December 1, 2010

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are writing this letter in the hopes of attracting excellent pediatricians or graduating senior pediatric residents who would be interested in a global pediatric fellowship at Children’s Hospital Boston, with a field placement in Haiti with Partners In Health.

Global Pediatric Fellows will rotate in 6 month blocks between Haiti and Boston over a 2 year period.

Partners In Health is a Boston-based not-for-profit organization that for more than two decades has focused on the health of the poor, now active in 10 countries, including Haiti. In 2010, Partners In Health, through its Haitian sister organization, Zanmi Lasante, provided 1.8 million patient visits across 11 hospitals in 2 of Haiti’s poorest departments. While targeting the leading causes of mortality for children, PIH/ZL has also sought to bring high quality, tertiary level care to rural Haiti through neonatal, oncologic and cardiac care initiatives. However, significant challenges remain, with a paucity of pediatric-trained physicians to lead capacity building to care for one of Haiti’s most vulnerable populations.

The work in Haiti with PIH would involve: developing strong productive relationships with our Haitian colleagues to identify core challenges to quality pediatric care and devising a collaborative plan for improvement; accompanying Haitian health care workers in developing their capacity to implement new program initiatives and quality care interventions; and sharing clinical expertise at the bedside and through didactic teaching.

We welcome candidates with interests in:

• Collaborative learning
• Teaching and mentorship
• Commitment to the improvement of healthcare within the public sector
• Community outreach, primary care, hospital based tertiary care
• Social justice

Partners in Health will provide airfare between Boston and Haiti, and room and board in Haiti.

While at Children’s Hospital in Boston, pediatricians will work clinically as hospitalists and will have the opportunity to attend regular lectures and seminars on relevant global health topics. In addition, fellows will attend a 3 week summer program in global health at Harvard School of Public Health.

The ideal candidate would have the following qualifications:

• Board-certification or Board-eligibility in pediatrics or medicine-pediatrics
• A willingness to learn Haitian Creole; conversational French helpful
• A desire to gain experience with health care delivery in Haiti
• A talent for teaching and an interest in medical education as well as monitoring and evaluation
• Excellent clinical pediatric skills in care of acute hospitalized pediatric patients

If you are interested in pursuing this opportunity, or know of someone interested in this work, please submit your Curriculum Vitae and the names of two references to linh.tran@childrens.harvard.edu in order to be contacted for an interview. If you have questions about this opportunity, please contact Fellowship director, Kim.wilson@childrens.harvard.edu.

Sincerely,

Kim Wilson MD MPH
Fellowship Director
Division of General Pediatrics
Children’s Hospital Boston

David Walton MD MPH
Deputy Chief of Mission
Partners in Health, Haiti