



Foundation for Advancement of Haitian Midwives, Inc 2023 End-of-Year Funder Update



Public Speaking & Social Media Outreach

2023 HIGHLIGHTS: FAHM & PARTNERS PROMOTING MIDWIFERY IN HAITI AND IN THE DIASPORA

- Feb 14- One Billion Rising Haiti/OBR Ayiti: Theme: *"When it comes to violence against women and girls, education is the problem and the solution"* (*["Quand il s'agit des violences faites aux femmes et aux filles, l'éducation est le problème et la solution"](#)*).
- Feb 23- *["Black Midwives Are Pillars Of Pregnancy Care. Here's What We Can Learn From Them."](#)* ~HuffPost interview with Marie Holmes
- March 4- *"Midwives & the Care They Provide"* ~Museum of Natural History: Lang Students in the Medical Anthropology class from several different high schools across New York City. (29 students)
- April 12- *"Global health-Midwifery and strategies for equity and improved outcomes. Micro solutions in low resource countries/settings."* ~Columbia University Midwifery Program: Disparities in Women's Health–Global Health & Midwifery. Strategies for Equity/Improved Outcomes. (15 students)
- August 28- *["Reclaiming our time and medicine. Herbs of deep self care"](#)*. ~An inspiring and uplifting live event on allopathic healing and self-care by the knowledgeable and talented Holistic Herbal Chef and Herbalist, Wilnise François.
- Sept 21- *["Reflecting on Sexual and Reproductive Health In Haiti: Achievements and Prospects"](#)*. Perspectives from FAHM, Grace Community Birth Center, and Profamil on access to SRH services and the opportunities/benefits offered by the partnership and collaboration between actors working in the field of sexual and reproductive health in Haiti. ~Hosted by The Haitian Women's Collective (Live event/Zoom)
- Social Media-

Facebook: 2,768 followers for the year 2023. 764 Facebook visits for the 2023 year which is a 53.4% increase from last year. Content interactions increased by 70.6% on facebook this year.

Instagram: 1,371 followers. The number of times FAHM Instagram profile was visited during 2023 is 1,079 which is a 42.7% increase from the previous year. With 915 content interactions.

YouTube: Page created in June 2023 with a total of 260 views, 29 subscribers and 498 impressions. Impressions are how many times the video thumbnail was shown to users only on YouTube.

LinkedIn: Created in April 2023. 370 total followers with 35 new followers in the last 30 days which represents an increase of 84%; 230 page views during the 9 months from creation, with 46 reactions including reposts.



Professional Development

Lightful BRIDGE Program (in partnership with GlobalGiving)

FAHM's Executive Director and Program Manager were selected from nonprofits doing work centered around Gender Justice & Reproductive Rights to participate in a free six-month (February-August) training: "Developing your digital strategy and improving your digital fundraising skills." Upon completion of the program they received certificates and FAHM was granted a \$1,000 microgrant (unrestricted funds).

KI KALITE RELASYON OU VLE GENYEN?



NAN YON BON RELASYON

- Moun yo rete lèl frèt manm lè yo pa dandé
- Moun yo santi yo an sekirite lè yo ansemsi
- Moun yo lè pou di sa yo santi
- Moun yo chwazi pou yo rete nan relasyon an
- Moun yo chwazi kiyès ki gen dwa wè dwa touche lè yo



NAN YON MOVE RELASYON

- Ka gen vyolans
- Moun yo santi laperèt
- Moun yo pa santi yo dèyè pou yo di kisa yo santi
- Moun yo pa kite relasyon an
- Moun yo pa santi yo lè pou yo chwazi kiyès ki gen dwa wè dwa touche lè yo

FAHM's Annual Board & Staff Retreat

Hosted at the magical @groundworks.space (in-kind donation)

Identifying & developing FAHM's core values

Our work must always be grounded and clear. Our core values must align with our vision & mission. They are the behavioral guideposts needed as we pursue our mission and work toward our vision.



New York University

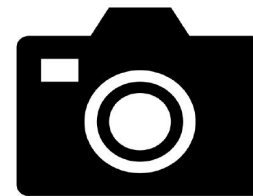
In 2021, a partnership with New York University's Doctoral of Nursing Practice/Global Health Initiatives and our Midwifery-led Girls Youth Group was formed to implement an interactive collaborative design approach with Haitian adolescents and educators, and the DNP team in order to create understandable, culturally appropriate infographics to supplement lessons of family planning and healthy relationships studying Positive Youth Development: "*Enhancing an Existing Education Program for Haitian Adolescents with the Use of Infographics.*" This project provides sexual and reproductive health education and community/relationship building skills.

