



## Public-Private Alliance Foundation

This newsletter includes three articles: (1) Updates on Cholera in Haiti; (2) Partners in Poverty Haiti Event a Success; and (3) Hearing Aids for Madagascar.

### (1) Updates on Cholera in Haiti

Haiti's cholera epidemic has expanded, cropping up in many regions of the country. Over a thousand have died, and nearly 17,000 have fallen ill. The government, NGOs and international organizations are working to educate the public about prevention and setting up centers to treat the disease. The United Nations has asked for \$164 million specifically to deal with the epidemic.

On October 26 we wrote about the epidemic, and then updated with information on Hurricane Tomas. We continue to update that article frequently with information provided by the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Click for the direct link to this [October 26 article](#).

The International Center for Diarrhoeal Disease Research – Bangladesh (ICDDR-B) has sent a team of experts to Haiti. In a 7+ minute interview posted on YouTube by the Pan-American Health Organization, the hemisphere's office of the World Health Organization, [Dr. Pradipt K. Bardhan, Cholera expert from ICDDR-B talks about triage, diagnosis, treatment and preventive measures in the hospital setting](#).

### (2) Partners Against Poverty Haiti Event a Success



Participants at Haiti benefit event

A celebration of Haitian paintings, culture and rum set the tone for the "Partners Against Poverty" benefit organized by the Public-Private Alliance Foundation on Thursday evening November 4 at Affirmation Arts in mid-town Manhattan. The Foundation promotes collaboration by a mix of partners in a business approach to improving lives and livelihoods, with a focus on rebuilding in Haiti since the January 2010 earthquake.

Affirmation Arts currently has on exhibit until November 24 an extraordinary collection curated by Gérald Alexis, an historian of Haitian art, which includes some pieces rescued from the rubble. The Foundation thanks everyone who came to the benefit, and all who were unable to attend but donated.

Executive Director Dr. David Stillman welcomed the guests and focused attention on the Foundation's work, especially in Haiti. Tony Plana, the actor/director, hosted the event, urging guests to become involved in supporting the foundation. Jocelyn McCalla, senior advisor to the Special Envoy of Haiti to the United Nations, described the status of Haiti reconstruction and the various players in this lengthy, difficult process. Ian Williams, noted pundit and rum historian, spoke of the role of rum in Haiti's history and economy and also led a tasting of Haiti's famous Barbancourt rum. Dr. Lesly Kemisant, president of SImACT, Inc., a Haitian diaspora investment group, talked about the partnership of SImACT with the Public-Private Alliance Foundation for several projects in Haiti.

The event highlighted the Foundation's recent focus on promoting improved cookstoves and fuel in Haiti. With several partners, the Foundation is working to create a sustainable industry of locally-grown and distilled sugar ethanol to fuel cookstoves manufactured, marketed and distributed in the country. The project aims to improve lives and health, especially for women and children, reduce the heavy reliance on wood and charcoal that has stripped the country of forest and topsoil, and improve the livelihoods of farmers and small-scale entrepreneurs.

Affirmation Arts, Crillon Importers and Eben Bronfman of Jared Samos Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Private Wealth Management were supporters of the event. For photos go to: [www.flickr.com/ppaf/show](http://www.flickr.com/ppaf/show)

### (3) Hearing Aids for Madagascar



Malagasy children - All deserve to hear

The Public-Private Alliance Foundation is pleased to announce the first steps for a project to provide long-term hearing aid support to Madagascar. It will involve government, business, non-profits and the community. To facilitate this, PPAF board members and a senior fellow have met with Starkey Hearing Foundation President and CEO, Bill Austin and its Executive Director Brady Forseth. Discussions with Ambassador Zina Andrianarivelo-Razafy of the Madagascar Mission to the United Nations have led to follow-up by Rotary Clubs and the Government in Madagascar. Information on Starkey, a well-known American NGO, can be found at: [www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org](http://www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org) It began in 1984 and works in countries around the world.

Mr. Austin has recently sent a letter to the President of the Transitional Authority of Madagascar, Andry Rajoelina and Mme. Rajoelina, offering assistance and outlining how the foundation would work. The letter notes that Starkey is already working in the region, in Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Botswana and Mozambique.

Mr. Frederic Rondeau, International Director of Starkey, will visit Madagascar from November 25-30, for high-level meetings with the Government and Rotary, initial training of volunteers and identification of patients and other preparations toward implementation early next year.

In a meeting held in Antananarivo on November 10, representatives of Rotary Clubs, the Ministry of Health and other participants agreed to make "Aid for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing" as a Rotary program with Starkey Foundation. Three Rotary Clubs in Antananarivo: Ainga, Dean and Mahamasina, will take the lead. A Memorandum of Understanding will be established between the Ministry of Health and Rotary.

The World Health Organization has estimated the number of deaf and hard-of-hearing in Madagascar to be approximately 1.8 million people. Background information can be found in a very informative article and accompanying video from French TV: [Deafness in Madagascar](#). The video asserts that while about half of all Malagasy school-age children attend school, only about 1% of deaf children are in school. Gallaudet University, the premier American university for the deaf, maintains a [list of deaf organizations and schools by country, including in Madagascar](#). The Public-Private Alliance Foundation previously facilitated donations of medical supplies and equipment to Madagascar through Project C.U.R.E., and corporate funders, which resulted in delivery of nine 40-foot shipping containers to several hospitals and clinics.

**David Stillman, PhD**  
Executive Director

[ppafoundation@gmail.com](mailto:ppafoundation@gmail.com)

<http://www.ppafoundation.org>

<http://www.ppafoundation.org/blog>

The Public-Private Alliance Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to reducing poverty in the world by bringing together business, governmental, community, academic, United Nations and other interests. Through collaboration, PPAF helps stimulate entrepreneurship and commerce-related activities and encourage investment for sustainable development. PPAF supports the principles of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

Focusing on the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Madagascar, our vision is to make a difference for human betterment. PPAF works closely with the United Nations for policies and actions to advance public-private alliances. PPAF is associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations and is a participant in the United Nations Global Compact..