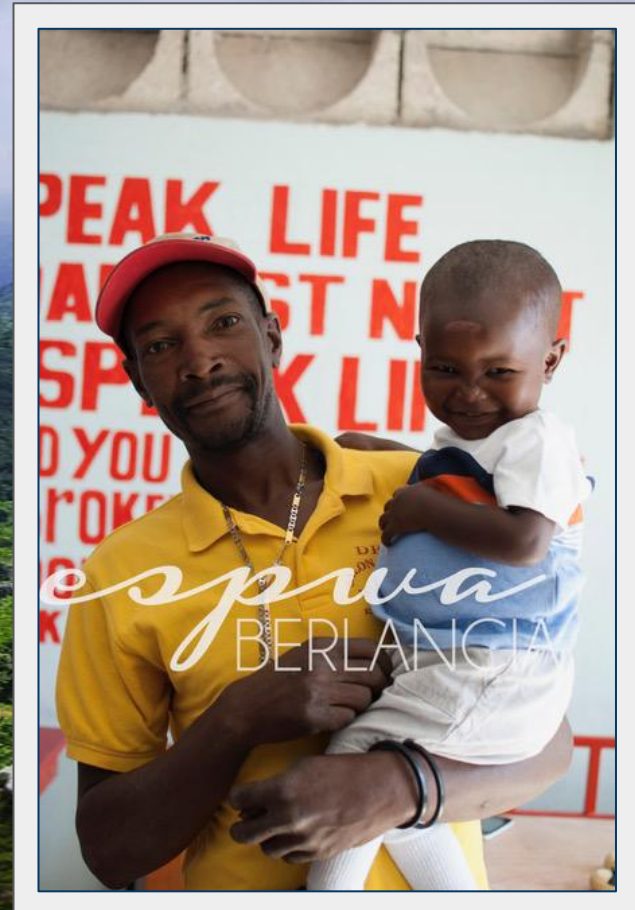


Parent Education Project: Supporting Parents of Malnourished Children in Petionville, Haiti

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Matthew Bellamy
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Overview

- Haiti
- Children & Malnutrition
- Micro, Meso and Macro Interventions
- The Role of the UM Library Mini-Grant
- Next Steps



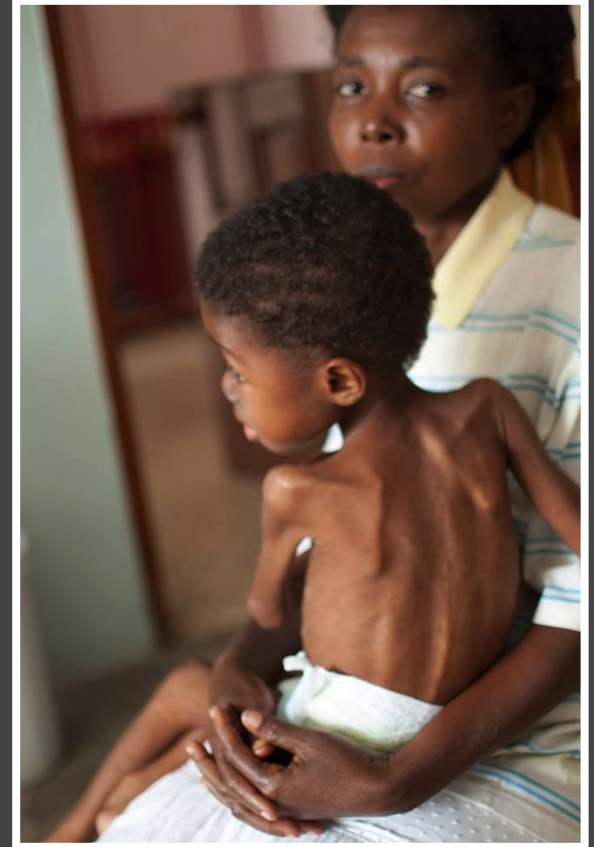
Haiti: an Introduction

- Population: 10.6 million
- Size: 10,714 sq. mi
 - size of Maryland
- GDP per capita: \$1,200 U.S.
 - compared to \$53,000 in the U.S.
- Highly mountainous; dense urban and sparse rural areas
- Economy largely dependent on foreign aid & NGO's
- 59% of the population lives on less than \$2 US per day



