

Thank you for joining us for the Celebration of Partnership ceremony at **Hôpital Universitaire de Mirebalais**. Outlined below is essential information to help visitors prepare for this trip. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Laura Soucy ([HUMevent@pih.org](mailto:HUMevent@pih.org)) or (617) 998-0196.

Please complete a Visitor Release Form (available at <http://www.pih.org/hum-event>) before your departure to Haiti and submit it along with your flight itinerary via email to [HUMevent@pih.org](mailto:HUMevent@pih.org). As the ceremony approaches, we will send a more detailed event schedule to all attendees.

### Important Medications and Immunizations

See your doctor as soon as possible to allow time for inoculations to take effect. Check with the CDC for vaccination recommendations and updates: <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/caribbean.htm>. Hepatitis A and B and Typhoid are required, and the Rabies vaccine is recommended. Boosters for tetanus-diphtheria and measles may also be necessary depending upon your last immunization.

For Malaria prevention, Chloroquine is the recommended and it must be taken one week prior to departure, during your trip, and for 4 weeks after you return. Proper dosage information can be provided by your physician. You may also want to bring Cipro, Immodium, Dramamine, Pepto Bismol or other related medicine for motion sickness.

### Clothing and Dress

Haitians wear business-style clothing during the work day, and reserve casual clothing for outside of work. Shorts are not worn by Haitian men or women. Please be mindful of this when packing. April marks the start of the rainy season in Haiti, so please come prepared for wet weather and mud. Temperatures throughout the day are hot, often reaching the mid-90s, but nights, especially in the Central Plateau, cool down significantly, so a long sleeve shirt or light sweater is recommended.

### Packing List

Cash in small bills (USD widely accepted)	Sunscreen	Camera and extra memory
Passport	Bug spray	Extra batteries for electronics
Sneakers	Hat	Wetnaps/face wipes/hand sanitizer
Shoes/sandals that can get wet	Refillable water bottle	No electrical adapter necessary
Raincoat/poncho/umbrella	Toiletries	
Sunglasses	Towel	
	Earplugs	
	Flashlight	

### Arrival/Airport

Upon arrival, a PIH or Zanmi Lasante (ZL) representative will meet you at the airport outside of customs. If you have any problems getting through customs, call Daniel Eisenson: +509 3170-2781.

Do not take a ride from a taxi driver or anyone else you do not know. Ride with ZL arranged drivers ONLY. **If you have your own transportation arranged through a private security firm, please let Laura Soucy know for planning purposes.**

## **Safety and Security**

All travel related to the Celebration of Partnership ceremony will include PIH or ZL accompaniment. We ask that you not explore the area or venture off the hotel property after dark. Exceptions to these rules will only be made in the case of an emergency.

Although we venture to work in a way that keeps our employees and visitors out of harm's way at all times, there remain security risks for visitors to Haiti. If at any time you are confronted, surrender valuables, defer to Haitian staff/native speakers, and remain calm and non-threatening.

## **Accommodations**

**Karibe Hotel in Port-au-Prince:** Accommodations include private rooms with bathroom and shower facilities. Meals will either be served at the hotel or arranged at one of the PIH sites. Bottled water will be provided throughout the trip – please avoid drinking tap water at all times. Wireless internet is available at The Karibe and all functional PIH sites in Haiti, but can be temperamental at times. PIH/ZL will provide transportation from Port-au-Prince to Mirebalais and back, as well as to and from the airport.

## **Communication**

Viber ([www.viber.com](http://www.viber.com)) and Skype ([www.skype.com](http://www.skype.com)) are the best options for voice communication, although cell phone service is available in many parts of the country and coverage in Mirebalais is very good. Make sure you contact your service provider if you plan to use your personal phone in Haiti. To make calls from Haiti to Boston dial 001+Number, and the country code for Haiti is 509.

## **Other Important Background**

Haitian Embassy – U.S.A – [www.haiti.org](http://www.haiti.org)

Encyclopedic Background - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haiti>

LANIC – Academic info - <http://lanic.utexas.edu/la/cb/haiti/>

## **Emergency Contacts:**

During your time with us in Haiti, you will be hosted by a member of our PIH/ZL staff who will be your main contact person. If this person becomes unavailable, and there is an emergency, please contact:

### *Haiti:*

Cate Oswald ([coswald@pih.org](mailto:coswald@pih.org)) – +509 3701-7436  
Daniel Eisenson ([deisenson@pih.org](mailto:deisenson@pih.org)) – +509 3170-2781  
Ali Lutz ([alutz@pih.org](mailto:alutz@pih.org)) – +509 3125-7149  
Loune Viaud ([lounehaiti@aol.com](mailto:lounehaiti@aol.com)) – +509 3687-7382

### *Boston:*

Kyla Ellis ([kellis@pih.org](mailto:kellis@pih.org)) – (360) 909-3810  
Lauren Galinsky ([lgalinsky@pih.org](mailto:lgalinsky@pih.org)) – (617) 998-6512