

FALL 2018

NOVA NOW

A NEWSLETTER OF
NOVA HOPE
FOR HAITI, INC.

WWW.NOVAHOPE.ORG



MEDICAL CARE UPDATE:

NOVA'S CLINICS
SERVE A COMMUNITY
OF OVER 50,000

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TOGETHER WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE



MEDICAL CARE UPDATE

NOVA CONTINUES TO PROVIDE YEAR-ROUND MEDICAL CARE in two locations in Cavaillon Haiti. Our permanent staff includes two doctors, five nurses, two pharmacists and lab technicians.

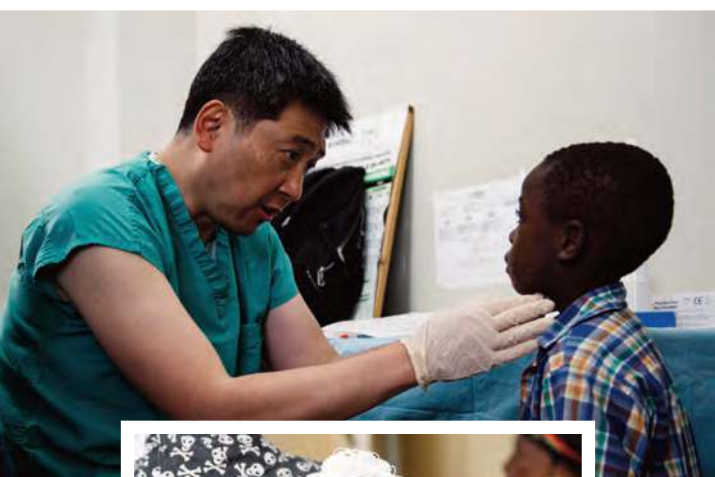
The two clinics combined serve a community of over 50,000, treating over 7,000 patients per year on an annual operating budget of approximately \$150,000.

Additionally, NOVA sends volunteer medical professionals to work alongside our staff as well as supplement the primary care our physicians provide with specialized care. In October 2017 and April 2018, NOVA's missions included four pediatricians, four adult internal medicine providers and one dentist. Our two



Haitian doctors work side by side these volunteer providers increasing their medical knowledge to better serve the community throughout the year.

In addition to treating patients at NOVA's facilities, these teams also conduct mobile medical missions to villages too far from the clinics located in Cavaillon and Boileau. Between October 2017 and April 2018, NOVA conducted four mobile missions to different communities. This is an invaluable gift to people who cannot travel the distance to our clinics. ■



MEET JETHRO

Dental care is almost non-existent in our community and part of our mission is to bring dentists on at least one mission per year.



Six year-old Jethro came to the clinic during our April mission and was diagnosed with a severe infection in his teeth and jaw that was affecting his ability to eat and could potentially spread throughout his body. Due to the severity of his condition, he needed more care than NOVA could provide given the constraints of the mission. NOVA sent him to a dentist in Les Cayes, the city about 40 minutes from our clinic, to get the treatment he needed.

NOVA is sponsoring his dental care which has already begun and NOVA will continue to monitor his condition and provide any follow-up care. ■



IMPROVEMENTS TO NOVA'S CLINIC AND RESIDENCE

NOVA CONTINUES TO IMPROVE and update our two-story medical clinic and residence as well as the 12 acres of property surrounding the building.

Since opening our clinic and residence in 2014, our electrical needs have increased. Medical equipment such as our autoclave, as well as additional appliances needed to host large visiting mission teams, have added to our energy needs.

Between January and April 2018, we conducted a study of our electrical needs and ways to better integrate our solar power system with our backup generator. The Board of Directors approved upgrading our electrical system. We purchased a new generator, and an ignition system which automatically switches to the generator when necessary. Solar power is still our primary power source but the upgrades will insure that we have sufficient power to operate our facility when our electrical needs increase during large volunteer missions. This is good news for both our clinic and our mission to host visiting missionary teams.

