

## MAKING PROGRESS AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS IN PRISONS

A COMPREHENSIVE TUBERCULOSIS  
SCREENING AND TREATMENT PROGRAM  
IN HAITIAN PRISONS IS MAKING  
A DIFFERENCE



PHOTO ABOVE: Prisoners at Haiti's National Penitentiary in line to receive treatment for tuberculosis. Although the room is intended for only 30 prisoners, more than 130 persons are locked inside each daily.

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.



PHOTO LEFT:  
HtW Nurse Jas-  
mine Delcin car-  
ing for a patient  
with tuberculosis  
in Haiti's National  
Penitentiary.



*Typical overcrowded prison  
cell without running water.*

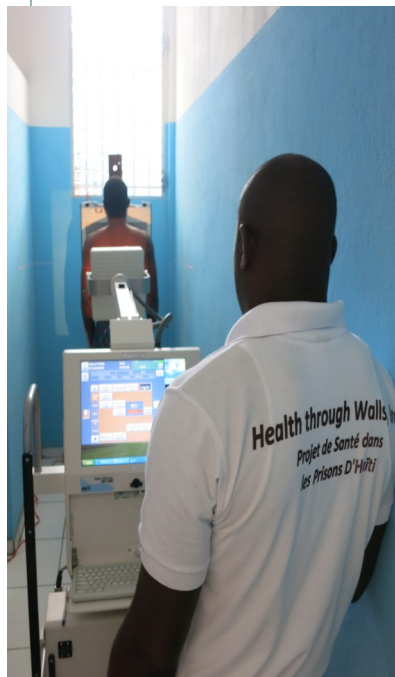
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***HtW Newsletter***  
***DECEMBER 2018***



*Sustainable healthcare in developing countries*



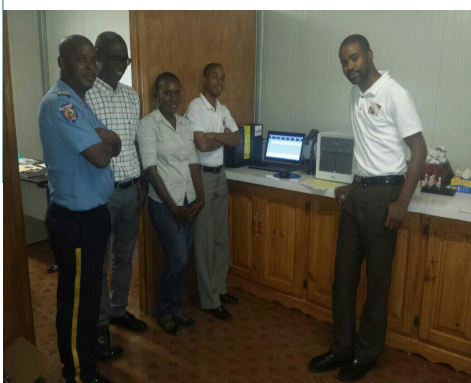
## PROGRESS TOWARD TB CONTROL IN HAITI

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.

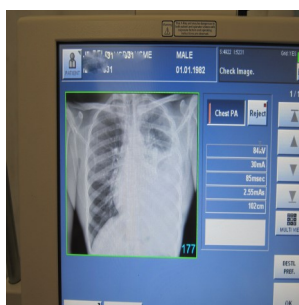
Also, with support from TB REACH, HtW is piloting a project that uses video recordings to document prisoners taking their TB

medications instead of relying on health staff—an intervention that could be promising for prisons worldwide with limited health staff resources.



**PHOTO BELOW:** HtW's Dr. Edwin Prophette (left), Dr. Kelly Collins (SureAdhere) and Dr. Anne Spaulding (Emory University) at Haiti's Carrefour prison reviewing strategy for video medication delivery.

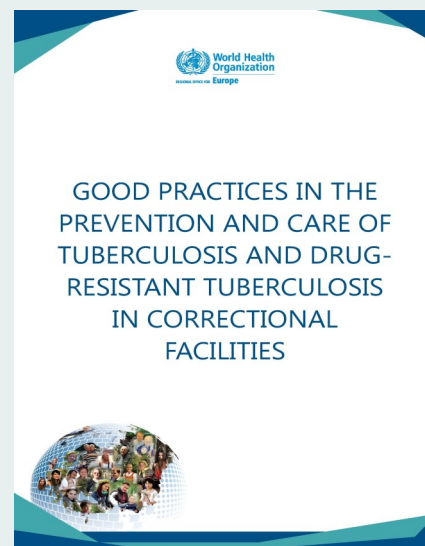
**PHOTO ABOVE:** HtW and partners with GeneXpert machine in Haiti's National Penitentiary. L to R: Inspector Heurtelou, Dr. Dissou, Monise Louis Jeune (PLNS), Jules Pierre and Kens Seneque.



**PHOTO LEFT:** One of more than 40,000 digital x-rays read by Miami volunteer radiologist, Dr. Irving Waldman, to identify prisoners with tuberculosis disease.



## HtW-Haiti Featured in World Health Organization Document for Good Practices in Prisons, 2018



<http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/communicable-diseases/tuberculosis/publications/2018/good-practices-in-the-prevention-and-care-of-tuberculosis-and-drug-resistant-tuberculosis-in-correctional-facilities-2018>

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.



**ABOVE:** Art created by Prisoner Peer Educators in Haiti published in the W.H.O. document. This painting shows prisoners reading materials about tuberculosis.

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



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

## 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.



HtW distributes food supplements to prisoners in Malawi with health needs related to HIV or tuberculosis, and general support and hygiene items for the prisons.



*"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 Hll Top Juvenile Center in Jamaica providing HIV education and testing for juvenile prisoners, 2018.



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Haiti



### 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.

*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](http://www.healththroughwalls.org)**

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### 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](http://www.healththroughwalls.org) or send check to:

**Health through Walls**  
**12555 Biscayne Blvd., #955**  
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(Please include your name, address and email.)

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