



STRIVING TO IMPROVE
LIFE, OPPORTUNITY, VISION, AND EDUCATION
 IN HAITI
 WE WORK TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE – YOU CAN HELP!



December 2020
 Newsletter

COVID-19 Response

This year brought challenges for countries, schools, and non-profits across the globe. As a result of Covid 19, our school, Institute Mixte Remax, shut down in-person operation in March. However, our teachers worked tirelessly to prepare materials for students' families to pick up and work on at home through July, ensuring that they continued their lessons for the year. In May we raised \$2,743 for Covid response. We were able to purchase rice, beans, oil, and fish to prepare meal kits for almost 300 families of our students and staff. Over the summer, our sister organization also raised funds to build a new handwashing station at the school that is the only one like it in the community! Students returned to school in September and used the months of Sept. and Oct. to finish up the 2019-2020 school year. In November, students were promoted to the next grade to begin the academic 2020-2021 year.

Other 2020 News and Projects

- We are currently in the process of purchasing the parcel of land behind the main building. We have been leasing this property for the last several years, and are excited to finally be able to purchase it.
- We added 9th grade for the 2020-2021 academic year. In order to accommodate a new class, we built a new structure on the back part of the property. This structure houses the 2 kindergarten classes. All primary classrooms (Pre-K through 2nd) are now in the back half of the school, and the 3rd-9th grade classrooms are in the front.
- New, sturdy chairs were purchased for the Pre-K students. We will purchase more each year for each classroom. A new gate was installed to keep our property safe. New paint was applied to the gate, student benches, and front school wall.



Education breeds confidence. Confidence breeds hope. Hope breeds peace. ~ Confucius



In partnership with our Canadian sister organization, Haiti in My Heart, a new handwashing station was built at school!



Feeding Hungry Mouths and Minds

Since our inception in 2012, our mission has been to provide children in the Montrouis community of Haiti with a quality education. The government does not provide free schools for the people of Haiti, and many schools are quite expensive to attend. As a result, less than 50% of adults in Haiti can read. We know that education is power. That is why our number one mission is to provide our students with a safe school environment, and quality instruction. In order to do this, we employ a staff of more than 20 Haitian citizens and pay them a fair wage so that they can support their families. As we have grown over the last 8 years to include Pre-K through 9th grades, we have had to hire more and more quality teachers and staff. Paying their salaries each month is our greatest expense, now totaling over \$3,000 monthly.

In addition to feeding the academic minds of our students, we also know the importance of feeding them nutritionally. Hungry kids have difficulty focusing and learning. The meal that is provided at school each day is the biggest and sometimes only meal that many of our students get. Purchasing rice, beans, noodles, oil, and propane each month is our second largest expense, not totaling \$1500.



Our Greatest Need: Monthly Sponsors

In order to meet our monthly budget needs of paying salaries for our staff and purchasing food, we desperately need more monthly sponsors. This commitment begins at just \$35 a month, or you can choose your own amount. Pictures of some of our students in need of sponsors can be found on our website www.love4haiti.com. You can become a sponsor with Paypal through our website, or start a monthly recurring donation through Facebook. Be sure to email Dianna and let her know that you have become a sponsor so that you can be added to the tax deductible list. Such a small monthly sacrifice for families here in the U.S. makes a huge impact for Haitian families so that they don't have to pay for their children to attend school.

HELPING THE COMMUNITY OF ROUSSEAU

Rousseau is a small community located on the top of a mountain about 30 minutes north of Montrouis. The people living in this community are very poor and malnourished with little access to clean water and food. The soil is too hard and dense for growing, and the groundwater is too deep to build a well. Most of them live in shacks built from scavenged materials. Over the last 3 years, we have been able to help the people of this community by sending water, clothes, shoes, and medicines several times. We would love to be able to do more for this community, but our funds are limited and we must meet the needs at IMR first each month before we can offer additional help to those outside of our school. The more sponsors we have to help us meet our monthly budget, the more we can use extra funds to help the precious people of this community who desperately need us.



Thank you to everyone who made a purchase of our new shirt design through our Bonfire campaign! Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for the 2021 design in the spring!