

## DIASORIN IN AID OF HAITI'S CHILDREN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FRANCESCA RAVA FOUNDATION

*The Company will supply state-of-the-art and specific analysers and tests for the diagnosis of Hepatitis and Retrovirus to the N.P.H. Saint Damien Pediatric Hospital*



Saluggia (VC), March 24, 2015 - **DiaSorin**, a multinational company and a global leader in the field of in Vitro Diagnostics for the diagnosis of diseases on human blood samples, goes into action to help Haiti's children in partnership with the **Francesca Rava Foundation - NPH Italia Onlus** that helps children in need in Italy and worldwide, by providing the **N.P.H. Saint Damien Pediatric Hospital** in **Haiti** with a 3-year supply of analysers and specific and state-of-the-art tests for the detection and diagnosis of Infectious Diseases such as **Hepatitis** and **Retrovirus**. This facility is the largest pediatric hospital of the Caribbean, the only one in Haiti and offers free care to children suffering from serious pathologies.

Since before the devastating 2010 earthquake, Haitians have had very limited access to water resources, sanitation and waste collection system. These factors contributed to the spread of infectious diseases, like cholera, and a growing number of current diseases, such as Hepatitis, AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, even due to the fact that thousands of families live in tent camps (80,000 Haitians still live in tent camps five years after the earthquake, according to January 2015 data).

DiaSorin has always been in the front-line in the fight against infectious diseases that today represent a major cause of death worldwide. The company strongly and steadily invests in the research and development of immunodiagnostic tests that are more and more modern, easy to carry out and fast in delivering results to detect the presence of new infectious agents and to improve the performance of those tests that have been already brought to market.

Thanks to the agreement with the Francesca Rava Foundation, DiaSorin will make its expertise in the infectious disease field available to the **N.P.H. Saint Damien Pediatric Hospital**. Located in Tabarre, a suburb of the Haiti capital - Port au Prince - the hospital offers free care to over 80,000 children every year.

Opened in 2006, the hospital is a **benchmark for excellence**; based on Italian technical design, it was equipped and furnished from Italy; during the earthquake emergency was the centre of the Italian and international aid. The hospital includes an emergency room, an intensive therapy unit, a cancer centre (the only oncology program in Haiti), 200 beds, 4 operating rooms, malnourished children unit, radiology, laboratories and a pharmacy providing galenical preparation, vaccination programmes, programmes to prevent and treat HIV, maternity ward, neonatology, a laboratory of medical tests for either hospitalized children or children treated in the day hospital and for mothers. The hospital is staffed with Haitian doctors, nurses and auxiliaries who receive training from Italy's best Hospital volunteers. The hospital needs a constant support due to the high number of children arriving at the healthcare structure every day. Many of them suffer from serious health conditions and require assisted breathing, intensive care and surgery.

More specifically, DiaSorin will provide ELISA washers and readers, free of charge, for the diagnosis of Hepatitis, Retrovirus and other infectious diseases (e.g. HIV that causes AIDS). Moreover, the company will organize a series of training courses to ensure tests are carried out properly, taking care also of the medical staff assistance for more detailed information on tests and analysers supply.



#### **About DiaSorin**

Headquartered in Italy and listed in the FTSE Mid Cap index, DiaSorin is a global leader in the In Vitro Diagnostics (IVD) field. For over 40 years the company has been developing, producing and marketing reagents kits for IVD worldwide. Through constant investments in research and development and using its own distinctive expertise in the field of immunodiagnosics to deliver a high level of innovation, DiaSorin offers today the broadest range of specialty tests available in the immunodiagnosics market and new tests in the molecular diagnostics market which identify DiaSorin Group as the IVD "diagnostic specialist".

**About Francesca Rava Foundation – NPH Italia Onlus**

The **Francesca Rava Foundation** helps children in need in Italy and all over the world through sponsorship, projects, awareness activities regarding children rights, volunteering and it represents in Italy **N.P.H. – Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (Our Little Brothers)**, an international humanitarian organization that, since 1954, has been helping orphaned and abandoned children in its orphanages and hospitals in **9 countries in Latin America. Since 1987 NPH has been present in Haiti**, where since before the 2010 earthquake 70% of the population has no job, 1 out of 3 children dies before the age of 5, 1 out of 2 children does not attend school. **NPH employs 1,600 Haitians** (supporting, therefore, an equally large number of families) **through** 3 hospitals, including Saint Luc Hospital with its St. Filomena Cholera Centre, 2 rehabilitation centres for disabled children, 32 street schools that provide 10,000 children with food and education, 3 orphanages housing 780 children, either orphaned or in desperate need, the production and professional training centre for young people, Francisville – new work city, a professional school, mobile bakeries located in the slums and rural areas, the Fors Lakay Reconstruction Project through small houses (120 out of 200 small houses have already been built), Internet Centre (3 out of 6 facilities have already been built), a bakery and the Saint Mary Hospital, pasta, rice and water distribution (over 1700 truck tanks per year) in the poorest areas, funerals provided for thousands of bodies – either abandoned or whose relatives can not afford a burial. – [www.nph-italia.org](http://www.nph-italia.org)

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