A Word From Mitch

Kore Timoun Founder, Dr. Mitch Mutter

While 2016 provided the Children’s Nutrition Program of Haiti with many challenges, we are weathering the storm. With your help through catastrophes like Hurricane Matthew, CNP has continued to fight childhood malnutrition and help the women and children in the Léogâne region.

We have a great deal of gratitude for your support.

Hurricane Matthew was devastating to many families and communities. This historic storm destroyed crops and livestock—the basic livelihoods for many people, not including their food supply. As a result, the issue of food insecurity is one that is at the forefront of our planning as we move forward in 2017.

Leading our efforts to fight food insecurity and the scourge of childhood malnutrition are our community health workers, known as Monitrices. The Monitrice is at the heart of our program, and she is on the front lines of our battle. Every day each Monitrice is in her community teaching mothers about proper nutrition, monitoring children, and placing those suffering from malnutrition in our rehabilitation program. In many ways, she is helping to save the world.

Since the earthquake of 2010, the plains area around the city of Leogane has grown significantly. These communities are densely populated, with many homes built with USAID tarps handed out after the earthquake seven years ago. These areas are where our team is finding more and more cases of childhood malnutrition. God has blessed us financially this past year and we as brothers and sisters in Christ are called to help one another. Because of the great need in the plains, we are now embarking on hiring eight new Monitrices to cover these communities.

I want you to know that your funds are having a significant impact in Haiti. We have greatly decreased childhood malnutrition in the areas where we work and communities are becoming more self-sufficient. While Hurricane Matthew has been a setback for many, Haitians are a resilient and proud people, and they have taught us a great deal about life and how to deal with tragedy.

I look forward to 2017, and thank you for your support of the Children’s Nutrition Program of Haiti. Together, we are making a difference.

Dr. Mitchell Mutter, Founder

Message from Kore Timoun Executive Director Chris Devaney

First, I want to thank you for your support of Kore Timoun—the Children’s Nutrition Program of Haiti. While we faced some tremendous challenges in 2016, we have been blessed to have a dedicated and professional staff that has been working to ensure we are helping to raise a generation of healthy Haitian children.

Hurricane Matthew and its aftermath continue to be a challenge. The storm devastated the agriculture sector, and this has placed a huge hardship on the local economy and food supply. Because of this, CNP has doubled its efforts in fighting childhood malnutrition, and with God’s direction, we have been making a difference in the communities where we work in the Léogâne region.

I want to personally say thank you again for all of your assistance this past year. Your consistent support has ensured that we have been able to fulfill our mission in helping the communities in Léogâne, Haiti.

The 2016 Annual Report is full of information where your funds are making a difference. I hope you will consider pledging again for 2017. Please see the back of this report for our current giving levels, and mail us back the enclosed envelope, or go to www.cnphaiti.org.

On behalf of our Monitrices and Haitian staff, mesi anpil! Thank you so much and we hope to see you in 2017.

Sincerely,

Chris Devaney
Executive Director

Thank you to our Donors in 2016

Meet a Monitrice

Meet Our New Country Director

Kore Timoun’s Impact: 2016

Hurricane Matthew Update

Nutrition

Sustainable Livelihood Projects

Meet a Monitrice

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CONTENTS

Meet Our New Country Director
Hurricane Matthew Update
Nutrition
Kore Timoun’s Impact: 2016
Sustainable Livelihood Projects
Maternal Health / Fellow Spotlight
Meet a Monitrice
Thank you to our Donors in 2016
Meet Moriah

Our new country director uses social relationships to help Kore Timoun address challenges in Haiti

Moriah McArthur arrived on the scene at the end of September. By early October, she was busy guiding Kore Timoun and the communities in the Léogâne region in response to the disaster that was Hurricane Matthew. With real-life experience in disaster preparedness, Moriah is a capable leader whose approach to disaster is collaborative, engaging, and kind.

Kore Timoun couldn’t have found a more apt country director to help rebuild after disaster.

Moriah is a health professional with five years of experience in community-based, collaborative work with populations who have few resources and great needs. Her experience in developing countries includes working in Haiti, the Philippines, and various countries in Africa. Kore Timoun’s current director, Meti Jules-Timoun, has worked in Haiti for four years, and Moriah is happy to be back in Haiti, collaborating with the people of Léogâne to bring lasting progress and prosperity to all of Haiti.

