For some of us, this hospital is the culmination of a dream dating back a quarter century, and underlines our commitment to the country and people of Haiti, which is stronger than ever after the earthquake.”

— Paul Farmer, PIH co-founder

Before the earthquake damaged Haiti’s largest public teaching hospital and nursing school on January 12, 2010, Partners In Health (PIH) and Zanmi Lasante (ZL) had been planning to build a small-scale community hospital in Mirebalais, a town located 30 miles north of Port-au-Prince. After the quake, the Haitian Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) made an urgent request to PIH/ZL to scale up construction plans. Mirebalais National Teaching Hospital, a project approved by the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC), will deliver services in a dignified and patient-centric environment that considers each patient’s health needs in the context of their broader social and economic situation. The hospital, under Haitian leadership, will serve as a model for referral hospitals in Haiti, as the government and its partners seek to strengthen a network of secondary health services throughout the country. The hospital will also strengthen Haiti’s long-term human resource capacity in the health sector through residency programs and training and accreditation programs that will contribute to developing the national workforce required to operate a high-quality network of public referral centers and other health facilities throughout Haiti.
Critically Needed Services

The Mirebalais Hospital will serve approximately 300 outpatients per day, in addition to its 300-bed inpatient capacity. This will more than double the total public-sector bed capacity in Haiti’s Centre Department, and enable the provision of quality, comprehensive clinical services to communities that currently have very limited access to health care.

Women’s Health

The hospital will offer comprehensive women’s health services including prenatal care, family planning, gynecological surgery, screening and treatment for cervical cancer, HPV and other sexually transmitted infections. With the capacity to triage, perform Cesarean sections, and provide intensive specialty ante- and post-partum care, the hospital will also set a high quality standard for maternal care in Haiti.

Outpatient Clinic and Community Health Center

Mirebalais Hospital’s extensive outpatient and community health facilities will offer a range of on-site services for the treatment of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, mental health and psychosocial support needs, malnutrition and other health concerns. In addition, it will serve as a central base for community health workers who will provide ongoing home-based accompaniment.

Advanced Medical Care

Mirebalais Hospital will include a dedicated emergency room and an intensive care unit. It will feature improved diagnostic tools such as digital x-ray, ultrasound, endoscopy, and CT scan capabilities.

Pediatrics

The hospital will have one of the most advanced Neonatal Intensive Care Units in Haiti, expanded malnutrition and vaccination services, and a playroom for pediatric inpatients.

Operating Rooms and Advanced Surgical Care

The OR suite will include six operating rooms with high-quality sterilization procedures and will have the ability to accommodate thoracic and other complex surgeries. The surgery department will greatly advance post-surgical care in Haiti and will include a blood storage bank on site.

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

The hospital will increase capacity for the diagnosis and treatment of NCDs. For example, pediatric oncology services including chemotherapy will be made available to the public in Mirebalais.

Clinical Education and Innovative Design

With Haiti’s clinical education system disrupted, the need for a public teaching hospital is greater than ever. Mirebalais’ innovative design will provide resources for clinicians, students and patients not available at any other public facility in the country, including surgical intensive care units and oncology services for cancer screening and treatment.

Medical and Allied Health Professional Education

An experienced team of Haitian clinicians and allied health professionals will lead the educational mission at Mirebalais, sharing their expertise with the next generation of professionals both through bedside and other hands-on teaching, and through didactic training. In service areas in which certain skills and practices are relatively new to the Haitian public sector (for example, in intensive care), partnerships are being forged with US and Canadian universities and teaching hospitals to work side by side with Haitian colleagues to strengthen their expertise and capacity. This range of in-person educational activities will be complemented by online lectures, access to leading journals, and international exchange and training opportunities.

Nursing

By introducing nurse educators for on-site clinical learning, patient care will be improved by increasing capacity of individual nurses and introducing novel nursing management. Continuing professional development and leadership opportunities will support nurses to remain current in their practice and acquire new skills in specialty areas. Interdisciplinary teams of health professionals will collaborate to ensure the best patient outcomes.

Disaster Response Planning

All buildings have been designed to the US-standard International Building Code (IBC) for seismic and wind stability. Each building can function independently in the event of a localized structural comprise. The hospital has plans in place to provide services as a primary responder in the event of disasters and emergencies.

Green Technology

The green technology plan incorporates electricity conservation measures, including solar panels to power the hospital and heat the water, natural ventilation and lighting, water-efficient plumbing, and other sustainability initiatives.

Maintenance and Facilities Management

All new technology used at the hospital is being introduced with an eye toward its sustainability in the context of Haiti, and all equipment will be adequately serviced by professionally trained Haitian staff.