

# Project Proposal: Maternal, Neonatal & Pediatric Medical Center – Les Cayes, Haiti

Submitted by: **The Gift of Health for Everyone Foundation**

<https://www.giftofhealthforeveryone.org/>

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Founded in 2015 Haiti, our organization was established to ensure that no one is denied access to food, education, or healthcare due to financial hardship. Through The Gift Foundation, we provide food, medical care, educational sponsorships, and essential resources to underserved communities. Our food distribution efforts, mobile clinics, and scholarship programs reach the most remote and vulnerable areas, offering hope and the opportunity to thrive. We believe in the transformative power of nourishment, education, and healthcare and are committed to making these opportunities accessible to all. Our foundation operates across multiple regions in Haiti, reaching communities that need essential healthcare and educational support the most. Over the last 10 years since the foundation was founded, we have served over 10,000 people. We currently serve the following areas:

1. La Plaine: Duvivier in the area of Cite Soleil, Marin et Santo
2. Delmas
3. Leogane
4. Verrettes
5. Baraderes
6. Les Cayes
7. Jacmel
8. Tabarre

## 1. Executive Summary

Maternal and neonatal mortality rates in Haiti are among the highest in the world, with conditions in rural areas being the most severe.

According to UNICEF, the infant and maternal mortality rates in Haiti remain very high compared with those in other countries in the Caribbean and Latin America. In the last five years, for every 1,000 live births, 59 infants died before reaching their first birthday, and 32 of these deaths occurred in the first month of life. Nearly 1 in 12 children die before reaching the age of five (81 deaths out of 1,000 live births), according to the “*Enquête mortalité, morbidité et utilisation des services*” (Mortality, Morbidity, and Utilization of Services Survey, EMMUS-VI) 2016-2017<sup>1</sup>.

Therefore, “*The Gift of Health for Everyone Foundation*” aims to establish a Maternal, Neonatal, and Pediatric Medical Center in Les Cayes, Haiti. This center will directly

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/haiti/en/node/251>

address Haiti's urgent crisis of high maternal and neonatal mortality, offering specialized care for pregnant women and newborns, alongside pediatric services for children. The facility will feature a Maternity Ward, a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), a Pediatric Ward, as well as outpatient care for adults and children, and an outpatient residential facilitates for women with at risk pregnancies.



Our clinic would be located in Les Cayes, the capital city of the Sud (South) Department along the southern coast (shown on the map above in orange). The population of the Sud Department is approximately 775,000 people, which our clinic would serve. The photos below are of the land we have available to build.



## 2. Background & Problem Statement

Haiti faces one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the Western Hemisphere (480 deaths per 100,000 live births). The neonatal mortality rate stands at 25 per 1,000 live births, double the regional average.

In 2021, the infant mortality rate in Haiti was at 45.4 per 1000 births, well above the global average of 28 per 1000 births in the same year (1). Although this rate is declining in Haiti, it remains one of the highest in the Americas<sup>2</sup>.

This project will primarily be implemented in Goin, a rural and impoverished community near La Borde. Goin lacks even the most basic services; there is no clinic, no infrastructure, almost no road access, and water scarcity remains a major problem.

To compound the lack of services, the population in this region has been swelling recently due to gang violence and conflict in Port-au-Prince. Many people are displaced to the rural

<sup>2</sup> <https://perspective.usherbrooke.ca/bilan/servlet/BMAAnalyse/3544>



areas, further increasing the need for all of the basic needs for survival- food, water, shelter, education and medical care.

As a result, pediatric health challenges such as malnutrition, infectious diseases, and limited access to care continue to severely affect families. Many must travel long distances to obtain specialized medical services, often leading to tragic outcomes. This project seeks to address these urgent needs by establishing critical healthcare infrastructure aimed at reducing maternal and neonatal mortality. It will provide specialized care for pregnant women and newborns, while also strengthening pediatric services for children, ensuring families in Goin have lasting access to life-saving care.



Daniel Pierre and The Gift of Health for Everyone Foundation distributing food, water, and materials to community in Les Cayes while providing medical care after the earthquake in 2021.



Mobile clinic in a church in Baraderes, Haiti for 600 people over 3 clinic days.



Amanda using materials from the MAMA Project, Inc to test for anemia during Mobile Clinic in a Nursing School building in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

### 3. Project Objectives

#### *General Objective*

To build a healthcare facility that reduces preventable maternal and neonatal deaths, delivers specialized care for children, and establishes a sustainable model of hope and resilience for southern Haiti.

#### *Specific Objectives*

1. Build and equip a Maternal, Neonatal, and Pediatric Medical Center in Les Cayes by December 2026.
2. Provide safe maternity services, including prenatal care, skilled birth attendance, and cesarean capacity.
3. Establish a NICU for premature and critically ill newborns.
4. Offer pediatric care for childhood illnesses, malnutrition, and chronic conditions.
5. Train and employ local healthcare professionals specializing in maternal and child health.
6. Reduce maternal and neonatal deaths in the region by 40% within 5 years.