Kore Timoun is dedicated to working with families in the Léogâne region to bring lasting progress and prosperity to all of Haiti. Through September, Kore Timoun had made strides to provide even the most isolated communities with safe water and sanitation, and to continue its goal of erasing malnutrition from Haiti.

Then, on October 4, 2016, Hurricane Matthew hit. A category 4 storm, Matthew was the most powerful hurricane anyone in Haiti had seen in 50 years. The havoc it caused tested the resilience of the people of Haiti and the commitment of Kore Timoun staff and supporters, but all have shown heart in the work to renew and strengthen the nutrition, sanitation, and health of our children in the storm’s aftermath.

The storm destroyed plantations, killed livestock, wrecked latrines, and contaminated water sources. We estimate that 1,710 families were affected, and 480 homes were damaged and destroyed. Vital crops—the Kongo beans due to be harvested in October and November—were gone. Water sources were compromised and wells destroyed. Some of the new latrines were flooded too. Cholera became a threat very soon after Matthew hit.

For the Children’s Nutrition Program of Haiti, known in the region it serves as Ti Fwaye, positive deviance is a method to reduce malnutrition in young children using community knowledge. In any community there are mothers who succeed in keeping their children well nourished, despite having no more resources or knowledge than others in the community. Ti Fwaye seeks out these mothers to share their knowledge with neighbors. According to Moriah, social relationships are “part and parcel” of the positive deviance model.

This collaborative learning technique appeals to Moriah, who strongly believes that good things happen when teams focus on “engagement and collaboration between community members, nonprofit organizations, and healthcare providers.” Moriah herself represents the healthcare component of a team. She holds a Master’s of Science degree from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Although her focus at the moment is keeping people safe and nourished after the hurricane, Moriah says she’d “like to do more disaster preparedness in Haiti” in the future. Together, she says, the people of Haiti will continue the work of “raising a healthy generation of Haitians, who in turn will raise Haiti out of poverty.”

Meet Kore Timoun: Our new country director uses social relationships to help Kore Timoun address challenges in Haiti.

Kore Timoun confronts Hurricane Matthew

The hurricane’s destruction had grave potential to affect health and wellbeing in the region for quite some time. Families who lost crops and livestock cannot generate an income, let alone feed their own community. And with no income, families cannot afford to send their children to school or to the doctor. Compromised water sources and an increase in mosquitoes can result in devastating outbreaks of mosquito-borne illnesses like dengue, Zika, and malaria.

Poor sanitation can lead to diarrhea and cholera, making it even harder for families to generate the income needed to adequately feed mothers and children.

But Kore Timoun has a history of facing down health, sanitation, and economic crises. Less than a week after Hurricane Matthew hit Léogâne, our programs were up and running. “Our main priority was getting in touch with staff members,” says country director Moriah McArthur. It was difficult to track all 65 staff members down, but “visiting staff members was our main priority.” None of the staff were hurt, but many had damaged homes.

Our dedicated community nutrition workers (known locally as monitrices) immediately fanned out into their communities to assess the damage and plan for the future. Later in October Kore Timoun conducted focus groups to identify the hurricane’s specific effects and our communities’ most pressing needs. We learned that many families were displaced, food availability was limited and food costs were rising; colds and diarrhea were on the rise. The hurricane had jeopardized the social, economic, and physical future of our children. Armed with information gathered by monitrices, we set about addressing the urgent needs first: nutritious food, clean water, adequate sanitation to prevent disease, and a program to replace the devastating loss of livestock. At the same time, we continued our traditional programs, with an emphasis on ways to deal with hurricane-related problems.

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Eating healthy – based on what’s available

Kore Timoun Nutrition programs adapt to hurricane aftermath

Our nutrition programs have always focused on community managed education, growth monitoring, and treatment for malnutrition. In a sense, these activities didn’t change after Hurricane Matthew hit. Country Director Moriah McArthur comments that the programs were adapted to address hurricane-related issues, teaching people “how to eat healthy based on what’s available.”

One of the first programs to intensify was growth monitoring, which involves regularly measuring a child’s weight, height, and mid-upper arm circumference. These measurements are compared to the average measurements of healthy children of the same height, to determine whether proper development is occurring. In the post-hurricane program, children are monitored carefully and regularly to spot any signs of malnutrition. Malnourished children are immediately placed in a rehabilitation program that uses a therapeutic nutritional supplement made from peanuts to quickly provide proper nourishment. Simultaneously, Kore Timoun works with monitrices to educate caregivers about where to find nutritious food economically.

