



January 2006

Dear friends in Christ,

Each month, we are going to highlight one of the programs or projects that your funds help support. Our focus this month is the Advantage Program. The Advantage Program is the rehabilitation program of Cayes Clinic which assists persons with physically disabling conditions.

The Advantage Program consists of four components:

1. Rehabilitation Clinic & Brace Shop
2. The Bernice Johnson Center
3. St. Vincent Rehabilitation School Sponsorship Program
4. Vision Rehabilitation

Spring and Fall, 2005, was busy for the Advantage Program. Missionaries Dirk and Karen Martin have continued to develop the work of the vision program and have been of critical assistance with financial administration of all of the programs. Frankel Jeannot, the Haitian Program Administrator, has continued to serve patients with disabling conditions through provision of exercise and equipment. Patients are seen in the outpatient rehabilitation shop and in the small in-patient Cayes Hospital.

Dirk and Karen are encouraged by the first year of the Vision Rehabilitation Program. Much of Dirk's contact with people takes place at the SHAA (Haitian Blind Society) office and during home visits and mobile clinics. By visiting people at home, he is able to help them learn to function more effectively in their familiar environment. Going to outlying towns with staff from the Cayes Clinic and SHAA puts him in contact with people who might benefit from his orientation & mobility training as well as those who need to be referred for medical eye care.

A project is underway with help from two other organizations to distribute hand crank tape players and Kreyol Scriptures on audiocassettes. Dirk and Karen say, "It is our prayer that these tools will provide people who are blind the opportunity to listen to God's Word in their homes and to share it with their neighbors."

Dirk is also involved in the transcription of print material into Braille. He has prepared Scripture portions to use in a Braille Bible study and educational materials for a young man enrolled in a local university.

We are excited about the success of the graduates of the Bernice Johnson Center (vocational training program for women with disabilities) during this past year. The Bernice Johnson Center works closely with Centre Lumiere (vocational training center for women without disabilities) for teaching and material support. Since graduation in the summer of 2004, all of the women have been actively engaged in the production program of Centre Lumiere, earning money for themselves and their families. In October 2005, the Bernice Johnson Center graduates returned to the Center for a two month structured seminar to learn to make the new items being produced by Centre Lumiere. We are once again encouraged by the determination, abilities, and hearts of these wonderful young women.

The Martins attended the Global Missions Health Conference along with the program director, June Hanks, to conduct a presentation on the Advantage Program. "We are encouraged by the feedback and follow-up contacts resulting from this meeting. What a pleasure it is to work together as a team. Please pray for wisdom, cultural sensitivity, and direction as we plan for the future," says June Hanks, Program Coordinator.

We would love the opportunity to share with your church, friends, co-workers, or civic group ways they can become involved or support the Advantage Program. Please contact the LMM office for more information.



Front Row: Karen Martin, Advantage Program Recipient, and Dirk Martin  
 Second Row: June Hanks

**(Please tear off this portion and return with your donation)**



- I commit to pray for **LMM** and those they serve in Haiti.
- Enclosed is my gift for: \_\_\_\_\_
- Please remove me from your mailing list.

Prayer Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

## Pray with us!

*“Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.” Ephesians 6:18*

The above verse comes at the close of the Apostle Paul's description of the armor of God with which Christians are to face enemy forces that would hinder the testimony and witness of God's people. We must realize that prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Without it, we are at a great disadvantage in facing the fierce attacks as well as detecting the subtle ways that our enemy has of resisting the spread of the Gospel through our efforts. We have indicated in this letter that the **Advantage Program** is reaching out to help people who because of their physical disabilities might not have a chance to engage in activities that enable them to be productive citizens. Likewise, all our efforts to be successful in providing health care for Haitian people will be in vain if we do not have Spirit-filled people who engage in prayer that God Himself may always be guiding our efforts. Paul concludes himself in his requests for prayer, *“so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the Gospel . . . that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.”* We also beg you to join with us in praying for the work. The following requests will help you do that.

- Pray for complete restoration and healing for June Hanks, Director of the Advantage Program. She was in an automobile accident in the U.S. following a very successful visit to Haiti to close out 2005. June is in the healing process and will appreciate your prayers.
- Continue to pray for the Presidential Election slated to take place on February 7<sup>th</sup> in Haiti. Pray for the complete process of coping with opposition and criminal activities from former Aristide followers, and ask God to overrule in the choice of the new government for Haiti.
- Pray for the leaders of the National Church organization which manages the different health ministries in Haiti. Pray that they be given wisdom in the choice of personnel in key positions as well as wise management of each phase of the ministries.
- Pray for the Advantage Program outreach. 1.) There are several students in training at St. Vincent's School in Port-au-Prince. 2.) The ongoing operation of the brace shop and rehabilitation efforts. 3.) The Bernice Johnson Center which offers vocational training toward self-support of trainees.
- Continue to pray for the Hospital of Light and the Out-Patient Clinic operating from Bonne Fin. There are several rural clinics to be attended to in the area surrounding the hospital.
- Pray that in all these avenues of activity that the testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ be faithfully and fearlessly proclaimed, praising God for the open door to do so.

*Louis Amarkwood*

### New in 2006

Please note: Due to our new software and always in search of expense-saving methods of doing business, we will be mailing receipts once a month.

#### Lumiere Medical Ministries

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