### 4. Project Description

**The Medical Center will include:**

**Maternity Ward:** Delivery rooms, operating room for C-sections, postnatal units.

**NICU:** Incubators, ventilators, phototherapy machines, trained staff.

**Pediatric Services:** Pediatric ward, outpatient clinics for immunizations, malnutrition, and chronic diseases.

**Support Services:** Laboratory, pharmacy, and community health education facilities.

### 5. Implementation Plan

**Phase 1:** Planning (Months 2–5) – Land acquisition, permits, design → Completed.

**Phase 2:** Construction (Months 7–8) – Build core facilities, install solar/water systems.

**Phase 3:** Equipment & Staffing (Months 3–5) – Procure equipment, recruit, and train staff.

**Phase 4:** Launch (Months 12–18) – Open center, start community health programs.

**Notice:** With the land acquisition, permits, and blueprints already completed, the remaining project timeline is estimated at 10 to 13 months.

### 6. Expected Impact

- Over 15,000 women and children served annually.
- 5,000 safe deliveries per year.
- NICU capacity of 20 incubators reached over 1,200 newborns annually.
- 15,000+ children treated annually.
- 50+ jobs created with specialized staff training.

## 7. Budget & Financial Needs

Category	Estimated Cost (USD)	Local Contribution	Amount Requested
Land & Permits	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	0
Planning & Design	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	0
Construction	\$300,000.00		\$300,000.00
Medical Equipment	\$450,000.00		\$450,000.00
Staffing (3 years)	\$425,000.00		\$425,000.00
Training & Programs	\$100,000.00		\$100,000.00
Solar & Water Systems	\$153,000.00		\$153,000.00
Pharmacy & Laboratory	\$110,000.00		\$110,000.00
Contingency/Admin	\$230,700.00		\$230,700.00
Total	\$2,013,700.00	245,000.00	\$1,768,700.00

## 8. Sustainability Plan

The center will maintain its sustainability through a multifaceted approach. First, a sliding-scale fee structure will allow patients to contribute according to their means, ensuring that care remains accessible while generating essential operating revenue. In addition, income from the center's pharmacy and laboratory services will further support ongoing expenses by offering affordable medications and diagnostic tests to patients and the wider community.

Ongoing sponsorships from individuals, businesses, and charitable foundations will provide a steady stream of financial support, helping to cover costs not met by patient fees or service revenue. Strategic partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and government entities will also play a crucial role, supplying resources, technical expertise, and occasional funding to strengthen the center's operations and outreach.

Beyond financial mechanisms, the center will invest in community health education initiatives aimed at preventing common maternal and pediatric illnesses. By empowering families with knowledge about prenatal care, nutrition, immunizations, and hygiene, the center will help reduce the number of preventable hospital admissions. This proactive approach not only improves overall health outcomes but also ensures the center's resources are used efficiently, maximizing its long-term impact on the community.

Moreover, the medical center will address gaps by becoming a teaching and training hub for medical students and nursing students who always struggle to find adequate spaces for hands-on practice. Beyond providing direct medical services, the facility will partner with universities, medical schools, and nursing programs to welcome students into structured clinical rotations. Under the guidance of experienced doctors and nurses, these students will be able to:

- Gain real-world experience in maternal health, pediatrics, and neonatology.
- Learn and apply critical clinical skills in a supervised environment.
- Participate in continuing medical education programs, ensuring they stay up-to-date with best practices.
- Contribute to patient care while developing their own competence and confidence.

By combining education with healthcare delivery, our medical center will not only meet urgent health needs but also strengthen the long-term capacity of Haiti's healthcare system. Every student trained through our facility represents a step toward sustainability, as they will go on to serve communities across the country.

This dual role as both a provider of care and a center for professional preparation ensures that the impact of the medical center will be generational, multiplying benefits far beyond the immediate patients we serve.



Daniel and Amanda Pierre teaching Medical and Nursing students phlebotomy practices, nutrition, and pain treatment.

## 9. Call to Sponsors

This center will be the first dedicated facility of its kind in southern Haiti, focusing exclusively on the health and well-being of mothers, newborns, and children. By supporting this initiative, sponsors will play a crucial role in addressing critical gaps in healthcare access for vulnerable populations. The center's services will include comprehensive prenatal and postnatal care, pediatric consultations, immunizations, nutritional support, and educational programs on maternal and child health. In addition to providing direct medical care, the center will operate pharmacy and laboratory services to ensure affordable medications and diagnostic tests are available to both patients and the wider community.

Sponsors' contributions will have a tangible impact by enabling the center to offer care on a sliding-scale fee structure, making essential health services accessible to families regardless of their financial means. Beyond immediate medical interventions, sponsor support will help fund community outreach and education initiatives designed to prevent common maternal and pediatric illnesses. Through these combined efforts, sponsorship will directly save lives, reduce suffering, and offer renewed hope to thousands of families in the region, creating a lasting positive change for generations to come.

## 10. Conclusion

The Gift of Health for Everyone Foundation has a strong history of providing mobile clinics, neonatal services, and education. Over the years, our mobile clinics have reached remote and underserved communities, delivering essential healthcare directly to those who need it most. Our neonatal services have supported countless families, ensuring that babies receive specialized care during their most vulnerable moments. Through our educational initiatives, we have empowered local healthcare providers and communities with knowledge that saves lives and improves long-term health outcomes.



Building this Maternal, Neonatal, and Pediatric Medical Center is our boldest step yet. This dedicated facility will serve as a cornerstone for comprehensive maternal and child health in southern Haiti, offering prenatal and postnatal care, pediatric consultations, immunizations, nutritional support, and ongoing education for both healthcare professionals and families. It will be equipped with pharmacy and laboratory services to provide affordable medications and diagnostic tests, ensuring that high-quality care is accessible to all.

