As recent as 10 years ago, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS was the leading cause of death for persons in Haitian prisons. Both disease are preventable and treatable, and should not result in death. The work of Health through Walls’ (HtW) dedicated staff and volunteers in Haiti has changed the outcome of those in prison who develop tuberculosis or have HIV/AIDS despite severe overcrowding and horrid conditions. Thanks to support from partners like the USAID, Gilead Foundation, AHF and Global Fund, prisoners are screened for both diseases, identified and treated, resulting in great reductions in death and transmission to others.
PROGRESS TOWARD TB CONTROL IN HAITI

HtW utilizes multiple technologies in the diagnosis and treatment of prisoners with tuberculosis in Haitian prisons. A mobile, digital x-ray unit is transported to each of the 17 prisons in Haiti at least once a year and chest x-ray exams are performed during health screenings of prisoners by HtW staff and volunteers. The x-rays are sent electronically to our radiologist, Dr. Irving Waldman of Miami, who donates his time in reading the films. Dr. Waldman, with assistance from his wife Linda and grandson Jared, have compiled and processed more than 40,000 films in the past six years.

Additionally, HtW operates one of Haiti’s few GeneXpert machines which allows sputum samples to be analyzed within hours instead of several weeks for the presence of drug-resistant tuberculosis.

Also, with support from TB REACH, HtW is piloting a project that uses video recordings to document prisoners taking their TB medications instead of relying on health staff—an intervention that could be promising for prisons worldwide with limited health staff resources.

In 2018, the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) published a document of good practices on tuberculosis care in prisons featuring a section on HtW’s work in Haiti and digital x-ray screening.
AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION AND HTW PARTNERSHIP: CLINIC SOLIDARITY, HAITI

In January 2018, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) of Haiti along with HtW relocated to a new clinic building in Port-au-Prince to better accommodate growing needs. Clinic Solidarity began as a partnership with AHF and HtW in 2014 to provide HIV-related care and treatment free-of-charge to former prisoners, their families and those impacted communities. The new clinic includes beautiful Haitian art while the larger space allows for the provision of more support services for the increasing number of patients. In 2018, the clinic served more than 1,500 persons. It is a place where people can receive care and treatment without stigma or shame.

PHOTO LEFT: AHF/HtW community HIV testing campaign in Haiti, August 2017.

PHOTO ABOVE: The new AHF/HtW clinic for former prisoners and their families.

PRISONER SUPPORT IN MALAWI

HtW continues to provide nutritional and clinical support to prisoners with HIV/AIDS in Malawi Prisons Service through Pastor Daniel Mitepa (bottom left in picture below), 2018.

PHOTO LEFT: HtW distributes food supplements to prisoners in Malawi with health needs related to HIV or tuberculosis, and general support and hygiene items for the prisoners.
Adequate prisoner health not only controls infectious disease, but also contributes to safe, secure, and humane institutions - part of establishing a society of justice, prosperity and peace.

Dr. John May, President, Health through Walls

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND JAMAICA PRISON HEALTH PROGRAMS

PHOTOS ABOVE: (L) Visitors to Dominican Republic’s LaVictoria Penitentiary offered HIV testing by HtW team; (R ) Prisoner Health Promoter providing education and condoms to fellow prisoner on visitation day, 2018. HtW Grace Butler, Director.

PHOTO RIGHT: HtW Jamaica, led by Arnold Campbell (far right at table) with AHF at Hill Top Juvenile Center in Jamaica providing HIV education and testing for juvenile prisoners, 2018.

OMARURU PRISON, NAMIBIA

In April 2018, HtW volunteers Dr. Marc Stern (third from left), Mark Andrews (third from right) and Dr. John May (far right) taught a course on Prison Health Leadership for the International Corrections and Prison Association’s African Prisons Leadership Training, hosted by Namibia Correctional Services. Prison health officials from six (6) African countries attended.

HTW NEEDS YOUR HELP FOR PRISONERS IN LOW - INCOME COUNTRIES

- Financial donations toward prisoner health services. So many needs!
- Medical equipment collected by HtW for the American Correctional Association’s Container Donation Program shipping supplies to prisons of low income countries
- Volunteer at home or abroad
- Donate online at www.healththroughwalls.org or send check to:

Health through Walls
12555 Biscayne Blvd., #955
North Miami, FL 33181

(Please include your name, address and email.)

Contributions are tax deductible under the IRS codes for 501(c)(3) organizations.

Thank you for your support! And in appreciation of 2018 generous support from the Gilead Foundation, USAID, Global Fund, TB REACH, AIDS Healthcare Foundation and Armor Correctional Health Services.

www.healththroughwalls.org

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