Haiti is a place of immense natural beauty, both its people and its land. It is also a place of tremendous poverty and hardship, made even more difficult after the devastating earthquake in 2010 – which killed 300,000 people and displaced more than two million.

Rev. Leo Richard “Rick” Frechette, CP, DO, has devoted his life’s work to empower and improve lives in this polarizing landscape. He has spent more than 25 years ministering to and healing the resilient people in the Western Hemisphere’s poorest country, while overcoming many obstacles such as warlords and kidnappers and public health scourges like AIDS and tuberculosis.

According to colleagues, Dr. Frechette inspires them to give back and be the best version of themselves. Dr. Frechette’s mantra is to enable, encourage and educate; and allow people to realize their potential. He believes that the humility to listen to others leads you to a good place—a practice that has defined his work and life.

Born in Connecticut in 1953, Dr. Frechette earned math and philosophy degrees at Assumption College in Massachusetts before studying theology... Continued on page 8 ▶
Over 500 osteopathic physicians, students, educators and their friends and family, as well as corporate benefactors joined us for AOF’s annual Honors celebration on Sept. 29 at OMED. During Honors 2013, the emerging and established stars of the osteopathic profession shined brighter than the lights on the Las Vegas strip. More than 100 osteopathic physicians and students were honored for their hard work, scholarship and excellence at The Four Seasons Hotel—Las Vegas.
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL STUDENTS SERVE IN THE BIG APPLE

Osteopathic medical students ventured to the Big Apple this summer for four days to serve in the AOF HumanTouch Student Leadership project. In its fourth year, the project builds teamwork and leadership skills among osteopathic medical students, while helping needy communities across the country.

This year 34 student leaders from the Student Osteopathic Medical Association and the Council of Osteopathic Student President helped repair and rebuild three homes in Staten Island and Brooklyn lost or damaged by Hurricane Sandy with the aid of New York City’s Habitat for Humanity. The students also rolled up their sleeves to garden and clean greenhouses alongside developmentally disabled adults from the Lifestyles for the Disabled program in Staten Island.

Aung Pyie, 32, a student at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, was able to serve in his home away from home. He came to New York City from Burma in 2000, taught himself law, and won Humanitarian asylum with support from his mentors, friends and colleagues in NYC. He said he wanted to take part in the HumanTouch Student Leadership Project because, “through my trials, the concept of “paying it forward” has become a purpose in my life—especially to give back to a city who has given me so much.”

Carisa Champion-Lippmann, 27, a student at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Davie, FL, was on her second HumanTouch Student Leadership Project trip. She had helped initiate a separate volunteer project to provide needed materials immediately after Hurricane Sandy. “To actually go and help in person this summer through the AOF project was a special opportunity—made even better because I got to work with inspiring osteopathic students from around the country.”

In Ecuador, Jennifer Lazor, DO, hiked five-hours on steep and dangerous trails with colleagues from Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine to complete three home visits in one day and provide medical care to those who couldn’t walk or be transported to the local clinic. “Many patients in Ecuador have chronic headaches from dehydration and sun exposure. They also have a vast array of musculoskeletal complaints due to the hours of hard labor spent daily in the fields. Being able to perform OMM and teach some techniques to the local doctors was an amazing experience.”

The AOF HumanTouch Leadership project was made possible by support from AOF Community Partner Eli Lilly, Pfizer, Inc. and Purdue Pharma.

Each year, the AOF organizes a hands-on activity to give back to the local community in the OMED host city. This year, on the morning of Honors 2013, nearly 100 volunteers helped at the Three Square Food Bank, which serves the hungry in Southern Nevada. Volunteers worked in the distribution center sorting and repackaging food for distribution. Three Square provides more than 15.8 million meals each year to nearly 600 program partners.

Ronald McDonald House CHICAGO

The AOF made a donation of $1,000 to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana designated for the Lurie House in downtown Chicago. In addition to the financial donation, members of the Advocates for the American Osteopathic Association (AAOA) volunteered for two days in July at the Lurie House, preparing lunch for families with children receiving treatment at Lurie Children’s Hospital.

As a result of the Dominican Republic clinic Ashley Jaglowicz, OMS II, served in, nearly 1,500 people received reliable health care that they would have otherwise gone without.

The AOF Humanitarian grants program and fulfill AOF’s vision to enrich global health by supporting osteopathic medicine. These are first-hand accounts from two of the 25 people who dedicated one to several weeks of their lives to provide osteopathic medical care to those who need it most. The stories are just one sliver of life-changing trips that will forever impact how the storytellers will practice in the future.

