#### REACHING OUT TO HAITI'S CHILDREN, ONE AT A TIME WINTER 2016

# Rescue One



Students experienced immense joy at their Christmas party.



#### Thank You

The Rescue One board is deeply thankful for each person who supported us in 2015. Your prayers and your donations have enabled us to have another successful year supporting 80 Haitian children. These children received an education and all associated expenses as well as a meal each day and wrap-around services such as medical care.

This could not have happened without your support. THANK YOU.



PO Box 8174 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49518 www.rescue-one.org

## Immense Joy

They sang, they danced, and they ate (especially the Christmas cake!) with great appetite. Even before the children learned that there would be a party in 2015, they were repeating songs and verses to share at a Christmas party. When they received the news that there would truly be a party, faces lit with immense joy.

Yes, glad tidings of great joy—that is what the angels promised. The Haitian staff in charge of the Christmas party made sure that the message of these glad tidings was presented to the children. To bring the message in age appropriate ways, staff divided the children into three age groups. Each group was taught the message of the fall in the Garden of Eden and of redemption through Jesus who came to earth as the babe in the manger. The children learned that this is a free gift they must choose to accept. Students followed the lessons carefully and learned the Bible verses with great joy.

Each student was given a gift appropriate to his/her need. Many boys received trucks. One little girl was so excited with her new doll that after hugging and kissing it, she laughed and went out to introduce her new doll to the other girls.

Several of the children, realizing how privileged they were, chose to bring their meal home to parents or siblings who did not have the advantage of this food.

What a joy it is to minister to these children. The Rescue One board is thankful for each donor who shares this vision with us.\*

\*Special thanks to the Andreas Family Foundation for sponsoring this project.

Board of Directors: Gary Nederveld, Dan Rinzema Nancy Tuit, Jody Vogelzang, Carol Woltjer

## Youth Retreat\*

In February, high school age youths in the Rescue One program will be attending a retreat. At the Summer Camp in 2015, staff heard many concerns from this age group. It became evident that these young people are struggling with many issues as they desire to grow as followers of Christ in the promiscuous Haitian environment. This



retreat will follow up on concerns heard at summer camp. Rescue One graduates will be invited to attend as learners, encouragers and role models to the high school students.

Another issue that will be addressed at this retreat is the need to do homework. Since most of the students live without electricity, it is nearly impossible for them to study in the evening. At the retreat, each high school age student will be presented with a solar powered task lamp.\*

### Our Partners in Haiti

Rescue One is pleased to report the progress of our sister organization in Haiti, Fondation Michee. The FM board accepted the challenge to raise the equivalent of \$2500 US dollars in order to receive a 4/1 match from a donor. It is a pleasure to report that they exceeded their goal. What a blessing to partner with these passionate Haitians to support the children there.

In January the Committees of each of the five churches gathered for their annual meeting. This is a time of praise and celebration and a time when they can discuss mutual concerns and encourage each other. Speakers, presentations by students and a shared meal refresh committee members for their roles.

## Sponsorship Opportunity

The Rescue One Summer Camp is a significant event in the lives of our students. At camp, spiritual, psychological and social needs are addressed. Children enjoy the friendship of students from the other church programs.

RO is seeking sponsors for the summer of 2016. See our website (www.rescue-one.org) under newsletters for reports of past summer camps.

A donor could sponsor one or more days of camp for \$600 per day, or he/she could sponsor one or more children for the entire camp period at \$37.50 per child. Any extra funds collected would be applied to the RO budget.

#### Why We Support Rescue One

We were first drawn to support Rescue One, not only because they focused on both the physical and spiritual needs of very poor Haitian children, but because of the strong partnerships they estab lished with local Haitian churches in order to best accomplish their mission. The fact that the Haitian churches contribute their own financial resources to the Rescue One program confirms its effect tiveness and strengthens it. We believe that God works through His church, and who could be better than local Haitian Churches to bring the love of Christ to children in their own communities? -Dan and Diana Rinzema

### Prayer Corner

 Continue to pray for our partners in Haiti. Political conditions create turmoil as elec-

tions continue to be postponed. Our partners fear for their safety at times, especially when going to the bank.

• Pray that the Youth Retreat will be successful in helping teens deal with multiple issues. Pray, too, that they will learn to use their solar lamps to increase their study time.

\*Special thanks to the Andreas Family Foundation for sponsoring these projects.

The Rescue One Board **thanks you** for your compassionate and generous support. Rescue One is a small light bringing God's grace into the lives of 80 Haitian children. Your check can be made out to the Rescue One Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation. Donations can be sent to PO Box 8174, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49518. All contributions except for printing and mailing costs go directly to Haiti.

