



Annual report 2016

Established to support the humanitarian efforts of the Hospital of Hope, Pilate, Department North, Haiti
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A sixth rally in south of France



A sixth annual rally took place on Sunday, October 2nd, 2016 organized and held by the group "Edé Ayiti", located in Saint-Martin-de-Seignanx, a commune just North of the French Basque Country. The group is linked to *Les Amis de Soeur Madeleine et d'Haïti*, an organisation dedicated to help Hospital of Hope. 126 adults and children participated in the activity. A total of 2 535 euros (CA\$3 800) were collected. That amount includes a contribution of 700 euros given by the hunters club of Saint-Martin. The participants of the 9 kilometres pedestrian rally not only encouraged one another but also learned about Saint-Martin's heritage. During the halts participants were also informed on the water adduction project being realized in Pilate.

Financial result\$

The Byas Foundation's revenues totalled \$22,320 for the year 2016, including a planned donation. Since the Foundation's administration is entirely benevolent, its expenditures remain under 4% of its revenues, totalling \$836, mainly for stationary.

Throughout the year, the Foundation sent 19,000\$ to finance the projects mentioned here above. Then \$2,000 was deposited in the emergency fund for later intervention.

Rally of hope The theme: an engine for development

For the first time in three years the 3rd Saturday of September didn't rain. So the third edition of Rally of Hope was held under a rather clear sky in the botanical park À fleur-d'eau of Rouyn-Noranda, QC.

In 1966, Father Pollux Byas founded hospital of Hope in Pilate. Its 50th anniversary in 2016 was an opportunity to look at that hospital's incidence in the community of Pilate during a half century. The theme of this rally came as a conclusion to this exercise. In fact, in addition to its humanitarian vocation by saving lives, the hospital has a large impact on the community's social and economic development. Its workforce of 145 employees makes it by far the most important employer in Pilate. The weight of its payroll, for instance, can easily be understood as an important economic factor in the community. And the hospital's Community Health Services has done a lot for social development, mainly by improving public health in Pilate through its public hygiene and education. Gérard Laquerre, secretary of the Foundation, stressed this theme in a short presentation after the Rally.

And the results...

Over 45 participants enjoyed scratching their minds, looking for answers to the charades presented as the questions of this pedestrian rally. The money contribution totalled \$5,000. Prices were handed to the winners and participation prizes (of which a bottle of Barbancourt rum) were given through a random drawing in the end. This money will be allocated to the hospital's projects for 2017 and mentioned below.



Fund raising postal campaign

First the projects...

One of the hospital's pavilion, called MEDICO, is used for its Community Health Services that gives basic health services in the 8 rural areas of the Pilate territory. The building needed a new roof: The project cost reached \$8,000. The inside of the pavilion was also renovated on the same occasion.

Secondly, since the hospital's prime vocation is to save lives, it is understandable that at the outbreak of the cholera epidemics it has isolated one of its buildings and made it a Cholera Treatment Centre. On an annual basis, that service needs a nurse in chief. Since the epidemic is receding but not gone, the Foundation has financed the nurse's salary again this year.

Finally, the Byas Foundation is still advancing in its international collaboration. In that context, it has helped sustain the yearly surgical mission held by the French organization *Les Amis de Soeur Madeleine et d'Haïti* (see below, RETROSPECT 2016 for details).

Then the postal campaign

Thanks to the constant implication of Mr. Louis Paré and Mr. Alain Charron, its treasurer, the 2016 campaign nearly totalled \$17,320.

Retrospect 2016

The Guadeloupe Round Table

In November 2016 the Guadeloupe Round table contacted Byas Foundation, trying to establish a contact with a school in Pilate to offer a program designed to help students. The program named Lucioles will supply portable and rechargeable electric lamps that students will be allowed to take home after the school day to study at home in the evening. They will then bring the lamp back in the morning to recharge it again on a circuit connected to the school's solar panels. The contact with a school in Pilate is now established. The Round Table associations, now found in many countries, were derived from Rotary clubs in the early twentieth century. To be followed...



War for water

In October 2015, the rivalries between the two main political parties competing in the general election to the presidency of Haiti deteriorated to the point of becoming a "war for water" in Pilate. The water pipes adducting potable water from the springs in the mountain were cut at the entry of the urban zone of Pilate. Thus cutting the hospital's water supply during the four months of that war for water. Water tankers, escorted by the United Nations militia, brought water to the hospital so to satisfy elementary needs over that period.