This year we are proud to announce that the project has been successfully completed and defended and is the first ever Doctoral of Nursing Practice in Global Health for NYU.



“Tande nou gwonde! (Hear us roar!)”

Project HEAR US ROAR!



Youth perspectives of maternal near-misses: a Photovoice study
of youth experiences of maternal near-misses in northwest Haiti

FAHM has partnered with a Registered Midwife who is a PhD Candidate at McMaster University in Hamilton Ontario Canada working on a community-based participatory research (CBPR) project. Her proposal to study the experiences of youth who have survived a maternal near-miss incident either at home or at hospital, and to listen to their experiences and hear their voices, responds to global efforts to reduce maternal mortality in low- and middle-income countries and aims to make further advancements in women and childbearing people's health treatment, research, and education.





#EmbraceEquity

March

International Women's Day (March 8)

International Women's Day is celebrated annually on March 8th. It is a time to celebrate women's achievements. It is also an occasion to rally for women's equality, gender equity and human rights. This year's theme is **#EmbraceEquity**.

International Women's Week (March 5-11)

Haiti's midwives **#EmbraceEquity** through education and community outreach. They assure that the people in their communities have equitable access to quality health education and health care.

Equity is a long-term and sustainable solution, and is a process for addressing imbalanced social systems. Haitian midwives are leaders and strive to build a more equal and equitable world. Thanks for standing strong with them. This is what your support provided in March:

- 269 youth ages 6-22 received nutritional, general health, and sexual & reproductive education
- 100 cherry and coconut trees distributed to youth participating in our 2 Midwifery-led Youth Educational Programs
- 237 women participated in a free health fair by Haitian midwives and were provided with education and health screening for breast & cervical cancer and Sexually transmitted infections (STI's)
- 18 Home Visits: pregnant, postpartum, newborn (42 health consultations: 12 pregnant women, 15 postpartum, 15 newborn, 10 family members)

"I'm proud to be a Haitian midwife, proud to be well surrounded by FAHM who always available to give us support. Our goal is to work with other health professionals to provide essential care to women particularly the most vulnerable. THANK you FAHM."-Cadet Aline (Facebook post)



Here's a glimpse of some of what your continued support and partnership offers:

<https://fb.watch/jh2Kx9ER7Y/>





Alliance of Haitian Midwives



Haiti is rich in culture and knowledge. Over the years FAHM has been asked to develop an interactive exchange between Haitian midwives & midwifery students living in Haiti and the Haitian Diaspora. They come together to explore and build a safe space for mutual exchange and learning while keeping their traditional Haitian roots alive. We have so much to share. Together we stand strong!



Total of 35 participants:

Midwives: 24 Student midwives: 11
Departments in Haiti reached: 8 of 10
Countries: 2 (USA & Canada)
USA States: 5 (New York, Alabama, Washington, Maryland, Florida)



“Youth Changing Haiti One Tree At A Time”

April

Haiti struggles with food insecurity and the negative effects of climate change. Some youth often go with minimal to no food daily: 22% of children are chronically malnourished and 10% underweight. Healthy eating in childhood promotes proper growth & development (mentally and physically) and prevents various health conditions.

On April 18th FAHM launched its “*Youth Changing Haiti One Tree at a Time*” campaign essentially focused on providing 2,500 trees to 500 youth as well as invaluable health education. That would mean 500 youth will each get 5 trees AND invaluable education by Haiti’s midwives on hygiene, nutrition, general health, sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence and healthy relationships.

Trees are a sustainable source of nutrition, address food insufficiency and are a way to increase family income. Planting trees reverses soil erosion & builds climate resilience.

Organically grown nutritious fruits & vegetables are full of vitamins & minerals and maintain health to enhance a child’s ability to learn.



This year our youth programs reached 883 youth and 470 trees have been distributed and planted.



Technology, Information and Communication Training

April

Fostering leadership and a strong midwifery faculty workforce

Building strong in-country partnerships is invaluable. It promotes a stronger, stable, and more self-sufficient workforce.

INSF (l'Institut National Supérieur de Formation de Sages Femmes), the national midwifery school that is one of FAHM's partners, articulated their need for capacity building in the field of communication and information technology in order to improve their work efficiency and access new opportunities. Given CLE (Centre Haitien du Leadership et de l'Excellence) and FAHM's long term relationship, a new set of modules and course materials were identified and developed and/or adapted to respond to their request. Nine faculty members (includes the Dean of Midwifery): 5 from the capital, 2 from the annex in the south, and 2 from the annex in the north participated in this five-day intensive training. They obtained new skills to improve communication and interpersonal relationships within the organization. This gave participants new tools which they can apply to make their work more efficient and improve the services the institute provides.





