



Hope for Haiti®

Saving the Life of a Child

While visiting the General Hospital in Les Cayes, *Hope for Haiti* was approached by a family for assistance in purchasing oxygen for their child, since just 24 hours after a routine hernia surgery, three-year-old Herson was struggling to hold on. Because he lives on Ile à Vache, Herson went 12 days without surgery and developed spontaneous peritonitis, an infection of the peritoneum tissue that lines the wall of the abdomen and covers the abdominal organs. If left untreated, this condition can lead to sepsis (general blood infection) and death.

The cost of buying an entire 100-gallon tank of oxygen for a three-year-old to recover from surgery was too much of a burden for Herson's family. His mother spent her last 100 goud on the boat ride from Ile à Vache to the hospital and has nothing left to continue purchasing his treatment. Although *Hope for Haiti* was not involved in this case originally, we took it upon ourselves to respond to the emergency at hand.



Because of the Robert E. Hord Emergency Medical Fund, *Hope for Haiti* was able to purchase a 100-gallon tank of oxygen for young Herson's recovery the following day. The oxygen will help him recover while on strong doses of antibiotics.

