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HIS HANDS FOR HAITI

Part 1

Spring 2020

Thank-you to each and every sponsor for your devotion to the children of Haiti, especially during these challenging times. Without you, we could not help provide an education to some of the neediest children in North-East Haiti. Additionally, your sponsorship goes much further than helping your individual sponsored child(ren). It creates a ripple effect within your sponsored child's entire community. Each child is like a seed that is planted, and through your sponsorship, they grow, learn, and flourish. Their entire community can be transformed into a blossoming garden. For example, your sponsorship provides an income to your sponsored child's teacher and their family. It also helps cover some of the necessary costs for the school, therefore, putting money back into the local economy. It ensures that Christ-centered schools can continue operating and providing a faith-based education to countless young people in Haiti. It also creates a new generation of literate young people, who will be more likely to find jobs and contribute to their community. Sponsoring a child in Haiti may start with one individual child, but it doesn't end there.

There is no doubt that the needs in Haiti are extremely great. It can be hard to understand the magnitude of the poverty in Haiti, particularly when terms like "I'm starving" and "I'm so poor" are thrown around in our daily conversations. We have to keep perspective and remind ourselves that some people face obstacles that we cannot even fathom. Eighty percent of Haitians survive on less than a dollar a day, and very few have permanent employment at all. I can't even begin to imagine the desperation that these people must feel. I remember asking one of our Haitian friends how much a can of Coke costs in Haiti. I was informed that it was about one USD for a can of Coke. At first, this sounded reasonable to me, since that is pretty comparable to the United States. However, I soon realized that an overwhelming majority of Haitians bring home less than a dollar a day (if they can find work at all). I had to pause as I tried to imagine my entire day's earnings barely affording one can of Coke. Yet, somehow, people are expected to feed their families on these wages?

As a sponsor, you may wonder: "what more can I do to help"?



“We love because he first loved us.” 1 John 4:19

His Hands for Haiti (His Hands Support Ministries) is led by God to be an all-volunteer, completely non-profit organization. We are everyday people that have an oversized heart for Haiti and its people. We partner with the local pastors, community, and school directors in Haiti to ensure that we are hearing the dire needs of the community (physical, spiritual, financial, etc.). Unfortunately, the needs are growing faster than our donations are.

Spread the Word!

There is a critical need for children to be sponsored. While this is always true, Haiti has recently been hit hard economically due to political instability, causing even more hardship throughout the country. Families that were already facing extreme poverty are having to make heart wrenching decisions. Imagine having to choose between feeding your children and paying for their education? All children deserve a quality education, no matter where they live. Please spread the word about His Hands for Haiti to your friends, family, and church community.

Monetary Gifts for Your Sponsored Child

There is also always the option to send a donation to your sponsored child's family. While your regular sponsorship payment allows your sponsored child to have access to a quality education, a financial donation can improve overall their quality of life. It provides your child's family with money to spend on their most urgent needs (most commonly food). Again, this donation has a positive impact on the entire community. Not only does your sponsored child's family have access to food or their urgent needs, they are also putting money into their local economy which is vital for a country like Haiti.

Monetary Donations

Additionally, there are programs that we partner with that are run solely on donations. The “*Saturday Feeding Program*” is run by Pastor Noel's wife, Marie. She volunteers her time to feed over 100 children every Saturday in the Terrier Rouge community when we have funds to send. For many children, it is their only meal that day. Additionally, “*His House*” provides a home for children with nowhere else to live and is also sustained solely on donations. This home is responsible for feeding, clothing, and caring for many children, so the financial need is great.

Prayer

Please pray for the people of Haiti. We pray for their physical, financial, emotional, and spiritual needs. We ask God to comfort them during these challenging times. We also pray that God speaks to people and helps find new sponsors for the countless children waiting.

Last Thoughts

Our entire world has been facing new challenges over the past few months. Let's challenge ourselves to see the blessing of “staying safe at home”, rather than viewing it as “being stuck at home”. Most of us are blessed to be in a safe home with access to clean water, food, and necessities. Staying at home looks a lot different for many of the people of Haiti. Haiti is a country where proper sanitation is scarce, a safe home is usually an unattainable luxury, and social distancing is virtually impossible. Imagine dealing with the current crisis, when each day is already a struggle to sustain yourself and your family.

Written with much love and thought by Caitlin C...team member, several trips, her heart is with the children .

1 John 3:18

“Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in action and in truth.”