The management is becoming national

Three Sisters of the Holy Cross now manage Hospital of Hope: Sister Louisa Bélanger, from Barraute in Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Québec, Sister Dadeline Jean and Sister Louisane Toussaint, both from Haiti. In this new collegial direction, Sister Louisa Bélanger is executive director and in charge of finances, community health services and the hospital's buildings. Sister Dadeline Jean, assistant director, is in charge of human resources management. Sister Louisane Toussaint looks over accounting services.



Sr. Louisa Bélanger director in the company of two of direction assistants, Sr. Dadeline et Sr. Louisane

Sister Lucie's retirement



Photo archives

After 50 years in Haiti, of which 48 at Hospital of Hope in Pilate, Sister Lucie Laquerre retired permanently in May 2016. She now lives her well-deserved permanent retirement in Montreal, Quebec, as a neighbour to Sister Madeleine Giroux with whom she worked during 40 years at Hospital of Hope. Byas Foundation pays a high homage to those two pioneers that contributed so much to develop the present health system in Pilate.

Surgical mission

The French association Les Amis de Soeur Madeleine et d'Haiti, together with the initiative of Dr. Michel Dombriz, surgeon, with Dr Pierrette Causade, anesthetist, and Ms Cécile Devrière, post-surgery nurse, held a surgical mission at Hospital of Hope from January 6 for 13 days. Mr. François-Xavier Ramade, technician, helped the mission by managing the water supply so to meet the basic surgery needs. The mission accomplished 112 surgeries, mainly for hernias, hysterectomies, thyroids, haemorrhoids and a few serious cases. The usual budget for such a mission amounts to 10,000 euros, (CA\$14,000) including travel fare for the post-surgery nurse. The surgeon and the anaesthetist pay their own airplane fares. This budget also includes CA\$10,400 for medical supplies. The patient is asked a US\$20 contribution.



Reacting to hard times : increasing autonomy

Deprivation of running water in a violent context of political struggle in Pilate has inspired the hospital's management to wish for a more autonomous water supply for the institution. Therefore, Sister Louisa Bélanger took the necessary steps to obtain a water well dug on a favourable land near the hospital. It is done. A well, dug 200 meters deep, received a pump on October 20. A water analysis completed on December 13 declared the water potable given an appropriate treatment.

Choléra ... always there because...

The propagation of cholera is closely linked to a difficult access to potable water. Mr. François-Xavier Ramade, backed by the Édé Ayiti group and Les Amis de Soeur Madeleine et d'Haiti organization, accomplished great efforts in 2014-2015 and brought safe potable water to just about all residents of Pilate. Unfortunately, as you can read about in the general context described here left, deprivation of potable water in the context of a political struggle explains the surge of cholera cases at the hospital at the beginning of 2016. Furthermore, heavy rains from late summer to end of fall season did a lot of harm in the public health conditions of a mountainous section of Pilate, which explains the resurgence after the month of July. In all, the number of patients hospitalized for cholera in 2016 at Hospital of Hope was double that of the previous year.

Patients with cholera at Hospital of Hope 2016

Month	jan.	feb.	mar.	apr.	may	june	jul.	aug.	sept.	oct.	nov.	dec.	total
Cases	188	68	76	71	50	2	4	11	15	12	17	47	561
Died	2	1	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	10

A well-deserved honour

In 2003, the World Health Organisation (WHO) selected Hospital of Hope with eight other hospitals in Haiti, to deliver its program to fight HIV/AIDS. In the following years, that operating structure in the country got integrated in the Population and Health Department of Haiti (PHDH). And this Department must now evaluate annually the quality of the care given by each of those hospitals to their population in that field. Therefore every year on December 1st, the International Day of countering HIV/AIDS, PHDH announces the results of its evaluation of work done in the preceding year and awards a Plate of Honour to the hospital with the highest score.

On December 1st 2016, PHDH announced that it awarded the Plate of Honour to Hospital of Hope that got the highest score in Haiti for the care it gives to its HIV/AIDS patients. The hospital deserves congratulations

Founded in 1966, Hospital of Hope thus turned 50 in 2016. But misfortunes alternating intensively with greetings throughout the year left no time to underline, not to mention celebrate, this 50th Anniversary. The important part is that its merit was recognised.