Before Hurricane Matthew, Kore Timoun had made strides in reducing malnutrition to well below the national average, expanding the cadre of monitrices who provide vital education and community development, providing mobile nutrition clinics in the far reaches of Léogâne, and updating office computers and database management so that nutrition activities could be effectively analyzed, planned, and updated. All these efforts provided Kore Timoun and the communities of Léogâne a basis for intensified efforts to combat nutrition issues that arose from loss of food and water resources after the hurricane.

Clean water, good hygiene, and healthy sanitation, take on renewed importance

As the threat of cholera and mosquito-borne illnesses loomed, Kore Timoun stepped up its water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs. We distributed WASH kits consisting of clean buckets, water treatment items, hand soap, and more to ensure safe drinking water and hygiene. Monitrices worked to educate children and families on hand washing and sanitation practices that guard against cholera. Kore Timoun staff in Haiti and the US worked to fund funds to address the water crisis that resulted from the destruction of water sources in many communities.

Also continuing is the latrine program. Kore Timoun had collaborated with the community of Baret to complete 100 latrines in homes, churches, and schools in that community. In a community-led approach to sanitation in Beloc, two of these phases of latrine-building have been completed and 50 latrines built. The third phase begins next year with the goal of completing 25 more latrines in Beloc.

Sustainable livelihood program prepares for the future

Kore Timoun uses the sustainable livelihood approach when designing projects aimed at eradicating poverty. This approach acknowledges that those experiencing poverty know which solutions are best suited to their needs and therefore their participation is critical for meaningful change to occur.

In 2016 our Goat Project continued to thrive. Partnering with Global Health Action and the women’s group of Gerard this project has developed a goat farming cooperative. Global Health Action trains group members in animal husbandry, basic veterinary skills, and financial literacy. The cooperative receives an investment of livestock, a pregnant doe, an improved breeding buck, veterinary supplies, and equipment. Members then take on the responsibility of feeding and caring for the goats.

After the hurricane, it became immediately apparent that the loss of livestock was devastating to all Léogâne communities. An initial, informal survey by our monitrices supported that finding, and Kore Timoun set about finding a way to replace livestock lost. Kore Timoun staff member Phoebe Meyer comments that “this type of community action should be encouraged and supported” because of what is at stake for the people of Haiti. The livestock replacement effort, funded by donations to Kore Timoun, continues in 2017.
Maternal Health
[ Contraception, breast feeding and education ]

7440 females assisted in 2016 (324 new females)

3058 males assisted in 2016 (243 new males)

Nutrition Programs
[The heart of what we do]

610 kids treated for moderate and severe acute malnutrition through our PTA program

333 kids healed from moderate and severe acute malnutrition

4077 kids screened by monitrices in rural mountain regions

2003 children screened at community events in urban areas of Léogâne

A mobile nutrition center

Community Empowerment
[ Support groups and sustainable livelihood projects ]

45 women’s groups

47 health committee groups

Kore Timoun 2016 Facts

101 latrines built in 2016

41 monitrices

47 health committee groups

200,000 Estimated population of Léogâne in 2016

124 communities covered

8 fellows in 2016

3 international staff

65 Haitian staff

WASH
[ Water, Sanitation, And Hygiene project ]

5374 doses of deworming treatment given to children

5431 doses of Vitamin A given

71,165 PlumpyNut packets used

A child receives vitamin A

Kore Timoun’s Impact: 2016

Haiti

Léogâne

PHOEBE MEYER
A healthy pregnancy is key to children’s health. In Haiti, nutritional screenings are not just for children—we screen pregnant and lactating women too to ensure that children develop properly before birth, during breastfeeding, and throughout life.

Also important to nutrition is family planning. Kore Timoun encourages births spacing so that a mother’s body can recover vital micronutrients used during pregnancy, improve her own health, and keep the next baby well nourished. Spacing births by at least two years ensures that a mother has the energy and health to feed and care for the next baby properly.

In August Kore Timoun celebrated World Breastfeeding Week to encourage sustainable development. In October our communities renewed breastfeeding education, viewing it as even more important after Hurricane Matthew diminished the food supply in Léogâne. Exclusive breastfeeding is important after Hurricane Matthew because it strengthens families in Haitian communities.