Cervical Cancer Training

April & August

Although cervical cancer is one of the leading causes of deaths for women in Haiti, experts say it is both preventable and treatable. The key to treatment is discovering it as early as possible.

There is an evidence-based, low cost, simple method for screening called VIA (Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid - also known as vinegar). It is an extremely effective and inexpensive technique that uses vinegar to detect precancerous activity. VIA allows women to be screened and treated efficiently and safely without involving expensive laboratory fees/tests all in one visit. For many women in the world, and especially in Haiti, obtaining healthcare requires enormous amounts of time and expense. Being able to deal with screening and treatment in a single visit can greatly reduce ones personal and financial burdens.

Ongoing education for communities and health care workers is invaluable.

In 2023, with our generous supporters, we were able to provide 2 educational sessions and an ongoing follow-up support system via a Whatsapp group for questions to 39 midwives, 7 nurses, and 1 doctor/MD. They were also trained in the use of a life-saving treatment tool (thermocoagulator) provided by our partner since 2018, GoDocGo, to be better equipped in providing modern, cost-effective, evidenced-based care.





Capacity Building

May

FAHM is largely funded by philanthropy and uses gifts like yours to assist in promoting midwifery education and leadership, the midwifery profession and midwifery model of care, and providing community education and outreach.

FAHM continues to provide capacity building for Haiti's midwives so that they can provide equitable, evidence-based, high-quality health care in their communities. Haiti's midwives continue to play an amazingly important role in providing essential health care and education. May was quite a busy month! Please enjoy this short clip of them in action: [CLICK THE PICTURE BELOW](#)

Mobile Clinic

Your sponsorship helped reach 166 people in a very remote coastal area in the south of Haiti. The midwives and their team were able to provide education and health screening (family planning, sexual & reproductive health care, pregnancy, postpartum, newborn, and primary care).



Cervical Cancer Screening & “Club des Mères”

Did you know that cervical cancer can be treated if caught on time? According to the latest World Health Organization (WHO) report, Haiti has the highest incidence of cervical cancer compared to regional statistics for the Latin America and Caribbean region (93.2 per 100,000, and the mortality rate is 53 per 100,000). So why are Haitian women still dying from it? Haitian women are at high risk for cervical cancer due to the lack of screening programs and the widespread prevalence of the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) which can cause cervical cancer.

Cancer screenings and early detection programs work! This month your generosity provided education, early screening, detection, treatment and continuous follow-up care by Haitian midwives to 70 women.

For *International Day of the Midwife*, a “Club des Mères” (Mother’s Club) organized by midwives provided education and midwifery care (prenatal, postpartum, newborn, breastfeeding support) to 61 people. Thanks to your kindness, they not only received education and health care but also received hygiene kits.



Youth Education

Midwives and nurses often work side by side providing education and health care in their communities. This year, in honor of International Nurses Day, they joined forces to provide first aid instructions and hands-on skills to 94 youth. The youth learned wound, bleeding, and burn care, as well as basic CPR. Each participant received a basic first aid kit.

Early childbearing can have severe multifaceted consequences for pregnant teens, their offspring, their family and society. It can lead to lifelong mental and physical health issues and have a negative impact on their education and employment prospects and opportunities. According to UNFPA, the adolescent birth rate (girls ages 15-19) is 55 per 1,000.

Midwives are in the optimal position to help curb early pregnancy/childbearing through education and outreach not only geared towards girls. Education for girls and boys is imperative.

Thanks for standing strong with Haiti’s midwives as they continue to tackle this issue through a comprehensive, holistic approach which supports adolescents’ rights and gender equality by providing sexual and reproductive education and health care to Haiti’s youth. In May, your help impacted 160 youth. They received interactive learning sessions on hygiene, nutrition, and early pregnancy prevention.



Father's Day

June

Father's Day is dedicated not only to fathers but also to father figures (uncles, grandfathers, etc) who shape our minds and play a vital role in raising the future of tomorrow. Our partner, Grace Community Birth Center (GCBC) has been running educational sessions for women and girls for the last eight years. We have partnered with GCBC for the last four years to help them build capacity to reach more people in their community and surrounding areas. During the last four years, our Midwifery-Led Youth Groups have grown to include boys. This year we held special space to honor 55 fathers. It was a day filled with song and poetry readings. The men were able to have a space to express themselves, network, and build relationships as they shared the challenges and triumphs of parenting.



