Impacting Women's and Children's Health Care Globally- A United State-Haiti Nursing Partnership.

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The Commission on Magnet Recognition, 2008

GOAL
Create a partnership for education and professional development between LVHN nurses and nurses in a developing country.

OUTCOMES
• In-services & continuing education
• Focus on designated World Health Organization “Baby Friendly” initiatives
• Staff and patient education materials
• Funds and donations for supplies and pediatric respite care
• Blood bank prompted by and to support maternal hemorrhage
• Published manuscript – Empowering nurses to transform health care globally: A United States-Haiti nursing partnership. American Nurse Today, February 2017, Vol 12 No.2

ENGAGING IN PARTNERSHIP
• Visits – 6 since 2014
• LVHN support – Philanthropic funds for travel and lodging – Paid time off
• Team Members – Initially, nurses, 3 per visit – Now, interprofessional team, including physicians
• Evolving clinical focus – Consistent relationships for enhanced maternal child health

REVIEW OF LITERATURE
No published literature was located describing enduring partnerships between nurses in the US and developing countries.

INSPIRATIONS FROM THE HAITIAN CULTURE
• All nurses baccalaureate prepared
• Remarkable family engagement
• Solace & strength in spirituality

CHALLENGES
• Language barrier – interpreters required
• Interruptions in electricity
• Oppressive heat without air conditioning
• Sporadic internet
• Limited resources

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OUR NURSING PARTNER
The Hospital Convention Baptiste d’Haiti (HCBH)
• Maternity & Pediatric Care
• Neonatal Care
• Medical-Surgical Care
• Perioperative Services
• Emergency Care

REFERENCES:

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Impacting Women’s and Children’s Health Care Globally – A United States-Haiti Nursing Partnership

Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Maternal Child Health Colleagues

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