

April 17, 2024
Haiti Commission

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Diocesan Haiti Gathering – Save the Date: St. Thomas Aquinas in Charlottesville on September 21st, 10-2pm.
- III. Visioning for the next 5 years! Really important to start this process before the next Haiti Gathering and to be sure “our plan” is fully rooted in both Bishops Jean and Knestout’ s vision for the future of Haiti Twinning. Build a team to plan and give vision to our future – members of HEST, HHCT, and HPST as well as active members of Haiti twinning across the Diocese.
- IV. Support team - HEST Update. Richard is booked to come to Virginia in July. Hopeful that he can visit with twins and update on progress. HEST financial ask/campaign is almost ready to be mailed out – Second week of May – using HEST list of around 630 leaders
- V. Support team – HHCT Update: Pharmaceutical Depot is almost ready to open! Orders for the drugs have been placed by contacts in the Dominican Republic. In the future, as soon as we have more resources, contacts have already been established to order medicines from India. We will contact also some Haitian laboratories.

New verbiage on the Diocesan Website regarding HHCT: The Haitian Healthcare Support Team (HHST) seeks to support the critically important work of the Diocese of Hinche Health Commission, which has several initiatives to achieve a sustainable health care infrastructure for Haiti's Central Plateau and improve access to health care for all. Over half the population have not access to health care, and those who do face limited services and cost barriers. There are 28 clinics and 9 infirmaries for the 700,000 people in the Central Plateau but 30% are not functioning at this time. Several traditional NGOs have left the region and the Catholic Diocese

of Hinche has taken the lead for health care and education. They need our support and prayers!

Working with the leadership of the Haitian healthcare team we seek to support the following programs:

- Medication Program, whereby clinics can access medications and supplies more efficiently and economically through group purchases by the Diocese.
- Expansion of a Mobile Clinic service to schools and remote areas of the Central Plateau
- Clinician training programs, particularly in Mental Health care
- Development of a school health program for both students and teachers.
- Creation of local health committees for all parishes in the Diocese.

Our focus is to facilitate the health care goals of the Haitian people in sustainable and effective ways. With the current political and social unrest in Haiti, there is an even more urgent need to support our Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ. With your support, you can make a lasting impact. Please contact us ([Link here](#)) for more information on how you can join us in these grass-roots efforts.

- VI. Support Team – Update - HPST – that Tina has been in touch and is hoping to gather a core group in May – meeting monthly via zoom
- VII. Media/Outreach: New article on Haiti Ministry will be in the next Catholic Virginian. Letter to twins regarding Banking and Crisis was sent to Haiti Twin leadership and seemed to be appreciated (through feedback)
- VIII. Book – *Invest in our Youth* – 3L – Tina will purchase the books and send out to the group

- IX. Next Meeting – May 15 at 4:00

- X. Closing Prayer