

*Transforming our Lives by Giving Something Back..*

Thanksgiving Dinner Dance  
November 26, 2004



Sixth Annual Fundraising Gala

*P.O. Box 1082, Bay Shore, NY 11706  
[www.hasca.org](http://www.hasca.org)*

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# Message from the President

*Dear Friend,*

*On behalf of the Haitian American Social and Cultural Alliance, Inc. (HASCA), I am pleased to welcome you to our Sixth Annual fundraising Gala dinner-dance party.*

*HASCA has worked relentlessly since 1999 to make an ostensible difference, for the better, in the lives of many of our Haitian brothers and sisters living in palpable misery. And thanks to your patronage and financial support, we have been able to plant seeds of hope in the hearts of many. With relatively meager resources, we have, on one hand, sustained our ongoing yearly scholarship program and annual medical fair in Haiti, on the other hand, realized the complete renovation in two phases of the Dispensaire Notre-Dame de Lourdes, also known as Dispensaire du Carénage.*

*In the coming years, we are hoping to bring HASCA to another level. Our scope of action, in line with our philanthropic agenda, will continue to focus on helping our underprivileged fellow citizen, by empowering them thru comprehensive sustainable developmental programs. But also we pledge to work, with our Haitian artists, historians, and scholars, on educating our kids and ourselves about our rich, authentic and vibrant culture. We will strive to keep the torch of our cultural heritage lit bright in the sky to pass it to our future generation untarnished.*

*Certainly we want HASCA to be a bridge of compassion and empowerment connecting the Haitian Diaspora to our motherland, a few hundred miles South-East of the Sunshine State, Florida. But to build this bridge, we need the participation of each and everyone in this community; we need the participation of all.*

*We are grateful to all the sponsors who have made this publication possible and we exhort you to support their businesses. Thank you for coming and enjoy the delicious food and the fantastic and powerful groove of the legendary TROPICANA d'Haiti orchestra.*

*To you, your loved ones, to all of HASCA's friends and to our sponsors, we wish you Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays Season.*


*Jean-Marie Julien*





## *Mission Statement*

*The Haitian-American Social and Cultural Alliance, HASCA, is a non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian, philanthropic organization incorporated in the State of New York, exclusively for educational and charitable purposes to the benefit of the Haitian and Haitian-American communities.*



# *HASCA Board of Directors*

## **Executive Committee**

### **Acting President**

Jean-Marie Julien

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### **Recording Secretary**

Jessy Sanchez-Duplan

### **Corresponding Secretary**

Auguste Duplan

## **Directors**

Jean-Philippe Joseph

Marylin Julmis

Baldine-Brunel Paul

# *Subcommittees and Mandates*

*The following five standing committees report to the board of directors and execute the mission and mandates of the Haitian-American Social and Cultural Alliance.*

## ***Philanthropic***

*To organize charitable activities here and in Haiti for the advancement of our communities.*

## ***Educational***

*To empower our communities by disseminating information that helps identify and exploit opportunities for self-promotion.*

## ***Cultural***

*To showcase the multifaceted aspects of our cultural heritage and promote our culture as an integral part of the social-cultural landscape of America.*

## ***Financial***

*To organize fundraising events and seek donations from businesses, corporations and foundations, in furtherance of financing the charitable and educational activities set forth by the Association.*

## ***Public Relations***

*To strengthen our ties to our communities, develop and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with our business partners and philanthropic corporations.*



# *Featured Projects*

## *Renovation of Health Clinic*

Your generous participation at our past galas allowed HASCA to successfully complete the second phase of the renovation project of Dispensaire Notre Dame de Lourdes (DNDL). With your help, HASCA has already contributed over \$20,000 to the project, which is in its second phase of implementation. Today, we are pleased to inform you that the renovated building of the DNDL health clinic is receiving about 300 patients every week.

Key objectives for HASCA in 2005 are the following:

- 1) provide a 25KW Diesel Power Generator for the DNDL's day-to-day operations
- 2) help pay for the salary of a physician to be hired at the DNDL

## *Medical Fair at DNDL*

Last August 2004, HASCA launched its 4th Medical Mission in Haiti. A team comprised of Jean Marie Julien, Auguste Duplan, Jessy Sanchez-Duplan, Marylin Julmis, Jean-Philippe Joseph, Majorie Mellon, and Denise Latortue traveled to Cap-Haitien, Haiti, to provide one week of free medical care to the DNDL patients. The team brought with them medications, medical supplies and equipment.

