

GIVINGTUESDAY



Sustaining Hope | Keeping Futures Bright



A Story of Hope

Sustaining Hope | Keeping Futures Bright

Shared by **Fernande Cezil**, age 31 — **Dade, Haiti**

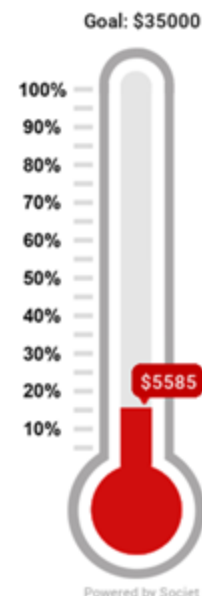
On **October 27**, as *Hurricane Melissa* battered our community, I delivered my baby boy at **Felisane Health Center** — the same compassionate place where my daughter was born nearly two years ago.

Before my first pregnancy, I was afraid. I had heard painful stories of mothers being spoken to harshly or treated roughly in labor. I feared that when my time came, I would suffer not only from the pain, but also from how I might be treated. But my experience at **Felisane** was completely different.

Through the **Start Right** program, I met nurses who were *patient, kind, and respectful*. They protected me and made me feel safe. That is why I returned to give birth a second time.

We're on our way!

Your generosity has brought us to \$5,585 — help us reach \$15,000 by Dec. 2.



She gave birth during a hurricane. You helped keep her safe.

On the morning of October 27, I felt fine when I arrived for my routine check-up. But after my exam, Nurse Lafortune told me the baby was ready.

That day, **five women delivered their babies** while the storm raged. Space was tight. As soon as one woman gave birth, she moved to make room for the next.



The **main road to Jacmel was cut off**, which meant if any of us had needed emergency transfer, it would not have been possible.

Hurricane Melissa couldn't stop compassionate care

Still — the clinic stayed open, the lights stayed on, and every mother and baby received care.

“They were patient, kind, and respectful. They protected me and made me feel safe.”

A clinic that serves with dignity

One thing I always notice is how **clean** the Felisane Health Center is. The staff care deeply about dignity, and it shows in how they maintain the clinic and treat every patient. I am proud to have a clinic like this in my community. It helps me, my family, and my neighbors. When someone speaks negatively about nurses, I defend them — because I have seen how compassionately they serve.

If I could wish for one thing, it would be **more rooms and more nurses**, so more mothers can receive the care I received.

Your GivingTuesday gift helps mothers like Fernande deliver safely —no matter the storm.

UMCOR Haiti Partner Conference



Last week HAPI stood with UMCOR and Haitian partners to lift up urgent needs and Haitian-led solutions. We're proud to lift up Haitian-led leadership, including **Dr. Riouse's debut as VP of our new foundation.**

Thank you to all who support dignity, health, and hope in Haiti.

Every gift fuels HEAL

Why Fernande's story matters for GivingTuesday

Compassionate, respectful maternal care doesn't happen by accident. It happens because donors like you give **Where Most Needed** — keeping the clinic staffed, powered, supplied, and ready in every season, even during storms.

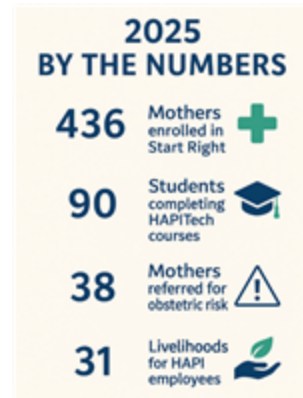
This GivingTuesday, help keep this work going.

Help us **Sustain Hope** and **Keep Futures Bright** for mothers like Fernande.



[Give Where Most Needed](#)

Click link above or mail a check payable to HAPI:
P.O. Box 68227, Grand Rapids, MI 49516



*Jan. 1 - Oct. 31, 2025

HEAL — Health, Education, Acute needs, and Livelihoods — keeping hope alive in Mizak.

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**

Grateful for you

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Questions?

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Photos courtesy of Doris Prevost (Fernande Cezil / infant) and Richard Tondreau (road after the storm), 2025

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She gave birth during the hurricane. You helped keep her safe.

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