



CAP-HAITIEN HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

Konbit Sante announces new executive director

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FALMOUTH—Rupal Ramesh Shah has been named the new executive director at Konbit Sante Cap-Haitien Healthcare Partnership, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Maine that works to strengthen the healthcare system in the Cap-Haitien area of Northern Haiti. She replaces former executive director Nathan Nickerson, who retired after 15 years in the role and now serves as strategic advisor for the organization.

A native of Tanzania, Shah lived and worked in Haiti in 2018-19, first as a tuberculosis laboratory consultant at Hôpital Universitaire de Mirebalais, a Partners in Health hospital, then as a grant manager at Saint Boniface Hospital in Fond-des-Blancs. Prior to that, she worked at Boston Children's Hospital as a quality improvement consultant and at Harvard University as a research assistant and laboratory manager.

Shah has a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry from Southern Wesleyan University, a Master of Science degree in microbiology from Clemson University, and a Master of Public Health degree from Boston University. She joined Konbit Sante in June, trained under Nickerson from June through September, and officially took over as executive director on Oct. 1.

"The Konbit Sante Board of Directors is thrilled to welcome Rupal Shah as Konbit Sante's executive director," said Konbit Sante Board President Kathleen G. Healy. "We are impressed by her smarts, commitment to public health, energy and enthusiasm, as well as her prior experience in Haiti. We hope that Rupal will continue the precedent established by Nate Nickerson to work collaboratively and skillfully with our partners in Haiti to strengthen the Haitian healthcare system and improve the quality of health care for the Cap-Haitien community."

Shah says her main goals as executive director are to continue to strengthen Konbit Sante's partnerships with healthcare facilities in the greater Cap-Haitien region and to increase its engagement with other like-minded organizations in Maine.

"I am excited about the work that lies ahead," Shah said. "I grew up in a country where everyone does not have access to quality healthcare services. Therefore, in my role as executive director, I will advocate for the right to quality healthcare for all people."

PHOTO CAPTION: Rupal Ramesh Shah is the new executive director at Konbit Sante Cap-Haitien Health Partnership, a nonprofit organization founded in Maine in 2001 to strengthen capacity for better health care in Cap-Haitien, Haiti.

Konbit Sante Cap-Haitien Health Partnership is a 501(3)(c) founded in Maine in 2001 to strengthen capacity for better health care in Cap-Haitien, the second-largest city of Haiti. We partner with four healthcare facilities in Greater Cap-Haitien, and have offices in Falmouth and Cap-Haitien. For more information about our work, mission, and values, visit konbitsante.org.