



Vision: *"Healthy mothers and healthy babies, communities where maternal and neonatal mortality rates are low, and where every child has the opportunity for a healthy birth"*

Mission: *"To improve healthcare for mothers and babies in impoverished communities"*

Volunteer Opportunities

Maison de Naissance (MN) is a rural health center in the south of Haiti that specializes in maternal-infant care. Inaugurated in 2004, MN is a project of the Episcopal Church of Haiti in collaboration with the Haitian Ministry of Health and the Maison de Naissance Foundation, a 501(3)c non profit, public charity based in Leawood, Kansas, USA. The current Director is a Canadian Registered Nurse who works alongside 40 Haitian employees including 6 nurse midwives, 1 obstetrical nurse, 10 nursing assistants, 2 laboratory technologists, 6 health promoters, and a dedicated support team.

MN provides accessible, free, high-quality maternal-infant and reproductive health services to a largely underserved population. The core service of labor and delivery care is complemented by other services including women's reproductive health and family planning, HIV testing and treatment, prenatal and postpartum care, and well-baby visits that include routine childhood vaccinations and growth monitoring. MN utilizes community health promoters and committees to encourage local engagement and to provide education about key social and health messages. The maternity center is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with a vehicle available to transport complicated obstetrical and neonatal cases to a reference hospital. MN's activities continue to intensify as word spreads about its high quality of care and its warm and extremely competent staff. In 2010, MN provided care to 862 women in labor and performed 790 deliveries, 5800 prenatal consultations, 7400 family planning consultations, 3000 well-baby consultations, and 3900 home visits. Clinical volumes in 2011 have increased by approximately 15%.

MN has volunteer opportunities for health care providers and post-secondary students (midwifery, obstetrical nursing, medicine, pharmacists, public health, administration, computer science, etc). Volunteers may be involved in staff education, data management, statistical analysis, clinical or administrative systems improvement, community health programming, grant writing, etc, dependent upon the current needs at MN and the strengths and background of the volunteer. As the official languages of Haiti are Creole and French, volunteers with these language profiles are particularly welcome. Other volunteers may require the assistance of a translator. It is preferred that volunteers plan to visit for a minimum of 2 weeks and longer stints are encouraged. MN is better able to accommodate and integrate individual volunteers as opposed to groups. Volunteers must assume the cost of their trip including transportation and room and board.

For additional information, please visit MN's website: www.maisondenaissance.org and/or write to the MN Haiti Director, Kyra Abbott at kyra@maisondenaissance.org

Thank you for your interest!

Maison de Naissance Foundation | 5000 W 134th St | Leawood, KS, USA | 66209 | www.maisondenaissance.org