For 5 days, the team cared for about 280 patients (130 children and 150 adults), of note, most of the patients were seen more than once (for an initial evaluation and again after laboratory investigations). The mission offered a wide range of medical services reflecting the diverse expertise of its members. In addition to primary care, the team provided advanced consultations in internal medicine, orthopedics, adult and child psychiatry and in pharmacology. A number of patients were referred to other health care facilities for specialized services or investigations not yet available at the DNDL.

Please, visit our web site at [www.hasca.org](http://www.hasca.org) for further details.



# *Education/Scholarship Program*

Since 2001, the Haitian American Social and Cultural Alliance (HASCA) annually awards six full scholarships to six underprivileged, but well-performing students in Cap-Haitien. The scholarship program covers for the recipients all school-related expenses during the academic year including: tuition, books, school supplies, sports, computer classes and daily lunches. The award is distributed as followed:

Two students attending the “College Regina Assumpta (CRA)”

Two students attending the “College St. Joseph de Cluny (CLUNY)”

Two students attending the “College Notre-Dame du Perpetuel Secours (CND)”

Our goal, going forward, is to expand this program so it becomes available to more needy and talented youngsters in Haiti.

HASCA is also developing a comprehensive assistance program to support the “Ecole Primaire de Ste. Elizabeth” (EPSE) (Ste. Elizabeth Primary School), located in the rural area of Caracol, Haiti. The EPSE is a parochial school of about 350 students in a very remote/isolated and economically deprived coastal area in the Northern region of Haiti. HASCA’s assistance over time will cover the following areas:

1) A broad Tuition Scholarship Program for the students based on sponsorship. HASCA’s friends and members may sponsor one or more students and pay for their full-year tuition cost, estimated in 2004 at \$20 per student per year (Yes, per year!)

2) Infrastructure Enhancement. HASCA will assist in the enhancement of the EPSE site. Examples of projects include: a) wells construction to provide running waters in the school; b) construction of a cafeteria; c) construction of hygienic bathrooms

3) Academic Improvement. HASCA will assist the EPSE direction by providing didactic and sports materials (e.g. books, notebooks, desks, chairs, games, computers and Internet access) to help enhance the quality of education at the EPSE. In addition, HASCA may contribute financially to improve the salaries of teachers and, hence, help retain/attract more qualified teachers at the EPSE

4) Summer Enrichment. HASCA will sponsor fun and learning activities during the summer seasons. Youngsters in the area may attend organized learning sessions held at the EPSE, and developed practical skills they can use to improve their quality of life in the area, while they are having fun. Examples of such sessions might include: 1) agriculture, fishery and pisciculture techniques; 2) Internet navigation; 3) how to run a small business

If you would like to sponsor a student or contribute to any of the programs above, please contact us . We need your help to turn these projects into reality for the benefits of our young brothers and sisters in Haiti.



# *Health Clinic “Dispensaire Notre Dame de Lourdes” Renovation Project -- Long Term Goals*

Our goal is to transform the DNDL Health Clinic into a Children’s Hospital (Centre Pédiatrique Notre Dame de Lourdes: CPNDL) to serve the Northern populations of Haiti. The CPNDL will primarily be very active in the areas of infantile vaccination, malnutrition, infectious diseases and special care for premature babies.

The CPNDL will be equipped with the following:

- 1) Beds for 24-hour observation of young patients
- 2) Special unit for premature babies
- 3) Modern medical labs for biological analyses
- 4) Surgical Unit for making dressings
- 5) Pharmacy

The next phase of the project’s implementation will address the addition of one story to the existing and renovated building with the following characteristics:

- 1) Redistribution of principal functions (e.g. labs, pharmacy)
- 2) Conditioning of special unit for premature babies
- 3) Conditioning of rooms for admitting young patients
- 4) Conditioning of a modern medical lab
- 5) Conditioning of a surgical unit