Challenges for Social Work in Haiti

- Malnutrition & Diseases
 - *Cholera, Malaria, Zika*
- Violent Crime
- Poverty
- Lack of Infrastructure
- Lack of education



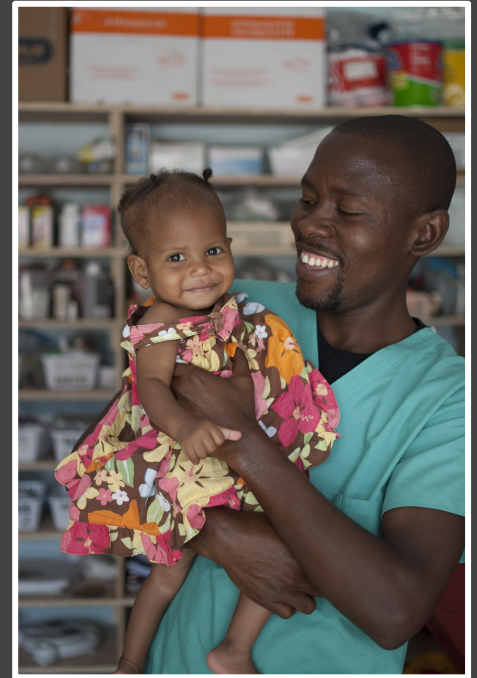
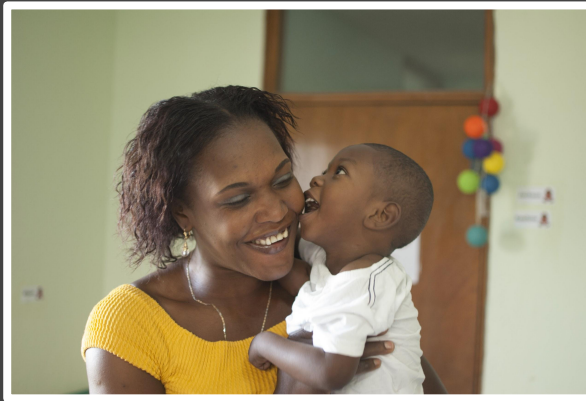
How do we intervene?

- Childhood nutrition as target issue
- Where to begin?
 - Micro and macro challenges
- Partnership with Espwa Berlancia
 - Located in Petionville, Haiti, about 4 miles from Port-au-Prince
 - One of very few intake malnutrition clinics in Haiti
 - Founded with the goal of returning healthy children to their families