In January we also purchased a used Toyota Landcruiser to alleviate our need to rent vehicles for visiting NOVA volunteers and to conduct mobile missions. We built a new garage to house the vehicle and provide additional storage area for other maintenance equipment.

On our April mission, we installed solar powered motion-detector security lights on our garage to provide light during the night. These improvements to our physical plant ensure that our facilities can best support the medical care NOVA provides in the future and they protect the investment our donors have made to get us to where we are today. ■





NOVA VOLUNTEER PROFILE

NICK GLIMENAKIS, PHOTOGRAPHER

Below are excerpts from an interview with Nick Glimenakis, who joined NOVA on the April 2018 Medical Mission. For the full interview, visit www.novahope.org/nickglimenakis.

NOVA: Can you tell us a little about yourself?

Nick: I grew up in the woods of south-west New Hampshire before setting up camp in New York in 2011. I studied outdoor education in Colorado and took a handful of photography courses before shifting gears in the classroom to be a fine art major. After I graduated, I moved to New York to pursue documentary photography.

NOVA: What kind of photography do you make most today?

Nick: I'm mostly an interiors photographer but always pack a camera when traveling. The first time I got to travel and make a body of documentary work was in Haiti in 2013 when my sister, a nurse practitioner, and I traveled together with the Cheshire Medical Center out of Keene, New Hampshire.

NOVA: How did you first come to learn about NOVA and what inspired you to get involved?

Nick: A fellow NOVA volunteer and creative friend of mine, Jason Syptak, had seen my images of Haiti and had been encouraging me to partake in a mission since. He spoke so highly of NOVA. In January of this year, I stepped out on my own to freelance more and happened to be available in April for the most recent mission.

NOVA: Describe your approach to photographing a mission trip like this.

Nick: I struggled with this in 2013 and it took me a day or two to find a rhythm in Cavaillon. I'm a 6'4" white guy who doesn't speak the language, toting a huge camera at my hip, and snapping pictures of people visiting the clinic for medical treatment. Even when paired with a name like NOVA, I was hit with a bit of resistance. Once I brought the camera out, it was just a matter of connecting with one person, asking for a photo, and then showing them the display screen. I got to show people not only what the camera does but how they looked in a way they may have never seen before.

NOVA: What was one of your favorite memories on this mission?



Nick: I was fortunate enough to meet Jethro (see story on page 4) who lives with his family just down the road from the clinic. We went to his home and sat down with the family for an interview. I got really emotional during this, watching this family share their story and gratitude for NOVA and how unbroken their spirit is. This image could easily sum up my experience and just what NOVA does for its community.

NOVA: What would you say to others who are thinking about getting involved as a NOVA volunteer?

Nick: Do it! The NOVA family is unbelievably supportive, loving, and fun and I'm so thankful to have shared in this experience and truly hope to join their efforts again. I feel incredibly grateful to the team and the people of Haiti who welcomed me into their lives to document the strength and transformation of such a beautiful country. ■



How is **NOVA** supported?

Throughout the year, NOVA hosts several events to raise the money needed to provide year-round medical care. Over the past year, fundraising events were held in New York City – Haitian Happy Hour and the DOMUS Garage Sale. In New Jersey we hosted our Casino Night. In addition, we completed our first Annual Appeal with a matching program. Together these events raised almost \$100,000 towards our annual budget of \$150,000. The rest of NOVA's budget comes from direct donations. NOVA volunteer missionaries continue to fund the full cost of their missions.

Help NOVA continue to make a difference in the lives of the people of Haiti by supporting our upcoming events or by donating today at:

www.novahope.org/donate. ■



UPCOMING EVENTS

HAITIAN HAPPY HOUR – Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018, at Ogilvy and Mather, NY

OCTOBER MEDICAL MISSION – October 14 – 21, 2018

CASINO NIGHT – Friday, March 1, 2019

SPRING MEDICAL MISSION – May 5 – 12, 2019



NOVA
HOPE for HAITI, Inc.

www.novahope.org

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.

Special thanks to Symmetre Design Group and Direct Marketing Design for the design, publication and distribution of this newsletter.

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