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## Franklin woman fundraising to build clinic in Haiti

*Mary Ann Bourbeau*  
*Staff Writer*

Dr. Catherine Wolf has been raising money to build a medical clinic in Haiti since 2006, the year she founded the nonprofit organization Friends of Health in Haiti.

Wolf recently raised enough money to buy a vehicle to serve as an ambulance to transport patients to a government hospital in the city of Jeremie.

Though fundraising, much of which is being conducted by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, Wolf is aiming to build a primary care clinic and maternity center in a mountainous area about an hour's drive from Jeremie. She works with Cherlie Severe, a Haitian-born nurse. Each day, they drive 10 miles up a mountain, a trip that takes an hour because the roads are so poor and rocky.

"We see 40 to 50 patients a day," said Wolf, a Franklin Township native.

There is no electricity in the building they use; they work from morning to dusk, treating people mainly for malaria, pneumonia, parasites, skin diseases and hypertension.

The clinic will cost about \$150,000. Another \$200,000 will enable her to build a maternity center because the infant mortality rate is so high in Haiti.

"If I'm not there doing what I'm doing, chances are no one else would be there," she said. "This is what I intend to do with the rest of my career. There is tremendous gratitude on the part of the patients we serve."

Tax-deductible donations may be sent to Friends for Health in Haiti, P.O. Box 122, Pewaukee, WI 53072 or by visiting [www.friendsforhealthinhaiti.org](http://www.friendsforhealthinhaiti.org).

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