



Dr. Kissinger Goldman trains Haitian health workers.

## A Lasting Impact

Husband-and-wife physicians create a non-profit to train health care workers in Haiti.

**Broward family physician** Jennifer Goldman and her husband, Haiti-born emergency medicine physician Kissinger Goldman, volunteered regularly to fly to Haiti to provide medical help to the island's residents. In

the process, they saw limitations to the revolving-door approach used by the non-profits that serve the country: Set up a clinic, fly in a host of well-intentioned people to see hundreds of patients, and then fly them out.



Dr. Jennifer Goldman

“Unfortunately, it hasn’t made an impact,” Jennifer Goldman says. “If it had worked, then Haiti would probably have the best health care system in the world with all the non-profit attention.”

Two years ago, the Goldmans — doctors with the Memorial Healthcare System in Broward — founded their own non-profit, Primary Care Haiti, with a different model. They focus on providing low-cost, innovative equipment suitable for Haiti’s conditions and then offer free training for locals in rural areas in how to use it and in how to pass along the training.

Their initial target was cervical cancer screening. Pap smears are a “logistical nightmare” in a country with only a few pathologists to read them, Jennifer Goldman says. The Goldmans found success with smartphone-based gear that allows the providers they train — doctors, midwives and others — to spot pre-cancerous cells and remove them immediately.

At the behest of locals, the non-profit now also trains Haitians in ultrasound, cardiac care, pediatrics and even hospital management. “Our model is we provide what is needed by the local health care organization,” says Kissinger Goldman. “The success we’ve had over the past couple years has been tremendous. You’re making real change by giving people tools they need to succeed.”

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