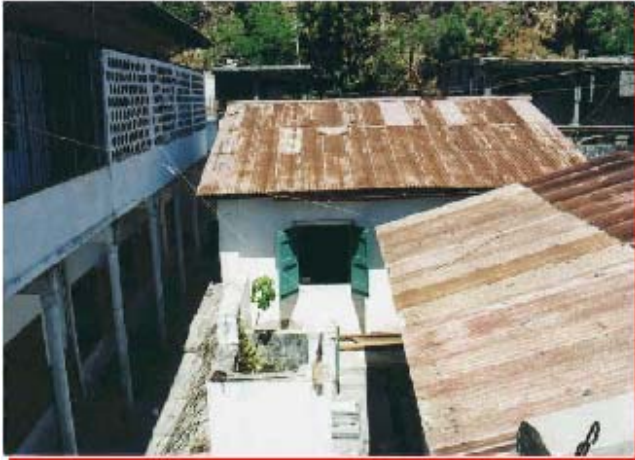
***We need your help to make this project a reality!***



# *Phase II Modernization of DNDL Health Clinic*

Medical Labs -- Modernization Works Achieved during 2004

## Exterior View



Before



August 2004

## Interior View of Medical Labs



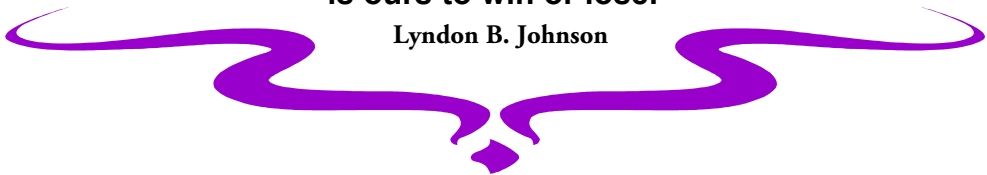
Leaky Roof -- Before



Concrete Roof -- August 2004

**"Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow  
is ours to win or lose."**

Lyndon B. Johnson



# 2004 Medical Fair at the DNDL



Dr. Auguste Duplan smiling to a lovely young patient



Dr. Auguste Duplan, assisted by Mrs. Baptiste, a DNDL nurse, assessing a patient's condition



Mr. Jean-Marie Julien (PA) and Ms. Majorie Mellon (OT) conferring with a patient



Mr. Jean-Marie Julien, assisted by a DNDL nurse, taking a patient's pulse



(from left to Right) Dr. Auguste Duplan, Sr. Raymonde Saurel (DNDL Director), Mrs. Jessy Sanchez-Duplan and Mr. Jean-Philippe Joseph donating, on behalf of HASCA, a digital camera for documenting patients' records at the DNDL

# 2004 Medical Fair at the DNDL – 2



Mrs. Jessy Sanchez-Duplan filling a prescription at the DNDL pharmacy



Mrs. Denise Latortue (RN) taking a patient's blood pressure



Ms. Marilyn Julmis, taking count of an important stock of medications that HASCA donated to the DNDL



# Scholarship/Education Program

Members of HASCA's delegation taking pictures with Sr. Marthe, sjc, during a visit to the College St. Joseph of Cluny in Cap-Haitien. 8/04



HASCA's President Jean-Marie Julien delivering a check to Father Vernet Luxana, in support of the 04-05 scholarship program at the College Notre Dame in Cap-Haitien

HASCA's Delegation meeting with Father Raphael Brunot (center), in Caracol -- 08/04





## **2004 HASCA Medical Fair -- An Experience that Transformed my Life**

by Jean-Philippe Joseph  
October 22, 2004

*"Transforming our lives by giving something back."* Bill Shore

As for the past four years, this year again, during the week of August 21st through 29th, HASCA organized its medical fair at the health clinic Notre Dame de Lourdes (DNDL), located in Cap-Haitien, Haiti. The annual medical fair has become a tradition for HASCA and also an important activity in our calendar for the obvious reason that it directly impacts the lives of many of our Haitian brothers and sisters, children and adults alike.

This year, I decided to accompany the HASCA medical team and traveled to Cap-Haitien. I have heard lots of great testimonies from many participants in previous medical fairs about how rewarding and enlightening such an experience can be. Although my background is not at all related to the medical field, I had that burning desire to join the team and to be part of the experience of giving back to one's community the most precious gift among all: health.

