



Rescue One

PO Box 8174
Grand Rapids,
Michigan 49518

A Flurry of Activity

Some time ago this newsletter introduced the word subsidiarity which means, basically, that an issue or problem is best dealt with by the people who are closest to it. This is a major tenet of the Rescue One program in which local Haitians are the hands and feet on the ground in Haiti, making decisions daily and dedicating themselves to making sure that the program runs smoothly.

In the month of August, there is much to do. Kerline, our director, and the members of the five church committees are immersed in busyness. Two major events are happening: Summer Camp, which the children enjoy so much, is taking place and the start of the school year is just around the corner. Myriads of questions occupy the leaders minds:

- How do we transport the children to camp?
 - Where will we procure the food? And where are the pots for cooking? and the charcoal for the fuel?
 - Do we need the sleeping mats?
 - What will our spiritual theme be? How will we apply it?
 - What fun activities should we plan for the children?
-
- Are all of the children enrolled in the appropriate school?
 - Have we paid the enrollment fees?
 - Do we have the uniforms? the backpacks? the pencils and papers?

This flurry of activity contributes to the well-roundedness of each child: enriched with friendships, mentorship, spiritual growth and an education.

Your gifts make this possible. Praise the Lord.



It would take years to tell about this program which does so much for each of us. At first I was suspicious of Sister Daniella but now I see that she is like a mother to the children.

A parent



The Parent Connection

Another major tenet of the RO program is keeping children in their family unit. As a result, the connections with the parents (or parent figures) remain strong. Committee members visit homes to intervene in difficult situations. They may take a child to the doctor for medical care. They conduct meetings for the parents in which they counsel families on issues such as nutrition, drinking water and child rearing.

(continued on page 2)

Board of Directors: Jeff Buursma, Dan Rinzema
Nancy Tuit, Jody Vogelzang, Carol Woltjer

Thank you church committee for taking the first step and recruiting my child. Thank you donors for supporting us even though you do not know the children. We as parents should be educating our children but we do not have the resources.

A parent

For example, in January, Sister Daniella of the Community Church had a meeting for the parents. With eyes glued on Sister, the adults listened attentively while their children wiggled quietly on the other side of the room. These parents express deep appreciation for the Rescue One program and for Sister Daniella whom they have learned to trust.

In addition, one parent from each church program was invited to attend the annual meeting of the Haitian Rescue One staff. This meeting is an inspirational time for the leaders and being included enabled the parents to have a broader vision of the program and to feel involved.



Parents listen attentively; children wait patiently as Sister Daniella speaks

Did you know...

One young girl from the Bolosse program, whose mother died of pernicious anemia, gets up each morning at 6AM and walks the two miles to school through an unsafe neighborhood. After her school day and her meal, she returns home the same way.



Prayer Corner

Praise:

- Give thanks that the Rescue One children can remain in their family unit and that they can be supported by the church committees.
- Thank God for the Haitian church committees and their coordinators like Sister Daniella who maintain contact with these families and who spend hours planning and executing Summer Camp and the start of the school year.

Petition:

- Pray for the start of the school year. Ask that each child will be ready and eager to start the new semester.
- Pray that the parents will take an active role in their children's education and pray for the coordinators as they work with these parents.
- Pray for the church committees as they seek to raise their percentage of the cost of the program. This is a time of high inflation in Haiti and it is difficult for them to raise the funds.



The Rescue One Board **thinks you** for your compassionate and generous support. Rescue One is a small light bringing God's grace into the lives of 80 Haitian children. You may donate by PayPal on our website or 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.