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Two True Inspirations at NVM

by Kevin Emerson, NVM Communications Director

The city of Indianapolis has caught on to something many of us at Nehemiah Vision Ministries have known for many months, that Aubree and Kacie, our two nurses, are an inspiration!

In fact, anyone who has read their blogs knows just how much of an inspiration that these two remarkable, young women have been. They have grown, both professionally and spiritually during their time with NVM. They have learned to speak Haitian Kreyol. They have been immersed in the Haitian culture.

Yet, through it all, they approach everyday with a God-filled excitement, whether they are telling the story of Baby Rose or describing their day to day lives in Haiti, they truly are an inspiration to those who have come to know them.

Each year the Indianapolis Star honors the nurses of Indianapolis during their Salute to Nurses Awards luncheon.

Aubree and Kacie were informed of their selection as the 2010-11 Inspiration Award recipients by Dr. Deanna Reinoso via Skype.

Although if you ask Aubree and Kacie, they will not feel like they are doing anything inspirational.

They are doing what the job requires as God has laid on their heart to live and serve in Haiti. The job often includes rising early in the morning to check on a patient in the village before seeing 30 to 50 people in the clinic, helping prepare a mobile clinic team just arrived from the states, and maintaining medicine inventories to be sure we

always have what we need for our people.

In fact, if you ask them, they will tell you the people of Haiti is what inspires them everyday.

The nurses put together an acceptance video, which was shown to those in attendance. The video demonstrated the humble nature of these two remarkable women and what it was like to work and live as nurses in Haiti.

On April 27th, their mothers attended the Salute to Nurses Awards banquet on their behalf in Indianapolis to receive the accolades and awards for their daughters' in Haiti.

Kacie's mom, Krista said in a message to her daughter, "The banquet was beautiful. I'm so sorry that you missed it. It was quite a tribute to you and Aubree and the incredible work you are doing. I was a proud mother hen!"

Other nurses in attendance who share ties to NVM were very excited by the announcement.

"I was so excited when I saw this yesterday at the banquet! I had to control myself not to jump up and yell!," said Jackie Brumley, another nurse who has volunteered with NVM on short-term mission trips.

Another NVM nurse, Jan Baele said, "Congratulations to two of the most amazing young women I know. You received the Inspiration Award from the Indianapolis Star. Your families were so proud... as am I. Love you guys."



Aubree Dell and Kacie Davis were awarded the Indianapolis Star's Inspiration Award at their annual Salute to Nurses Banquet in April.



Aubree Dell holds Baby Rose on a recently trip into the village of Chambrun.



Kacie Davis holding a little patient at the clinic.

Beads and Jewelry Seminar

by Amy Shultz, NVM Missionary

Before Jay and I came to Haiti in January, we attended the Missionary Convention in Kentucky. While we were there, I picked up two paper bead necklaces made by widows in Africa, thinking about the women in Chambrun.

Starting the project was as easy as getting out supplies and playing around with making beads. Different staff members offered different ideas. Because we don't have an abundance of magazines or scrapbooking paper, one visiting staff member suggested using recycled cardboard from our cereal boxes and spaghetti boxes. After much trial and error, the NVM kitchen and housekeeping ladies became excited about the prospect of creating beautiful things, earning an extra income, and supporting their community.

To date, we have sold almost \$1,500 worth of jewelry and we are working on new techniques. For every item

sold, the woman who makes it gets 20%, 30% goes to supplies, 30% goes to a scholarship fund for students to go on to a high school, and 20% goes to the NVM Church.

This month, we began to train our first set of 20 women from the community who currently need income. After the announcements were made at church, 100 women showed interest. We are planning several clinics to give many women a chance to learn. Two of the kitchen ladies who were the first to learn to make the beads are learning to teach the other women. After these clinics, we will select those women who show good work ethic and talent to come and work on-site at NVM as jewelry makers.

Please pray for wisdom for moving ahead with this project and that we would touch many women with the love of Christ and give them hope for their future and a way to support their families.

Sponsorship Program Thriving

by Kevin Emerson, NVM Sponsorship Director

It's hard to believe a year has passed since I took over the Sponsorship program at NVM. I remember the overwhelming feeling of trying to figure out a strategy for getting the program back up on its feet.

I prayed a lot about it and with God's grace, we have managed to raise it up from a total of 76 kids in various states of sponsorship. (By that I mean that some sponsors had lost hope in the program and had stopped making payments, while others had missed payments along the way. We also had to deal with many expired credit cards that had not been renewed.) In all, there were only 55 current and active sponsors one year ago.

Let's fast forward to today. Our website has been upgraded with

the help of our web guru Shawn Pletch. This has allowed us to gain tremendous traction. We now have a book keeper, Chris Beck, who tracks the sponsorship income and watches for expiring credit cards and missed payments.

We have also expanded to having sponsor packs ready in advance for our church teams when they arrive home and make mission presentations to their sending churches. This has allowed us to pick up 10 to 30 sponsors at a time depending on the size of the church.

As of today there are 223 kids in the program with more sponsors coming in each week! This is truly a testimony to God's grace and love for the children of Chambrun.



Making jewelry is just one way the people of Chambrun can become self-sufficient.



Several ladies from Chambrun are all smiles while learning how to make necklaces.



Just a few of kids who have received sponsor packs on campus this year.



Peterson receiving a gift pack from Todd and Jackie Brumley earlier this year.