At first, I was not sure about the role I would play when I get to the DNDL facility. But, I was determined to keep myself busy, to make good use of my time and, more importantly, to find a way to give something back.

The first day of the medical fair, I showed up early in the morning to meet with the other members of the HASCA's delegation: Dr. Auguste Duplan, Mrs. Jessy Sanchez Duplan, Mr. Jean-Marie Julien, and Ms. Marilyn Julmis. In addition, two friends of HASCA, Ms. Majorie Mellon and Mrs. Denise Latortue, both resident of the States, who were in Haiti on vacation, volunteered their time, and joined the HASCA delegation. We had a very cordial reception from the DNDL Director, Sister Raymonde Saurel, and her dedicated staff, composed of: nurses, lab technicians, pharmacy personnel and other administrative assistants.

As soon as I stepped inside the reception room, where dozens of patients--children and adults--were waiting for the needed care, I quickly realized how significant is the task of providing basic health care to a growing population and why HASCA's assistance to the DNDL over the years is so much appreciated.

I thought at that point that I would use my digital camera to document what I saw, and to share this experience with all of you who are reading these lines.

As a health clinic, the DNDL is authorized to operate without a physician among its staff. For cases that require hospitalization or the help of a physician, the DNDL nurses would simply refer the patients to the main public hospital serving the area. Let me point out that the reason for not hiring a well-trained physician, even on a part-time basis, is primarily budgetary.

As a result of this staff shortage, the medical fair represents a very enriching experience for the DNDL staff, mainly from a knowledge transfer viewpoint. Teaming up with the members of HASCA's delegation, many of whom work as professionals in various prestigious hospitals and medical centers in the NY City area, exposes the local staff to new approaches and techniques in assessing patients' problems.

As for the HASCA's delegation, as we reviewed our achievements in post-mortem every day, the medical fair is a truly enjoyable experience, and also a profoundly meaningful and challenging one. From a professional viewpoint, the HASCA medical team works closely with the local staff in obtaining the patients' medical records, assessing the patients' illnesses, and determining what medications to prescribe and which ones are available at the DNDL pharmacy or on the local marketplace. Such assistance from the local staff is critical for the success of the mission and allows the HASCA team to efficiently provide the needed health care services to the patients.

At a personal level, we all who had the privilege to participate in the medical fair, found great joy in going through the experience of helping many among those who cannot help themselves. The experience of "transforming one's life by giving something back." It is a wonderful experience to realize that sometimes it does not take very much to make a big difference in the life of a brother or sister. A nice smile, a few words of hope that provide some comfort to the sick, a simple advice as to how to clean a wound, a few drops of a vaccine that can save a young life, are some examples of the small things that make magic all the time!

Yet, in the process of "transforming one's life by giving something back", there are situations that frustrate even the most optimist. The economic and social conditions in Cap-Haitien are deteriorating by the day. The cost of living is outrageously high, and the poor conditions of living expose the poor, the most vulnerable part of the population, to even

## *2004 HASCA Medical Fair -- An Experience that Transformed my Life...*

greater risks of catching and spreading illnesses in epidemic proportions.

It does not take much to understand that under such conditions, seeking health care is secondary for most people. The priority is to end the day with at least a meal... As a result, we observed that many patients, particularly children, came to the DNDL with serious cases of malnutrition, anemia, infectious diseases (e.g. diarrheal infections, parasitic infestation) and the like -- conditions that are for the most part preventable, however, they end up putting many young lives at risk for they were not treated in a timely fashion.

Moreover, the medical team had to deal with many cases where the patients showed up at the DNDL with urgent needs for treatment, however, they had no financial means to cover the already-reduced charges for a basic lab test or to pay for the prescribed medications.

Furthermore, there were other cases that would require more sophisticated medical procedures, which, unfortunately, are not available at the DNDL or anywhere else in the area. For instance, we had a patient who came at the DNDL and diagnosed with an advanced stage of breast cancer where the cancer cells have spread to other parts of her body. There were also persistent cases of a rare medical condition often indicative of immune deficiencies and whose occurrence is increasing significantly in the area: Herpes Zoster (or Zona in French). We also diagnosed another rare case of Anthrax. Last, we encountered several cases of patients with full-blown AIDS to whom no real and affordable medical treatments or support systems are available locally. Dealing with many of such cases, as I said before, is a very challenging and, indeed, a very humbling experience...

