Cherline was almost a sad statistic
Cherline was almost a sad statistic, but 50 years of generous support to Hôpital Albert Schweitzer Haiti has saved her and countless others.

Eight years ago, a mother brought her two month old infant to Hôpital Albert Schweitzer Haiti (HAS). She knew something was seriously wrong. Her baby had a high fever and both feet were discolored. Dr. Rolf Maibach, a visiting Swiss pediatrician, gave Cherline’s mother a devastating diagnosis; a septic infection required a double amputation to save the baby’s life.

After surgery and a short recovery period, Cherline and her mother returned to their village. Dr. Maibach returned to his practice in Switzerland – but he never forgot the infant and often wondered what had become of her.

This summer Dr. Maibach was once again back at HAS, and met a charming girl in the outpatient clinic. He didn’t recognize her – until she set down her crutch and removed her one sock and sneaker. Cherline had grown into a beautiful girl. Thrilled to see his former patient, Dr. Maibach realized Cherline’s life had been saved, but she still faced great challenges. She’d learned to walk on her foreshortened foot, leaning on a crutch. However, without a prosthesis, Cherline’s future in the rural Artibonite Valley would be severely limited.

Cherline’s story is not unique. One out of ten Haitian children dies before age five; many others experience unnecessary and severe illness.

For more than 50 years HAS has been the only source of health care and economic opportunity in the Artibonite Valley. Volunteers, donors, professionals – from the very first day the hospital opened its doors – have contributed to saving lives and changing lives. Everyone’s help is still needed!

Your unrestricted gift today will keep the vision of Dr. and Mrs. Mellon alive and provide life-saving and life-changing care for Cherline and others in the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.

Please, will you consider one of the following unrestricted gifts?

- **$125** provides a community latrine reducing the risk of diarrheal disease, a major threat to Haitian children.

- **$500** provides pre-natal care and well-baby visits for ten expectant mothers. Haitian women have the highest maternal mortality in the western hemisphere – give them and their children a great start in life.

- **$1,000** provides care for 40 patients admitted to the Medicine Unit where the majority of our HIV/AIDS patients receive treatment and learn to manage their disease.

- **$5,000** supports a nurse’s salary for one year providing skilled local care to our patients.

Thank you for your generous support.
or as Cherline and her friends would say: **Mesi Anpil!**

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**Thanks to friends in Switzerland, Dr. Maibach and his wife, Raphaela, will bring a prosthetic leg specially made for Cherline when they return this fall. We look forward to sharing pictures of Cherline and her new leg on www.hashaiti.org**