



2023 SPRING NEWSLETTER



MIVO FOUNDATION NEWS

As the warmth of summer begins and the evenings are at their longest, I sit on the front porch and ponder the “world as it is”.

Oftentimes, my mind travels to the breezy front porch of MIVO's residence in L'Estere at our clinic. Oh, to be sitting there on the steps amidst our Haitian family and mission team members watching the sun rise!

During darkest times, it is the memory of better days that empowers each of us to walk through the present with Hope for the future. As our hearts break for those suffering in Haiti, our reflex to the pain is to persevere through this critical period of time. When we do return, we will be even better prepared to serve the needs of the Haitian people. Our mission and vision stand strong. Our God holds us in His hand and has provided us with a withstanding MIVO family. This issue of The MIVO Newsletter is dedicated to each of you. There are countless lives impacted for the good because of our dedicated volunteers and their ongoing efforts. "That has not **changed** and will not change"

Always,
Loretta Speicher, RN
“For I am the LORD your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.” Isaiah 41: 13

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Check Us Out
www.mivofoundation.org

or
**Scan the QR Code
with your camera
phone.**



UPCOMING EVENTS

SIXTH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Friday September 29, 2023

11am Registration

12pm Shotgun Start

Honey Run Golf Club
3131 S. Salem Church Rd, York



Register Online at www.mivofoundation.org

or

Send Entries to: MIVO Foundation

Attention Lawrence Smyser

1441 S. Duke St, York, PA 17403

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

E-mail Lawrence.smyser@gmail.com



2023 Annual FunDay



HELLO
MIVO FAMILY

When: FUNday is June 24, 2023 with rain date on June 25th.
Time: Begins at 12 noon with a Pot Luck meal at 1pm.
No RSVP necessary.

Goal: Fun and Fellowship with our MIVO family.

The MIVO Favorite - Corn Hole competition will be sure to be there. Bring your swimsuit for the pool and dollars for a basket raffle. Watch our website and Facebook for additional details.

Address: Hosts - Jenn & Ron Fimiani
2210 Sutton Rd. York, PA 17403



Testimony from Eric Klinedinst

My journey into the medical field all began shortly after the 2010 7.0 Mw Haitian earthquake that killed roughly 250,000 people, injured 300,000 more, and brought worldwide attention to the country as a whole, which was suffering from political corruption and extreme poverty. Desperate to get back to his home country to lend a helping hand, Dr. Etienne was looking for some eager individuals to accompany him. I was blessed to go with him and one of his Physician Assistants, visualizing the devastation and understanding the dire situation facing so many Haitians.

When I first went to Haiti with Dr. Etienne, MIVO was not officially founded yet. In fact, there was not even a hospital to practice in nor housing to host the staff team members. We went to his father's house and practiced out of his garage. It was a makeshift setup with inferior instruments and supplies, but Dr. Etienne had a vision. I remembered him taking me to purchase a cement maker, which was later used to build the hospital. He also proudly took us to an empty lot for pictures. This eventually became the home quarters of the MIVO mission, and illustrated to me how much an individual with a passion can make a difference.

During my first trip, I also understood where Dr. Etienne generated his passion to serve. I noticed that most Haitians are resilient, resourceful, and respectful people. Most are poverty-stricken, and at that time, many more were living in a place entitled "Tent City." As the name suggests, thousands of tents, which were provided by the United Nations, were scattered across the countryside. Despite this, one characteristic was never lost: the abundance of Haitian spirit. Most Haitians were smiling and appreciative for the positives in their lives. Many adults stood in line for hours to obtain a pail of water, while the children were playing with soccer balls derived from miscellaneous linens and twine. It was evident that Haitians were happy people in need of help, providing us with a simple reward of their gratitude for our services. That is the basis of the MIVO mission, which aims to improve the quality of life of the severely underprivileged through voluntary efforts both medically and religiously; a mission that I am proud of and that I hold close to my heart.

To see more of Eric's Testimony please visit our link at www.mivofoundation.org

Eric Klinedinst, CAA, MSA

Testimony from Dr. Hofmann

I was a part of a MIVO mission trip in January 2019. What struck me immediately was the extreme poverty and lack of civil services accompanied by limited access to medical care. If memory serves, some 130 people arrived at the ortho clinic the first morning we were there. Yet, despite the circumstances, a lot of smiling faces! As the saying goes, "You do what you can with what you have." It was truly inspiring to witness the compassion, kindness, effort, and teamwork of the group during the trip. I felt privileged to be a part of it. I had hoped to return on another trip but political instability caused that specific trip to be cancelled. And today, the needs in Haiti for such care remains.

Without the skilled hands of Dr. Hofmann and other "called" healthcare professionals like him, the clinic would never be able to exist: past, present, or future. These pages are not long enough to acknowledge every volunteer who has touched a Haitian life directly or indirectly; to God be the glory. Thank you! And, yes, even now, we, at MIVO, believe that the Father is preparing hearts and minds to partner with us in the future.



Dr. Douglas Hofmann, MD

Testimony from the Stanley's

The MIVO trip of 2021 expanded my love for the beautiful country and people of Haiti. I traveled to Haiti since 2014 with a group at Penn State, but traveling with MIVO in 2021 was my first time on a medical trip. The team was small and became close instantly and easily. We traveled by a small plane from Port-au-Prince to the clinic and truly got to see the beautiful colors, mountains and communities of Haiti from above. At our arrival to the clinic we were introduced to the staff from translators, to nurses and Doctor James. Between working with patients we were able to learn about the families of the staff and their dreams. This trip had several younger patients requiring surgery which often lead to our conversations of the best soccer players and teams before surgery. Soccer was a universal language that showed us once again we are all brothers and sisters. From the sunrises to the prayers sung in Creole by the community that gathered each day at the clinic the love of Christ was near tangible and left me in happy tears even before the day started. I pray that that love can help heal Haiti and for the world to see the wonderful people. I hope I can return again soon and continue to grow the friendships with the staff and help serve alongside them. -Laura Stanley



I was blessed to have experienced my first trip to MIVO with my sister, Jeanmarie, in 2017. My second trip was with my daughter, Laura, in 2021. I truly treasure both times; even though they were very different. One trip was with a very large group and the second one was with a much smaller group. However, both times there was such a feeling of family. Even through the highs and lows during the weeks, I felt at peace, because we had a sense of Who was in charge and He brought us together as a family to serve. To say, "I got much more out of both experiences than I put in," would be an understatement. - Colleen Dennen-Stanley

For all those who have read to the end of this newsletter, a special "Thanks!" We invite you to continue on this journey with us. Here are several ways to stay in touch:

- ♥ **Join** our intercessory prayer group on an upcoming ZOOM prayer meeting. The next scheduled meeting is **Friday, June 30th** at 6:30pm. A link to the meeting will be posted on our social media.
- ♥ **Pray** individually or with friends / family for the country of Haiti and its people. Prayer points are available on our website along with a section for you to submit your prayer requests so that we can partner with you in prayer.
- ♥ **Email** us at info@mivofoundation.org to request upcoming opportunities to serve with our stateside volunteers.
- ♥ **Follow us** on facebook and on our website - www.mivofoundation.org

In these changing times, do not ever hesitate to **reach out to us** with any questions. As much as time and space can separate us from those we care about, our heavenly Father joins us together by His Spirit. As the old camp song went, **"We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord!"**

In Christ,

The MIVO Foundation Executive Committee

Gracia, Manotte, Lawrence, Lori, Austin, Kirsten, Deb, Ron, Donna, Stewart B., Stewart S., Mary & Loretta