 Dominican Republic, July 2013 “My last family of the day consisted of a mother and her four children. They had assumedly been waiting outside in the heat of the Dominican summer for nearly six hours. Immediately I could tell the smallest child, who as only one year old, was in dire need of a doctor. He didn’t have the energy to open his eyes and was running a very high fever. His mother said he had been experiencing vomiting and diarrhea every time she gave him food or water for the past five days. He was extremely dehydrated and not very responsive so we quickly decided the proper array of medication to give the child. I hurried to the pharmacy to make the suspension on the spot and brought the meds back to the mother along with some Gatorade to help replenish some of the boy’s lost electrolytes. I continued examining the rest of the family, while keeping a close eye on the child, which took approximately an hour. As I was getting ready to take them to our makeshift pharmacy next door, the little boy lifted up his head and smiled at me before grabbing his mom around the neck. The change that happened over the course of the exam was so rewarding to witness, as just minutes ago he appeared lifeless.” Ashley Jaglowicz, OMS II

 Ecuador, June 2013 Jennifer Lazor, DO, hiked five-hours on steep and dangerous trails with colleagues from Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine to complete three home visits in one day and provide medical care to those who couldn’t walk or be transported to the local clinic. “Many patients in Ecuador have chronic headaches from dehydration and sun exposure. They also have a vast array of musculoskeletal complaints due to the hours of hard labor spent daily in the fields. Being able to perform OMM and teach some techniques to the local Ecuadorian physicians as well as the people, they can continue to apply these hands-on treatments even without access to traditional medication. I feel this is a remarkable gift for all.” Jennifer Lazor, DO
Making a difference in the lives of society’s most vulnerable members is a noble cause. But it takes a special, compassionate and skilled person to identify, heal and advocate for child victims of sexual abuse.

Martin A. Finkel, DO, FACOP, FAAP, director of the Child Abuse Research, Education and Service (CARES) Institute and professor of pediatrics at Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, is an internationally recognized expert for his pioneering research, leadership and work in the field of child sexual abuse.

Throughout his distinguished 30+ year career, this role model and mentor has represented the best of a caring osteopathic physician in a practice area once characterized by denial, resistance and stigma.

His groundbreaking work has helped others recognize sexual abuse and provide better care for its young victims, setting standards for diagnosis and treatment embraced by healthcare professionals and policymakers worldwide, thereby empowering patients in the recovery process and greatly enhancing successful prosecution of offenders.

Dr. Finkel earned his osteopathic medical degree from the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed his internship and residency at Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. He joined the faculty at RowanSOM in 1979, where he is today. A fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians and the American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Finkel has served on national and international boards in the field and is an active member and former president and board member of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians.

He has authored more than 60 peer-reviewed articles, chapters and other publications, and in 2009, he co-authored the American Academy of Pediatric’s Medical Examination of Child Sexual Abuse: A Practical Guide, the standard global reference guide in the field.

His leadership in developing a statewide network of Regional Child Abuse Diagnostic and Treatment Centers and his service as co-chair of New Jersey’s Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect has been a model for others worldwide and earned him many accolades, including the Commissioner’s Award from the US Department of Health and Human Services.

When it comes to breadth and depth of knowledge about osteopathic medicine, one need look no further than the nation’s 37 osteopathic medical schools and branch campuses, which house the most talented teachers in the profession. One outstanding ambassador for osteopathic medicine, both in the education of students and peers and in clinical practice, is Anthony G. Chila, DO, FAAO dist., FCA, DPNAP, Professor Emeritus, Department of Family Medicine at Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-HCOM).

A fellow of the American Academy of Osteopathy since 1977 and a Fellow of The Cranial Academy since 2007, Dr. Chila has served the profession for more than 35 years as an educator and clinician. He received his bachelor of arts from Youngstown (OH) University and his osteopathic medical degree from the Kansas City College of Osteopathy and Surgery. He completed his residency at Warren (OH) General Hospital in 1966.

Dr. Chila began his teaching career at Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine as an associate professor in the department of family medicine in 1977. He joined the staff of OU-HCOM one year later in the same role. Since then, he has taught hundreds of future osteopathic medical physicians, both at his home school and at visiting lectures around the nation and world, including China, Japan, France, Germany, Brazil and Australia.

His leadership and contribution to the profession extends into his various roles with the American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO), including as president and secretary/treasurer. In addition, Dr. Chila has served on the Executive Board of The Cranial Academy from 1988-1994 and on its board of directors from 2004-2006.

Dr. Chila not only shares his vast knowledge about osteopathic medicine in the classroom, but he does in print as well. He has served as the executive editor of the profession’s preeminent text in its third edition, Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine. He served as an editor for the AAO’s Journal and now serves as the osteopathic medicine section editor for the Journal of Craniofacial Practice.

