

Voices OF HOPE

Haiti

Haitian people tend to associate the COVID-19 pandemic with politics due to mistrust of their government. As a result, people hide their illnesses and don't seek treatment in hospitals. Organized crime has left people in poorer neighbourhoods living in a state of fear, particularly those most vulnerable, pregnant women, children, disabled people, the elderly and the ailing. These conditions are compounded by the lack of adequate supplies to treat COVID-19 and most hospitals have closed.

Bénicie Pierre, CEO of the Saint-Laurent Healthcare Centre of Barbe, planned to close the Centre because of insufficient rooms and the lack of masks and medication but recognized that this would put pregnant women and sick babies at risk.

When local NGO Rayjon Share Care Haiti (with Canadian office in Sarnia, Ont.), learned of the centre's plight, it started looking for funding partners to help it stay open. PWRDF supported Rayjon Share Care Haiti (RSCH) with a grant of \$10,000 to educate people about COVID-19, encourage them to wear masks to protect them from being infected, and to find more rooms to receive the patients and appropriate medication.




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