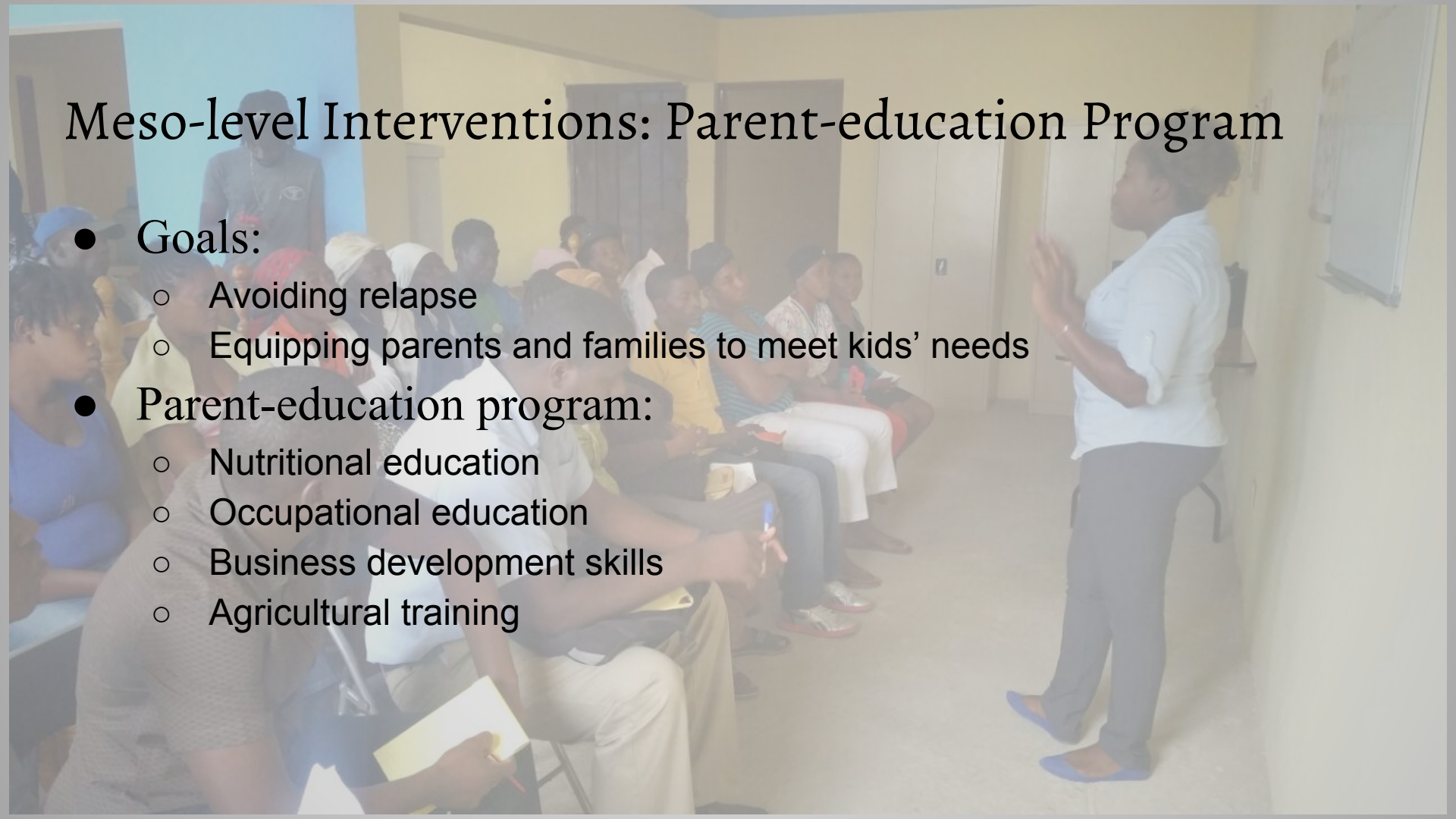
Espwa
BERLANCIA

Micro-level Interventions: Childhood Nutrition

- Staff of full-time nurses providing round-the-clock care
- Medical mamba-- dietary supplement
- Returning children to families



Meso-level Interventions: Parent-education Program

A woman in a white shirt is standing on the right side of the frame, gesturing with her hands as if presenting to a group of people. The group is seated on the left and center, facing her. They are in a room with light-colored walls and a whiteboard on the right wall. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue and white filter.

- **Goals:**

- Avoiding relapse
- Equipping parents and families to meet kids' needs

- **Parent-education program:**

- Nutritional education
- Occupational education
- Business development skills
- Agricultural training

UM Library Mini-Grant: Partnering with Haiti

Espwa Berlancia: Middle Ground Parent Education Program

Key Progress since receiving the grant:

- Initial renovations on the property and furnishing the education center
- Completed health and business curriculum for the initial pilot class, using existing models and research to make it evidence-based.
- Allowed 10 parents to stay with their children while they receive emergency medical care for malnutrition
- Taught 5 parents an introductory business class, with 3 subsequently receiving business loans to start businesses in agriculture/crop production and commerce

UM Library Mini-Grant: Partnering with Haiti

Key Progress since receiving the grant (*continued*):

- Hired 2 new full-time Haitian staff, plus many contract laborers
- Provided professional development training for 6 Espwa Berlancia staff
- Held an “Information Day”-- including a health class, malnutrition awareness training and an intro to savings and money management group-- for over 20 parents of children who have passed through the malnutrition center
- Partnered with *Harvest 107* to start a community garden, to be used for growing food and as a teaching tool for the agriculture classes.
- Worked with UM library staff to connect to resources and evidence-based research

Macro-level Interventions and Next Steps

- Help construct a database/referral system for mapping and connecting non-profit and humanitarian organizations in Haiti
- Use our knowledge and resources to support efforts to build infrastructure
- Partner with already existing efforts and resources on the ground to build capacity and relationships with Haitians
- Advocate for better U.S./ global policies



Thank you!

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Abigail Rae

References & Credits:

Map of Haiti: Rémi Kaupp

All other photo credits: Espwa Berlancia/Abigail Rae or Charity Hoffman

Haiti demographic data from World Bank, Wikipedia and IMF.