

# in partnership

An update on the work you make possible • Winter 2023

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# The Arts Mix with Reproductive, Sexual Health in Mexico **\***

Photos, collages, and paintings

were among the creations made by 100 youth in Reforma, a rural community in southern Mexico. But the lesson was about more than art.

The activities were part of a threeday workshop on reproductive and sexual rights organized by Partners In Health, known locally as Compañeros En Salud. The workshop, held in September, brought together dozens of students ages 12 to 15.

In Chiapas, Mexico's southern most state, the median age is 24 years old, and rates of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections are high due to poverty and systemic injustice, making health education crucial. Through photography, role-playing, and theater, students learned about bodily autonomy, contraceptives, and consent.

They also came away with a greater understanding of their rights, as well as a deeper sense of community—captured by a vibrant mural that served as the workshop's final project.

"This workshop was very useful for me," says Uver, 13. "I can plan what I want in the future, thinking about the repercussions of each decision I make, and thus achieve my goals."

Students weren't the only ones taking notes. "We have a lot to learn from the communities where we work," says Marina Luria of Compañeros En Salud. "This workshop was a learning space for us, too."



**Above:** Students begin painting their mural in Reforma, Chiapas. *Photo by Francisco Terán / PIH* 

**Cover photo:** Teens and youth stand by a mural painted at the end of a three-day workshop on reproductive rights hosted by Compañeros En Salud. *Photo by Francisco Terán / PIH* 

Photo by Jodi Hilton / PIH

# **CEO's Letter**

#### Dear Friends,

These are challenging times for many of the communities where Partners In Health (PIH) works. But the steadfast determination of our staff to provide quality care to patients, no matter the circumstances, is a powerful inspiration.

Our colleagues at Zanmi Lasante (ZL), PIH's sister organization in Haiti, continue to face instability and daily disruptions to their lives. Yet their unwavering commitment to upholding access to health care through it all serves as a ray of hope for each and every patient. Even in the midst of responding to a cholera outbreak, ZL staff continue to provide all the other essential health services Haitians rely on, from maternity care to child health and nutrition and more.

In the face of hurricanes, outbreaks, civil unrest, and climate-induced crises, PIHers around the world always put patients first. And in all 11 countries where we work, I can promise you we will continue doing whatever it takes to ensure the right to health care for the communities we serve and beyond.

As we mark the one-year anniversary of Paul's sudden passing this month, this newsletter is a testament to the many ways in which we continue to honor his legacy. Each story is a beautiful embodiment of PIH's commitment to patients, the impact of your partnership, and the power of our shared mission.

With gratitude,

Dr. Sheila Davis Chief Executive Officer

# *Thousands* Vaccinated Against Cholera in Haiti

In early October, the Haitian government announced a cholera outbreak that quickly spread throughout the country. In response, Zanmi Lasante, Partners In Health's sister organization in Haiti, and the Ministry of Health and Population led a cholera vaccination campaign in December that reached 73,348 people living in and around Mirebalais, Haiti.

Due to depletion of the global vaccine stockpile, the two-dose vaccine is being given in one dose in Haiti and other countries experiencing an outbreak.

In early January, officials reported 19,406 cholera hospitalizations and 464 deaths. Many cases are children under five, who are at a higher risk due to malnutrition, which leaves their young immune systems vulnerable.

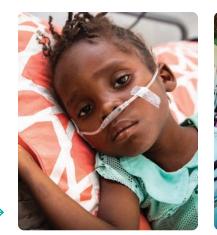
Cholera is caused by ingesting contaminated water or food. People infected can develop watery diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, which is potentially fatal if untreated.

> **RIGHT:** A 7-year-old is being treated for pneumonia and cholera. *Photo by Nadia Todres for PIH*

# COMBATING CHOLERA IN HAITI



73,348 vaccines administered in Mirebalais campaign





administered to patients over 15 years old

# 1959-2022 PAUL'S LASTING Legacy

The year since Dr. Paul Farmer's unexpected passing has been a bittersweet journey for the PIH community. Together, we have grieved, but we have also achieved remarkable things in Paul's memory. Paul's legacy lives on through PIH's lifesaving work around the world. As Paul said, "Equity is the only acceptable goal." His extraordinary example of service to the poor will always be our North Star.

# PAUL FARMER COLLABORATIVE Advances Equitable Medical Training

In January, Partners In Health announced the establishment of the *Paul Farmer Collaborative* between the University of Global Health Equity (UGHE) and Harvard Medical School (HMS), made possible by a \$50 million gift from Cummings Foundation, which will expand and deepen a long-standing partnership between the two institutions.

Building on Paul's legacy, the collaborative will help strengthen and influence the medical training ecosystem in Rwanda and across Africa, catalyzing the development of sustainable, equitable health systems that improve health care delivery to underserved populations. The work of the collaborative will involve the exchange of students, postdoctoral trainees, and faculty between UGHE and HMS; support for research, education, and teaching; an annual global health conference; and clinical training opportunities for medical students and residents.



LEFT: Johnson Guerrier (left) and his 2-year-old daughter receive the oral cholera vaccine. Photo by Melissa Jeanty / PIH



ABOVE: Jeff Pierre (right) is examined by Dr. Jean Joel Manasse, who works in the cholera treatment unit at Hôpital Universitaire de Mirebalais in Haiti. Photo by Melissa Jeanty / PIH

**LEFT:** Coolers filled with oral cholera vaccine are prepared for distribution across various communities within Mirebalais. *Photo by Melissa Jeanty / PIH* 

56% of vaccines administered to patients



**5,006** patients cared for in cholera treatment units



Paul Farmer with medical students at Butaro District Hospital in January 2022. Photo by Ferdinand Dukundimana for PIH

#### DONOR SPOTLIGHT

### **Donna Nixon**

learned about Partners In Health from the documentary "Bending the Arc" and started to give monthly. "PIH eliminates the conditions that create health inequities, and I want to help permanently heal the conditions that caused the harm," she says. Donna also explored charitable estate planning and

listed PIH as a legacy beneficiary of her retirement account: "The legacies of colonialism are directly connected to the circumstances people in PIH-served communities endure. If my ancestors were not forcibly shipped to the U.S., I might be in similar circumstances. I want to do what I can to improve lives, especially in Haiti and across Africa."

Tom White remains *the heart of PIH* because he supplied us with the fuel and the love to keep this machine going.

#### OPHELIA DAHL

#### PIH's Legacy Society, Tom's Circle,

honors Co-founder Tom White (1920-2011) and his unparalleled kindness and philanthropy. Members help sustain our future by naming PIH in their charitable estate plans, a lifetime commitment to PIH that acknowledges future possibilities.

If you remember PIH in your plans, please let us know so we can thank you and document your wishes.



Create your legacy today legacy.PIH.org | 857-880-5717 | giftplanning@pih.org

# Our *Favorite* Moments from 2022



Most of our media coverage this year honored Paul's legacy. From penning op-eds in newspapers to proposing global health policy, we continued to advocate for **"a preferential option for the poor."** 

# PIH.org/ favorite-moments-2022



## EXPLORE OUR 2022 ANNUAL REPORT,

which covers a year of care, advocacy, and impact. It highlights our work across 11 countries, where we work with governments to strengthen health systems.

CHECK OUT THIS REPORT AND MORE AT PIH.org/AR-2022



**Above:** Photo by Rebecca E. Rollins / PIH



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