Mobile Clinics

June



Haiti's midwives provide equitable & accessible care to some of the most vulnerable.

What is a mobile health clinic?

Mobile clinics take many forms, including buses, vans, RVs, and trailers that can operate independently from or as extensions of existing healthcare organizations. Our Midwifery-led Mobile Health Clinics provide a wide range of services to people who may not otherwise receive care, including urgent care, primary care, health education, and preventive health support. Over the course of two days the team was able to provide 123 people the much needed education and health care (nutritional support, pregnancy & postpartum care, gynecological care, cervical cancer screening and medication and vitamin distribution).

Your support provides access to high quality healthcare to some of the most remote areas of Haiti.





Outreach to Isolated Communities In The North & South of Haiti

July

Youth

North

Educational Field Trip:
Historical site visit to Limonade &
discussion on healthy relationships
98 youth & 10 parents



South

Sexual & Reproductive Health Education:
"Puberty- early pregnancy"
53 youth ages 10-17

Nutritional Education: 72 youth ages 6-12



Community Outreach & Mobile Clinic Cervical Cancer awareness & prevention

Mobile Clinic: 56 people seen from age 2 to 76 (basic health assessments, screening for malaria, scabies, typhoid, STI's, long term medical conditions, etc).
Medication and vitamins distributed.

A community gathering for education and cervical cancer screening: 100 women from the ages of 25 to 60+ from different churches



Back to School

September

September is back-to-school time!

To say that Haiti is currently going through some tough political, societal and economic times is an understatement. Thanks to Haitians' strong will and determination and partners like you, life in Haiti is not all grim. People experience joy especially when they feel seen, heard and supported.

Remember what it felt like when it was time to go back to school? Excitement is palpable!

Think of how you felt when you went back to school well equipped with all your needed supplies: proud, excited, motivated. Over 200 youth from our Midwifery-led Youth Education groups received back to school supplies.

"Tèt mwen frèt laa, se kaye sèlman m te manke, mèsì FAHM!" ("I am chilling now. I was only missing notebooks, thank you FAHM.")-- 16 year-old Florcie

Thanks for continuing to stand strong in helping to provide health education and sexual and reproductive healthcare in Haiti through the midwifery model of care. These youth groups are invaluable to their communities and function as a safe-space for youth throughout the year.



GBV TRAINING at INSFSF

September & October

FAHM invests in supporting Haiti's midwives and student midwives in providing them the education, skills and resources needed so they can effectively make a huge difference in the lives of the communities they serve.

Thirty-nine (39) 3rd-year students attended an intensive 5-day training. Pre-test scores reflected a very low/basic knowledge while post-test scores showed a tremendous increase in knowledge with a 100% passing rate (average score of 90%).



"Midwives are the gateway to reproductive health services. Being on the front line, especially in remote areas, they will be called upon to welcome and take care of victims of sexual violence. Training them seemed essential to us in order to ensure that wherever they are deployed, victims are well received and that the care is of high quality. The training was a success, as evidenced by the post-test scores. With the situation in the country being what it is, we would like to thank FAHM for financing the training workshops, the dean of the Faculty of Midwives for having requested it, and also the students for their enthusiasm in learning new data essential for optimal care of the survivor."-- Dr Joseph Vilaime Alexis, Obstetrician-Gynecologist: Assistant Department Head, Academic Manager and Professor/Senior Trainer



View this short clip showcasing our collective work of how we UNITE and INVEST in GBV prevention and care.

There is still so much work to be done. Let's continue to UNITE and INVEST to prevent violence against women and girls. Safety is a basic human right!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uo47uOoROyA>





UNITE! Invest to Prevent Gender-Based Violence

The slogan used is *“Orange the World.”* Orange symbolizes a brighter future free of violence.

November-December

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on November 25th, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until December 10th, Human Rights Day. Started in 1991 by activists, it continues today as a global organizing strategy to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls. This year's theme is *“UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls.”* The campaign calls on individuals and organizations to show how much they care about ending violence against women and girls by sharing the actions they are taking to create a world free from violence towards women. This year's campaign also calls on governments worldwide to share how they are investing in gender-based violence prevention.

How do we UNITE! Invest to Prevent Gender-based Violence?

