

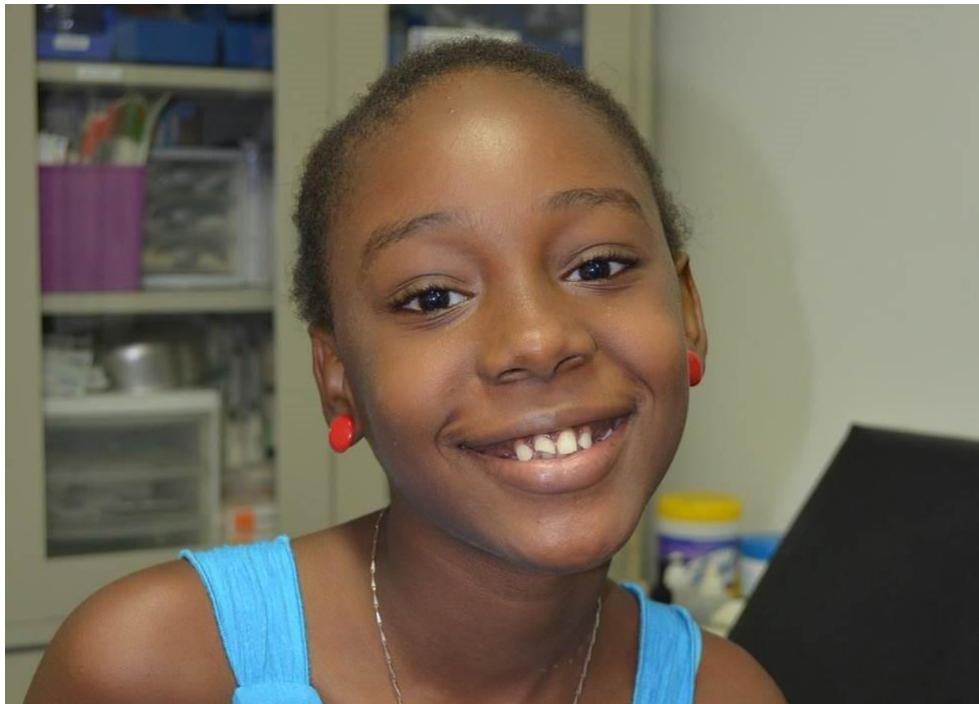
10-year-old Girl Receives Life-Changing Operation

Orthopedic Surgical Support Program, Pétiion-Ville, Haiti

Samelle Joseph is a 10-year-old girl who has been living with a very severe form of Blount's disease, a deformity of the lower limbs that commonly afflicts a specific ethnic group in Haiti. The disease also includes increased weight and specific morphologic features, as well as moderate to severe progressive medial leg bowing and tibial bone changes.

Because of the deformation caused by Blount's disease, Samelle and children like her face physical disability, discrimination, limited opportunities, and the emotional and financial distress which accompany these. Thanks to the operation that Samelle received for free through RMF's surgical clinic at the Hôpital Lambert Santé, she will gain greater mobility and have opportunities that would otherwise be denied her.

Below are several photos detailing Samelle's surgery:



Samelle Joseph ready to have her cast removed



Samelle's x-ray before surgery



Samelle's severely bowed leg before surgery



Samelle's x-ray after surgery



Samelle with her cast removed



Samelle's straightened leg