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For both programs, there was very little in program documentation when I started, so I worked with Rose Elen [our community programs manager] and Taryn to develop log frames for both the programs. A log frame is a spreadsheet with a list of goals and measures for the goals. For me, this was really important; we need to have an idea of where we’re at and what the problems are before we start making changes. Otherwise we won’t know if the changes we make work. We now have Brooke, an awesome monitoring and evaluation fellow, so I’m looking forward to lots of reporting and measuring!

We’re also submitting an ethics application to the ethics review committee here in Haiti for an evaluation we are going to run on growth monitoring. We hope to be able to publish our results. I’ve been busy pulling together all the documents we need for the application.

What do you enjoy most about working with Kore Timoun? Our team here are great fun! Everyone has been very welcoming and open to sharing their culture and country with the fellows. We laugh a lot with the team; they’re forever teasing us.

I’m endlessly impressed with the stamina of field staff here. After a day of hiking, papadaps [minivans], and motos [motorcycles], you tend to feel a bit beaten up. Our Haitian staff do these things as a standard part of their work day.

Kore Timoun Fellow Phoebe Meyer Addresses Acute Malnutrition

In all of its education programs, Kore Timoun takes its foundation the concept community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM), an internationally agreed upon standard for treating children with acute malnutrition. In April, 2016, Phoebe Meyer came to Haiti from Australia as a CMAM fellow. With a master’s degree in public health, Phoebe has contributed significantly to our efforts to eradicate malnutrition, both before and after the hurricane. We asked Phoebe a few questions about her experiences in Haiti with Kore Timoun:

How did you find out about Kore Timoun and what made you want to work with us? I found Kore Timoun online at idealist.org, a website for non-government organizations (NGO) job opportunities. I had been looking for field opportunities where I could get in-country experience in global health. I really liked Kore Timoun for the focus on communities and local workers. When people have community, they can be empowered to make changes to their environment and life generally. We need community to be happy!

What are your greatest challenges in the CMAM program and how have you addressed them? I help with in-team communication. We’re creating a better system for tracking kids who have been sent to a hospital but now need to enter CMAM. I’d say their greatest challenge has been the lack of an inpatient center nearby. Taryn [our previous country director], Moriah, and Chris have been working with a local hospital to get their program back up and running.

This year I’ve spent time with our growth monitoring program, too, working with supervisors on improving program quality. We have a new monthly report on some key parts of the program and a work plan targeting key healthcare principles. We’ll be implementing individual performance evaluations for all monitrices from January, and we’re working on how we deliver supervision for the monitrices.

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Meet a Monitrice: Natachou Has a Smile for Every Child

Natachou is 24 and single. She always sports a gleaming smile, especially when she encounters children in the communities she serves. She didn’t finish high school, but her skills are highly valued in her community.

What dreams do you have for yourself and your community?
I want Momsence to be an example for surrounding areas, so that they can come to us to learn and find the same path. For myself, I want to help people have good health and continue working for Kore Timoun.

What do you think your work is making a difference?
I used to be scared of people and shy, but now I first aid, so her skills are highly valued in her community.

How has your life changed since becoming a monitrice?
There is a big difference! I used to be scared of people and shy, but now I have an income.

What is your favorite part about your job?
I love everything about it.

Describe your work.
I visit houses and talk with people and give them knowledge about health, and I screen children.

What problems or challenges do you see in your community?
We have problems with electricity and water.

How do you think your work is making a difference?
I think Kore Timoun is doing a great work in my home. I lead families to Kore Timoun.

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Sponsor a Monitrice. Our community nutrition workers are the heart of Kore Timoun/CNP. Your help assists CNP to help her in all facets of her job.

Save a Child, Invest in our Plumpy Nut Program. This nutrition supplement is at the core of our malnutrition rehabilitation program.

Train a Monitrice. Provide her with training and supplies. To help the children of Léogâne, our monitrices must be equipped with the best skills and proper supplies.

Monitrice Transportation Fund. Provide a year of transportation for a monitrice. She travels great distances to help the children and families in her area.

Support a Ti Fwayne. The Hearth Program (Ti Fwayne) is a crucial part of our fight against malnutrition. This program trains mothers through so they can learn to raise healthy children and learn about the importance of balanced meals, safe water, and proper hygiene.

Donate to our operating budget to pay for Haitian staff, supplies, food, training – all of the support elements that allow our programs to exist. Any amount is appreciated.

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<thead>
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Scan this code with your smart phone to make a secure credit card or PayPal donation to Children’s Nutrition Program. Thank you for your support!