



# Rescue One

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*RO staffers check the dried food packets before distribution.*

## Engaging our Mission in a Covid 19 Crisis

In the Winter edition of our newsletter, we explained how the Rescue One staff in Haiti was dealing with a crisis of violence in the country. Schools were closed and citizens were shuttered in their homes out of fear. However, our staff on the ground made sure that our RO students were kept safe and fed.

By February 25, conditions had calmed enough so that all of our students were back in school. However, the Covid monster is trickling its way into Haiti where it will be difficult to deal with because most of the citizens live in crowded slums and have no access to clean water, let alone soap with which to wash. Also, many earn a living by selling in small stalls on the streets and/or spend their days on the streets trying to secure food.

By the middle of March the government issued a stay at home order and schools were once again closed. Therefore our students are not able to receive their meals at school. As in times past, our Haitian partners have risen to the occasion. The US Board has assured them that we want them to continue to keep our students safe and fed. Each church committee has labored to produce food packets that they deliver to students' homes. At the cost of \$33.63 per child, the packets contain enough dried food to feed the child for a month. We are encouraging our partners to continue this program throughout the summer months.



*A Haitian street market where many citizens earn their living and shop for food.*

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

*“...to rescue, **one at a time**,...”*

—RO Mission Statement

## What's in a Bag?

**B**e creative and think of how you might make one month of meals for one child from these dry ingredients:



white rice  
dried fish  
oil  
black beans  
sugar  
wheat  
laundry soap



A much quoted fable tells the story of a young boy who is throwing beached starfish, one at a time, into the ocean. When queried about the effectiveness of his efforts, he reminds his questioner that it makes a difference to the one starfish he is rescuing.



A perusal of the Gospels shows that Jesus did not give sight to all of the blind, but his miracle made all the difference to the one whom he healed.

Rescue One is based on this philosophy. We can not reach all the vulnerable children in Haiti, but for each one that we can reach, it makes all the difference.

Consider the story of Michael who was recruited at the very beginning of the Rescue One Program in 2004 by our Bolosse Church partner. He was abandoned by his parents as a very young child and has since lived with a lady from the church.

Upon successfully passing the government required grade 13 testing, he was accepted into the Youth Empowerment Program. He was enrolled at Haiti-Tec Professional School in the electro-mechanics program and successfully completed the two-year program. This January he went to Canado Professional School to continue his study in Industrial Mechanics. Having this additional schooling will help him to be more competitive in the workplace.

**At Rescue One we believe that for each single student we help, we are fulfilling, one at a time, God's mandate to bring justice and mercy.**

## Prayer Corner



As you pray unceasingly in this confusing time of crisis, please include Haiti in your prayers. Pray over our newsletter and ask for God's care and mercy over our staff and children there.

The following example shows how important your support is to each student: Recently 3 of our students, from 2 of our school programs, contracted typhoid. Through the expertise of one of our US board members and with communication to our church partners in Haiti, the coordinators of these two programs were able to offer nutritional advice and facilitate the return to health of the students. **Thank God for the interconnectedness of the US board and the Haiti programs.**

*Michael at recruitment in 2004  
(left) and today (right)*



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 85 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.