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

SUMMER 2021



Rescue One



Delighted students enthusiastically participate in Vacation Bible School.



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

> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The True Light Shines

Poverty, malnutrition, gang warfare, the assassination of President Juvenel Moise, earthquakes, tropical storms, Covid 19... News outlets are full of news about Haiti. And so many of you are asking, "How are the children of Rescue One?" "How is our staff?" "How are they coping?"

The news cannot tell the whole story. In Haiti there are pockets where God's light shines, where his mercy brings hope. Rescue One is one of them. Because of its small size and because of its local control, RO can be nimble in so many difficult situations. And you, donors and prayer partners, make this possible!

Note the following examples.

Even though damage from the earthquake occurred in the southern area of the island, not in Port-au-Prince where our program is located, our staff was concerned about each student.



Solution: immediately following the earthquake, begin phoning to check on our children. Kerline and other staff reached out to each family. Praise the Lord, all children were safe. The Bolosse church program, one of our original members, is located in a dangerous, gang infested area. The school the children attend has moved to a somewhat safer site, but one day our staff saw that it was unsafe for some of the students to return home after school.

Solution: Find other homes for them to walk to after school that day then make and deliver hygiene packets with items such as toothbrushes and toothpaste to each child. The children could use these until it was safe to return to their own homes.

Joseph, who lives in extreme poverty, is the only one of 5 siblings who has the privilege of attending school. When he broke his feet during recess and had his feet in casts, he was in tears because he loves

school and didn't want to miss it. The staff did not want him to miss a year of learning and there is no public transportation where he lives.

Solution: contract with a motorcycle taxi for 3 months to take him to and from school each day.



Board of Directors: Jeff Buursma, Dan Rinzema Nancy Tuit, Jody Vogelzang, Carol Woltjer The RO students **love** Summer Camp. They love the camaraderie, the games, the Bible lessons, the adult attention and, of course, they love the food. They are always asking, "When will we have Summer Camp?"

This year, because of danger in the streets and because of the pandemic, our staff deemed it unsafe to transport all of the children to a central camp location and to have them sleep close together on mats.

Solution: Have a Vacation Bible School experience at each of the 6 churches. Students would be able to walk to the site (except for one



program, which transported students via tap-tap*) and would be able to return to their own homes after the daily program.

*a brightly colored truck or bus that Haitians use for transportation



Crafts and Games



Carl, on left, suffered from 2 different infections and was referred to our medical program. Staff prayed urgently for him. Our director writes that at VBS he was once again healthy—playing, singing and reciting Bible verses.

Our program is so blessed to be able to bring love, healing and education to these disadvantaged children.



VBS Highlights

Prayer Corner

Praise: Our staff continually brings us items for praise. Thank God that students who have undergone surgery are doing well. (Including Carl and Phyllis, above)

Thank God that all grades 9 and 13 students were able to take their exams this summer. All of the grade 9 students passed and we are awaiting results of the grade 13 students.

Requests: Pray for continued healing for James who recently had surgery and is now at

home recovering.

School is scheduled to start on September 21. Pray that this will happen and that the start-up will be safe and that the students will be physically and emotionally ready to learn.



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 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.



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