FAHM's focus is on capacity building for Haitian Midwives and student Midwives through evidence-based education (presented by multidisciplinary professionals). This enables them to understand the issues in Haiti's cultural context as well as implement trauma-informed care (screening, evidence gathering exam, reporting, referrals for ongoing mental health support and other local resources). Our outreach includes public education through youth groups as well as the general public in Haiti and the Haitian diaspora. GBV is a public health problem and violation of human rights.

Midwives are key points of access to health care for GBV survivors. They also serve as advocates for women and girls, contribute greatly to prevention efforts, and are community educators.

Haiti's midwives play an integral role in the battle against GBV.



Annual Holiday Festivities for the Midwifery-Led Youth Groups

December

Great end of year!

It's graduation time. Sixty-nine (69) youth, ages 16-19, are now proud graduates of the Midwifery-Led Youth Groups. They have all completed a years' worth of monthly sessions. Some have attended for more than one year, as they find it a safe haven for community building, education and activities. One parent said, *"I wish more people would do the same things for kids. This is giving them a small chance to rebuild Haiti. Keep going and thank you. Do not ever get discouraged."*

The first day of the 2-day graduation/end of year festivities event was spent on reviewing the content of their comprehensive health education classes. The second day they were tested and are proud to share with you that they had a 100% pass rate (most scoring 90 to 100%)!! They were thrilled to receive their Educational Learning Certificates.

They attended a virtual class with one of our new partners, Sidney-Max Etienne from Grown in Haiti, where they learned about taking care of the earth and each other, climate change, nutrition and tree planting/care. The owner/agronomist where we purchased the trees (jackfruit, mango, avocado, citrus, cherries, and coconut) spent time sharing his inspirational story and how much fun he has every day taking care of plants while earning a living. Each participant was gifted 5 trees. Thanks to your support we were able to distribute a total of 350 trees! This not only impacts this group of youth, but their families, communities and Haiti as a whole. Your support is invaluable and your impact has a trickling effect with a very wide reach.

The participants danced, sang and celebrated the ending of a very hard (political and social instability in Haiti), yet fulfilling year with hope, dreams and aspirations for the coming year.



2024 Looking Forward

FAHM's Infrastructure

Operational

- Continue to grow a network of volunteers: professionals and others
- Increase our social media presence and outreach in Haiti and in the diaspora

Programmatic

- Continue to center work around access to respectful evidence-based midwifery care, gender equity & equality, sexual and reproductive justice, body autonomy, gender-based violence and climate change through continuing education conferences/webinars for midwives, student midwives and other health care providers as well as raising public awareness and providing public education (Implement, evaluate and refine how we address our 10 SDGs)
- Cervical cancer: increase awareness, screening and treatment. Implement strategies and tools (educational tools, mobile data collection system/technology, and database) to better coordinate services throughout Haiti. Promote research
- Continue to address climate change and food insecurity
- Increase and continue to foster and strengthen partnerships with entities that are Haiti-based as well as in the diaspora with similar values and guiding principles through partnerships and consulting: NGO's, universities, public and private entities, governmental agencies, etc
- Advocacy and Policy: (USA and Haiti) which supports and promotes health, education, sexual and reproductive health, girls' empowerment, leadership and community development, business development and civic engagement

Financial

- Grow our monthly donor support
- Increase grant funding
- Diversify funding

Organizational

- Board development, professional development for staff and board members, and strategic planning
- Network/partnership building with Haiti-based organizations as well as USA-based universities and other entities



Thank you for your continued investment in Haiti's Midwives and the communities they serve. Especially in these very unstable and unpredictable times, you have continued to firmly stand by them and #Embrace Equity. Equal and equitable access to health care and education are basic human rights. Your support is so appreciated and invaluable. You helped facilitate the provision of health equity: equal access, care and healthier outcomes for all no matter economic, social or environmental disadvantage as well as address food insecurity and the ill effects of climate change.

You make Haitian women, babies, families and midwives feel seen and heard by providing hope and opportunity which facilitates building a stronger, healthier Haiti and midwifery workforce. You ensure the provision of reliable, accessible, competent and compassionate care no matter what the country is up against.

Next year FAHM will celebrate its tenth anniversary. We have faced many challenges but the accomplishments far surpass any bumps in the road. We still have so much exciting work ahead and look forward to continuing this important and invaluable partnership with you which continues to strengthen and support midwifery in Haiti. Let's continue as *FAHM-ily* working together to build a stronger and healthier tomorrow.

Cheers to yesterday's achievements and tomorrow's brighter and healthier future. Wishing you health and happiness in this New Year and beyond.

Best,
Martine Jean-Baptiste
Founder, Executive Director