Fortunately, in the midst of so many grueling problems, one can always find some rays of hope, often genuinely expressed by the smiling faces or through the bright eyes of an innocent child. The DNDL has helped keep this hope alive for the past fifty years. Simply put, this health clinic truly represents an island of hope and sanity for the children living in the area. The parents also recognize that fact as they religiously continue to visit the health clinic every day of the week with their children by their sides in a quest for good quality health care.

In short, the 2004 HASCA medical health fair was another success. The team of volunteers accomplished its mission, the beneficiaries of its kindness and service are forever grateful, and the DNDL staff invited HASCA to organize more of such events, going forward.

Hence, I am taking this opportunity to extend the invitation to the very many Haitian and Haitian-American health care professionals living in the States, and asking you to join the HASCA team. Together, we will organize even larger events at the DNDL in the future. We also welcome other groups, individuals and philanthropists abroad to join us as well. Our objective is to extend the program to cover not just one week, but several weeks during the year so groups of volunteers could flexibly plan around their schedules and participate in this important and rewarding program.

There is so much need, but there are so many opportunities as well to make a difference in someone's life that I know many of you will spread the words and start planning to participate in the 2005 HASCA medical fair at the DNDL. If you would like to contribute to this important event by volunteering your time, donating medical supplies and medications, or financially supporting this program, please contact any HASCA board member.

We look forward to working and going together with you through the enjoyable and life-transforming experience of giving something back to Haiti.

Long Live HASCA!

**Jean-Philippe Joseph**  
[josephjp@optonline.net](mailto:josephjp@optonline.net)

*Jean-Philippe Joseph is a member of the HASCA Board of Directors since 1998. He has served as the organization's Treasurer from 1998-2003, and managed the DNDL renovation program since 2000. Jean-Philippe is grateful to his wife and three sons for their continuous support and for allowing him to share his spare time to help make a difference in the community through HASCA.*



# *Program*

*9:00PM - 9:30PM*

*Welcome*

*9:25PM - 9:30PM*

*Welcoming Address*

*9:30PM - 12:00AM*

*Musical Animation by  
Le Grand Orchestre Tropicana d'Haiti*

*10:00PM - 2:00AM*

*Food Service -- Buffet Style*

*12:00AM - 12:30AM*

*Message of the President  
Highlights on incoming projects*

*12:45AM - 1:55AM*

*Return to the dance floor for more Konpa  
Music with Tropic*

*1:55AM - 2:00AM*

*Closing remarks*

# Menu

## HOT HORS D'OEUVRES SELECTIONS

Battered Chicken Tenders  
Lightly Fried Crisp Veggies  
Bruschetta (with Tomato Basil Sauce)  
Crablegs, Wrapped in Bacon  
Cajun Style Chicken Nuggets  
Stuffed Mushrooms with Spinach & feta Cheese  
Fried Mozzarella Wedges  
Vegetarian pizza Squares

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Assorted Cheese & Meat Platters  
Crudite, Raw Fresh vegetable & Dip Assorted Cheese & Meat Platters  
Fresh fruit Arrangement

## DESSERTS

Cake

## HOT BEVERAGES

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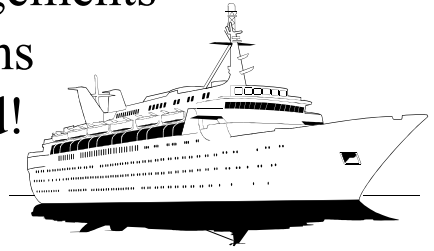
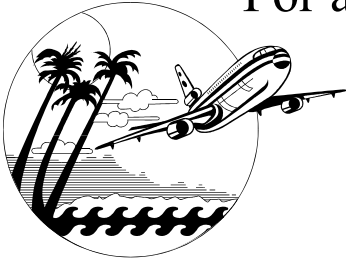
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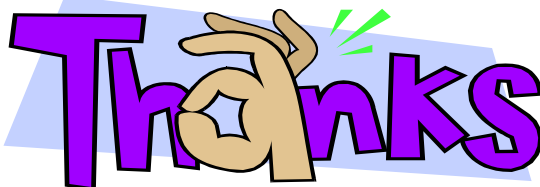
## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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