Highly regarded for his professional expertise and passion for osteopathic medicine, Dr. Chila has been known as a healer to some, a guru to others and a mentor to many.
Continued from page 1

at St. John’s University in New York. He became a Passionate priest in 1979, and served in a Baltimore parish for a few years until he met Father William B. Wasson, the founder of the Mexican orphanage Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH).

He worked alongside Father Wasson, and later opened a second NPH orphanage in Honduras. In 1987 he went on to start Nos Petits Freres et Soeurs (NPFS) orphanage, which means “Our Little Brothers and Sisters” in French, on a mountaintop in Haiti. He still serves as director to the home for more than 400 orphaned and at-risk children who receive a preschool through eighth grade education, and is the medical director for NPH International, and regional director, Caribbean for NPH.

To meet the overwhelming need for healthcare among his young wards, Dr. Frechette went back to school in his early 40s, and received his osteopathic medical degree in 1998 from the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine (NYCOM), and completed his residency at the former St. Clare’s Hospital and Health Center in NYC. During medical school, he’d return to Haiti on weekends and breaks to continue his work as director of the orphanage and medical center—and even inspired some of his fellow students to join him on his trips.

Dr. Frechette’s long-term commitment to the people of Haiti, especially its children, and his holistic approach to care, led him to create the St. Luke Foundation in 2001 with graduates of the NPFS program. This Haitian-run, organically-grown organization aims to propel change and progress in Haiti by transforming orphans and at-risk children into the country’s next leaders through healthcare, education and dignified humanitarian outreach.

The life-giving programs reach more than 150,000 people each year and employ more than 900 Haitian staff. He didn’t have a master plan when he began—he just saw a need, tried to address it, and then worked to do it better.

He helped found and now oversees St. Damien’s Hospital—the largest pediatric facility in Haiti, which serves 30,000 children annually for free. Through the St. Luke medical mission, he’s established two more hospitals, two maternity clinics, two mobile disaster response units and social service programs. With the St. Luke team he also established a school system, which blossomed from informal classes where parents joined together to teach their children to read, to 29 schools serving 8,000 students from elementary school through high school and a professional school.

Dr. Frechette’s dedication to the people of Haiti illustrates how one person can truly make a difference. He has fearlessly accepted many challenges, serving with hope and compassion—hallmarks of the best osteopathic medical leaders in the world.

2013 AOF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

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It is with deep appreciation that we recognize and thank the following corporations and individuals for investing in the future of the osteopathic profession by supporting the AOF and its mission through unrestricted annual gifts to the AOF or gifts in memory of someone special.


The A.T. Still Legacy Circle honors those friends of the American Osteopathic Foundation (AOF) who have established a gift of $25,000 or more through a bequest, trust arrangement or other estate plan provision. Their legacy is one of philanthropy, of opportunity and of supporting the osteopathic profession and future generations of osteopathic physicians. It is the AOF’s hope that this generous group of individuals will grow in membership and endow the AOF’s programs for years to come.

** Arthur E. Blumenschine
  Angela M. DeRosa, DO, MBA, CPE
** Ruth Ann Geldea
** Richard Hiestand, DO
** Carl Kettler, DO
  Carol L. Monson, DO, MSCMH
  Karen J. Nichols, DO, MA
** Harold W. Roberts, DO
** Esther Rossnick
** Julian Rossnick
** Pearl Thomas
** Frances M. Walker
** Sterling E. Welch, DO
** Received legacy gift

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** Sterling E. Welch, DO
** Received legacy gift
The AOF would also like to thank our many Friends of the Foundation who have contributed in amounts less than $100.

The following are the individual leaders in amounts greater than $249 who gave to the Foundation between January 1st - December 31st:

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$2,500 - $4,999
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- Metro Health Hospital
- Michigan Osteopathic Association

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$1,000 - $2,499
- A Fassano & Company
- Rev Dr. & Mrs. Donald McCord

### Bronze Leadership Society
$500 - $999
- American Osteopathic College of Radiology
- Robert D. Ligorsky, DO

### Century Club
$100 - $249
- James & Judith Barber
- David L. Kreulen, PhD
- Rev Dr. & Mrs. Donald McCord
- Steve J. Noone

### Special Thank You
A special thank you to the following affiliates for their “Lifetime Contribution” to the AOF:

### Diamond Leadership Society
Illinois Osteopathic Educational Foundation - Lifetime Member
- Michigan State University, College of Osteopathic Medicine - Lifetime Member
- Maryland Academy of Osteopathic Medicine - Lifetime Member

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