Interns Proving to Be Invaluable at Nehemiah Vision Ministries

by Kevin Emerson, NVM Communications Director

interns are making a big difference with NVM. Rachel Kennett and Brodie Herb accomplished so much in the months they were here as interns.

Throughout college, Rachel had imagined backpacking through Europe after she graduated, but after spending 3 weeks here the summer of 2010 with Campus Crusade, she chose instead to come spend three months here instead. Rachel took it upon herself to become the de facto IT person for the campus. Cleaning up the computers, files, and installing anti-virus software as well. She even helped out with the preparation of meals in the kitchen.

Brodie's story was much the same, having served with a Campus Crusade team in January of 2011 and returning for 6 weeks in March and April.

Many of you already know the impact of Aubree Dell and Kacie Davis (see the lead story) spending a year in Haiti. In fact, Aubree has decided to stay a second year!

Another former volunteer, Chris Bosma has just finished his freshman year at Purdue University and is coming as an intern for the summer.

As the hospital project progresses, another former short term missionary, Erica Lindley, and Katherine Clancey, a nursing student, are coming for the entire month of June.

Joshua Ring, a medical student, is coming to work on specific projects related to the medical clinic and the opening of our hospital.

Leslee Sell, a nurse, will be here for two months starting in August.

Brooke Smalley and E'Tienne York, both nurses, are planning to come to Haiti this summer to work for a year.

Young people that combine their skills with the needs of NVM are a huge blessing here.

In addition, at the end of May, Jim and Cheryl Warner from GAIN USA will be heading to Chambrun to spend up to one year as missionaries for GAIN USA teams that come to campus.

And let us not forget to mention the Elliott and Shultz families who have been serving as year long missionaries since December and January, respectively.



Brodie Herb takes a few moments to pause for a photo with a boy in Chambrun.



Rachel Kennett talks to another worker in the kitchen while helping to prepare a meal.



Jim and Cheryl Warner have led GAIN USA teams to Chambrun on several occasions and now will serve as missionaries in Haiti.



Amy Shultz enjoys a laugh after Nathan Pierre got a little too close during the frosting of a cake.



The Shultz family preparing to go to church on a Sunday morning in Haiti.

Little Dresses For Haiti Ships Over 1,450 Dresses to Girls in Haiti in First Year!

by Kevin Emerson, NVM Communications Director



Little Dresses for Haiti founder Susan Kisinger with one of the thousands of "Little Dresses" she and her organization have made for girls in Haiti.



Ladies sew dresses at a recent "Little Dresses" sewing party at Susan's home in Indiana.



In Chambrun, Kesna Estramé, center, is happy she got a new Little Dress for Haiti.



Little Dresses are now seen on girls all over the community of Chambrun.

Susan Kisinger spent a great deal of time last winter in Gulf Shores watching the news as the Haitians tried to "recover" from the devastating earthquake. "Whenever something like this happens around the world I am always drowned with the question that just will not go away, What can I do to help?" Kisinger stated.

"One day in the Gulf Shores library, I saw a display for littledressesforafrica.org. It hit me like a ton of bricks that I could make those dresses for the girls in Haiti." Susan added.

Sewing is kind of second nature for Susan, having donated thousands of hours sewing costumes for the local civic theatre in Lafayette, Indiana. Making Little Dresses seemed like the perfect outlet for her talents.

According to Susan, "I had the opportunity to see these adorable dresses and talk to a couple of people about this effort. I believe it's something worth supporting!"

Apparently many people have agreed.

Thinking back to the beginning is kind of a blur, Susan posted a simple status on her Facebook profile one week after coming up with the concept, since then, Little Dresses for Haiti has taken off like a little rocket that will not be deterred! She decided to create a Facebook fan page and a week later there were over 150 fans from all over the United States, many of whom have started making and sending in dresses to Susan to be shipped to Haiti.

"The very first shipment of 28 Little Dresses went to Nehemiah Vision Ministries one year ago." she continued.

"Today, Dresses are delivered around Haiti on a regular basis, so this is

an ongoing project. I do need help though. Want to help? You have a couple easy options!"

I can't speak for the other organizations, but as far as Nehemiah Vision Ministries is concerned, this has been a welcomed outreach. I have seen the smiles these dresses bring to the faces of girls who have no dresses at all.

It is important to realize that you don't have to know how to sew to assist. you can donate new or gently used pillow cases and/or elastic, buttons, ribbon, ric rac, etc. You can purchase these at thrift stores, or raid your own linen closets! Simply contact Susan and let her know where she can pick them up!

If you live out of town and still want to create dresses, they can be mailed to Susan Kisinger, 1837 Mallard Ct., West Lafayette, IN 47906 (One pillowcase and some ribbon costs very little to mail.)

"Tell a friend about this project and pass on my contact information. I am sure there are many groups in our community, as well as others around the country, who would be willing to donate or sew for Haitian girls!"

"My goal initially was to ship 100 dresses a month to Haiti. We have exceeded that already! In less than one year, we have sent 1,489 Little Dresses to Haiti!" Kisinger proudly stated.

One certainly cannot question Susan's commitment to the cause, "These dresses have been sent to many organizations in Haiti like Nehemiah Vision Ministries, Kids Alive, Healing Hands International and Mission Ranch Orphanage. I currently have almost 100 more dresses in my dining room in various stages of readiness! As long as you ladies and gents keep sewing; so will I." exclaimed Susan.