015.
- ◆ NOVA employs 14 people in Haiti: 8 medical professionals, 2 security guards and 4 maintenance people.
- ◆ NOVA now has a medical transport vehicle thanks to the generosity of local family in Haiti.
- ◆ NOVA's facility is hosting our first dental team on our 20<sup>th</sup> mission.



## DOMUS Teams Up with NOVA & Together We Raised Over \$10K

NOVA extends a heartfelt thank-you to Luisa and Nicki from DOMUS ([domusnewyork.com](http://domusnewyork.com)) for generously hosting not one, but two successful fundraisers for NOVA in just two weeks! **Together the events brought in more than \$10,000 - enough to cover the salaries of our Doctor and Head nurse for five months!** We are truly grateful for the continued support and generosity of these two wonderful women and friends of NOVA.



## Casino Night Raises Over \$70,000!

Oh, what a night! Thank you to everyone who joined us at our **5<sup>th</sup> Annual NOVA Hope for Haiti Casino Night**.

The room was filled with over 300 guests who enjoyed great food, drinks and exciting casino games. With over 100 gift baskets, 40 valuable silent auction items, a 50/50 prize of \$4,850, nine tournament and grand prizes, everyone was a winner!

Our clinic physician, Dr. Nixon Altenord joined us from Haiti to be part of the festivities! It was wonderful having so many of NOVA's supporters in the same room - our missionaries, medical volunteers, sponsors, friends and family. Together everyone is making it possible for Dr. Nixon and his staff to provide care to over 6,000 patients per year. It costs NOVA only \$11.88 per patient visit which includes our salaries, building maintenance and the patient's medications.

We are so grateful for the generosity of our sponsors, donors and guests who together helped us raise approximately \$61,000 towards our goal of \$70,000 which is our annual operating budget for our clinic in Haiti in 2015. This number includes our staff of 14, medications, office supplies and maintenance.

Immediately following Casino Night, Kevin Carroll generously offered a \$10,000 matching gift to help us surpass our goal of \$70,000 - thank you Kevin and everyone who donated towards the match!





## Life Between Missions at NOVA's Clinic

Sustainable medical care continues at NOVA's facility throughout the year. Here is one patient's story:

In June, a local woman arrived at our clinic suffering from severe burns over a large portion of her body. She had been frying food in a large vat of oil when a car tipped over her table drenching her in hot oil. Her family brought her to the closest hospital in Les Cayes (the third largest city in Haiti) but she was not able to get treated at the local hospital, possibly for inability to pay or perhaps lack of proper treatment. Her family had heard of NOVA's new clinic so they brought her and our wonderful staff took care of her. We had the proper medications and dressing to treat her burns and alleviate her pain. She returned to the clinic for follow-up treatments. Thank you to everyone who helps make this possible...without your generous support we would not have the trained staff or proper medications to help this poor woman.



## President's Letter

Dear Volunteers, Donors and Friends of NOVA Hope for Haiti,

The past three years have been monumental for NOVA Hope for Haiti, thanks especially to our family of dedicated volunteers and our donors. In Spring of 2013, we hired a professional medical staff to provide care year round for the first time in the months between NOVA's medical missions. We initially rented a building for this staff in Boileau, Haiti, a neighboring village to our home base of Cavaillon. In Fall 2013, we also broke ground in Cavaillon to build our own permanent clinic. It took NOVA almost a decade to raise over \$350,000 needed to build the full clinic and volunteer residence and it was a great moment for us. Our contractor in Haiti, Expert Concepts, did a magnificent job building our two-story building. We have a medical clinic, lab and pharmacy on the first floor and a volunteer residence upstairs with four bedrooms, four bathrooms, a kitchen and living room to house up to twelve volunteers per mission.

In the fall of 2014, in conjunction with our 18<sup>th</sup> Medical Mission, we sent a sea container full of medical equipment and household items to furnish the clinic and the residence. For the first time, we conducted the medical mission out of the new facility. This was significant milestone for our doctors and nurses as they now had running water, electricity and examining rooms to see patients – a far cry from the sheets hanging in a hot, dusty church community room with no water or electricity. Our brand new fully stocked pharmacy dispensed our medications and our lab technician was able to conduct lab tests immediately and on site. Today, our staff splits their time between our permanent clinic and the original one in Boileau.

Mission 19, in May 2015, was a crowning moment for NOVA Hope for Haiti when our team stayed at our clinic residence for the first time. I was also privileged to welcome Chablis Cardinal Langloire, Haiti's first cardinal, who blessed our clinic during our inauguration ceremony.

Finally I need to share a bit of bittersweet news. NOVA's Medical Director, and one of the founders of NOVA Hope for Haiti, Dr. Charles Kordula, is stepping down from his position as NOVA's medical director, which he has held since our beginning in 2002. Under Charles' leadership NOVA grew from a small church-to-church outreach to the incredible permanent medical outreach we are today. He is also responsible for NOVA having one of the best stocked pharmacies in the southwest region of Haiti. Charles was also integral to purchasing our property in Cavaillon, designing our clinic and volunteer residence, vetting our contractors and inspecting the building as it was under construction. For over a decade, Charles has dedicated innumerable hours to NOVA and he is directly responsible to giving thousands of people access to medical care year round in Haiti. I cannot say enough about the contribution that he has made to NOVA Hope for Haiti and to the health and wellbeing of thousands of people in Haiti.

Charles is not leaving NOVA Hope for Haiti. He and his wife, Betty Kordula, who is also an incredible volunteer in our organization, will still be key members of NOVA's family of volunteers. Both Charles and Betty were part of the 20<sup>th</sup> mission team and we know we can always rely on their invaluable knowledge and support in the years to come.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, our staff, volunteers and all who make up NOVA Hope for Haiti, I offer my our sincere gratitude to Charles for all he has contributed to NOVA. Charles' work, passion and vision have brought us to where we are today. I extend a personal thank-you for his continued support, but more importantly for his friendship, confidence in me and the camaraderie we have enjoyed and will continue to enjoy because of NOVA.

Sincerely,  
Joseph Nuzzi  
President

## *Looking Ahead...*

- ◆ January 2015 - Maintenance Team Trip to Haiti
- ◆ February 27-28, 2016 - Casino Night 50/50 ticket sales weekend (*at Church of the Presentation*)
- ◆ Friday, March 4, 2016 - 6th Annual Casino Night
- ◆ April 2016 - 21st Medical Mission to Haiti



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**We Appreciate Your Support!**

