2016 COUNTRY OF FOCUS UPDATE: HAITI

Since 2011, Gift of Life International has intensified our efforts in Haiti to address the crisis regarding children with heart disease. Prior to our focus, there were no in-country options to treat these children. We have conducted 8 surgical and 2 screening missions to Haiti since 2012. In March 2015, the first-ever pediatric cardiac medical mission to St. Damien Hospital in Port-au-Prince was completed. Prior to this, our surgical missions were conducted in a clinic.

Over the past four years, 93 Haitian children have been treated for their heart ailments through our programs. Additionally, 186 children have been screened and placed on our National Pediatric Cardiac Waiting List. Funding has been provided by GOL programs, like-minded partners and Rotary Clubs and Districts around the world.

Over $585,000 USD has been invested to support: (1) funding the 8 surgical and 2 screening missions; (2) acquisition of essential equipment; (3) supplies and medications; and (4) initial training of selected Haitian medical professionals.

Our goal in 2016 is to: (1) train the first-ever Haitian pediatric cardiologist; (2) partner with Akron Children’s Hospital to train Haitian healthcare professionals at St. Damien Hospital; and (3) complete 4 surgical and 2 screening missions which will treat 48 children and screen 180 children.