Greetings everyone,

It is mid-February, and once again, I find myself in Haiti visiting, and catching up with the children that depend on us. As always, they have grown and it is wonderful to see them all. Crezou will be 15 next month, and his voice has changed. I think that Schneider has grown an inch, and Jasmine is taller then I remember too.



So much has happened since I was here last. The North Fence wall has been rebuilt. It had come down for some unknown reason, but the owner of the house has successfully rebuilt it.









Last time, I told you about the children of Johnny and Rojenka's orphanage in Fontamara.

They could not stay in their old home, and their new home was not finished, so we took them up to Kenscoff and had all 21 children in one home for a while. We kept them in Kenscoff for 3 months, and they attended our new school that we created inside the orphanage, while Johnny

> and Rojenka finished working on their new home. The home was ready about the middle of December, but the children could not leave school in the middle of the semester, so we kept them for another several weeks until they finished, and then they moved back home after Christmas. The home is basically a long concrete block hallway with wooden dividers to separate the rooms, but it is much more than many Haitians have and the children are loved and warm.

Johnny has also added a new child to their family. Her name is Loventha, and she is 5 years old. As is the case, too many times in Haiti, her family could not afford to keep



her, so she spent some time with an aunt, and then with a cousin, and some other extended family, but with the desperate financial situation of the country, could not find a home that could afford to keep her, until she found her way to Johnny's home.

My heart cannot imagine the pain that Loventha's family went through to give her up because of lack of



money, but God has led her to us and we will provide for as long as we can. My hope for her, and all the children in our care, is that God will someday restore a relationship with their family and give peace to those who made the hardest decision to give a child up in hopes for their better future.

Johnny has a very big heart and cannot stand to see children suffer, so he is doing what he can to take care of the children that God has placed in his care. There are so many children in Haiti that face the same fate as Loventha, and we want to help them all, but at some point, we will have to say that we cannot take any more. However, Johnny did warn me that there will be yet another child in the home, because Rojenka is now pregnant.

Relief for Kids in Haiti wants to see a loving home for every child, along with an education that will sustain them for their entire lives, but there are simply too many children in Haiti to help them all without significant financial support.

In 2018, we are starting to work on ways to earn money in Haiti to support the children. I have purchased a used 2010 Nissan Titian and we have shipped it down to Haiti for Marc. This will be their new car, and the older Frontier that is already here will be now used for public transportation. The major means of public transportation in Haiti are old, small, pick-up trucks that have a large top over the bed of the truck and are colorfully painted. They are called "tap-taps" and travel certain routes picking up passengers and dropping them off like a multi-person taxi. The usual arrangement is

that the car is given to a driver, who runs the tap-tap service and gives 300 Haitian Dollars per day to the owner of the car. Anything that the driver earns after 300 is his to keep as profit and car maintenance. 300 Haitian dollars is about \$25 US dollars per day, so the tap-tap business can make up to \$750 US dollars per month.

The other thing that we are doing is that we have rented a shop to open a clothing store in Kenscoff. We have started receiving donations from America of clean, usable clothing of all sizes, and we ship the donated







clothing down to Haiti for about a \$1.50 per pound, using a partner transport company. We can then take that clothing to the store and sell it for 6 to 8 times the cost of shipping it. The store is right in the main market in Kenscoff and it has two stories about 600 square feet each.

If you want to help by either donating clothing or having a clothing drive, please call me and I can give you instructions on how to help.

Our next challenge will be our school for next school year. The Haitian education system has 3 grades of Kindergarten, 6 grades of Primary school and 7 grades of Secondary school. This past year, all our children have been in either Kindergarten or

Primary school and 7 grades of Secondary school. Primary, but next year, Mivelore and Crezou will be in Secondary School.

Secondary school, not unlike Junior High in the US, has multiple teachers teaching subjects that they are certified to teach. Math (Algebra and Geometry), Physics, Biology, Social Studies, Civic Education, Physical Education, English, Spanish, French, and Creole. Plus, we would like to add the classes of Bible/Religion, and Computers. This can be up to 10 different teachers that would come to the school, teach their subject, and leave for the next teacher to come in. The teachers are paid \$2.48 US dollars per hour to teach. This gives us a budget of \$347.11 per



month for just the 2 Secondary school children. Combined with the primary grades us a budget of \$5,302 for the 2018-



2019 school year for the children in Kenscoff.

The budget does not seem like much, but can be overwhelming when we are a charity and rely on regular donations to make ends meet. So, at this point, we are looking for someone or multiple someones to help with this school budget and commit to donating toward the \$5000 for the year (either in one payment, or over several months). We are praying that God will bring us the right individuals, who can help us keep our small school going for our children. Please add this request to your prayer list, and ask God to provide.

Then, there are still the children in Fontamara, who attend a local school. We have a sister organization

called Delivrance pour Tous, which means "Relief for All" that is endeavoring to find sponsors to pay for the children's school tuition, books, supplies, and uniforms. They have done a marvelous job in helping shoulder the burden to educate the children. My thanks go out to Jameson, Lauren, Marc and their DT team for their efforts in this endeavor. If you would like to sponsor a child's education in Haiti, please visit our at <u>www.reliefforkidsinhaiti.org</u> or their website at <u>www.dthaiti.org</u> for more information and ways to donate.



Mivelore has become quite the artist in making doll furniture, quite literally out of discarded items. She takes old cardboard, tin cans, and sheets and sows them by hand to make beds, tables, chairs, and couches for her dolls. Nadege has taught her well, and she is very









We had a wonderful friend hand stitch some blankets for the

kids, while another church organization donated pillows, sheets, and personalized pillow cases for the children. Such a wonderful blessing for the children.

During this trip, we also a Lawyer who is also a Pastor who has expressed interest in helping us with adoption paperwork. This would be a very large step toward finding permanent homes for at least some of the children. We have perspective parent candidates for at least 4 of the children, but we need a mechanism for the legal adoption and immigration of each child to the US. This lawyer is at least willing to help and we pray that this contact will be helpful, and we can start finding permanent homes for some of the children.



Ms. Nadia, our housemother and laundry woman has had a baby named Robindina, and the children love to help take care of her, and they sit with her while she is falling asleep. Ms. Nadia works so very hard for the children and enjoys her job. The blessing for her is that she can have this child and continue to work by bringing her to work. A lot of Haitian women find that they cannot work after having children because they do not have adequate childcare. I thank God that we can make a difference in the life of this small family too.

I spent some time speaking with the pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist University Church and then to the Local Haitian Union President this week to pave the way to have a Student Missionary come and stay at our orphanage for a time. The Adventist Volunteers website specifies that

calling organizations need to be owned and operated by the SDA church, or Supported by the local Adventist Union. We pray that the contacts that we make this week will bring someone to help with the children. The ideal candidate would be fluent in French or Creole, and be able to teach the children English, Computer Skills, and Bible classes, which are classes not taught in the Haitian School Curriculum.



This meeting identified another orphanage that is in great need. Samuel was about 7 months old when the 2010 Earthquake happened, and he was found in the rubble, and no one could locate his parents. He was cared for by some volunteers and was in such bad shape that the Doctor, who was from Puerto Rico, did not think he would make it. Two years later, when that same Doctor returned to Haiti, he was astonished to find that Samuel was still alive and doing very well. Altogether, there were 21 children who could not find families after the earthquake, so the Doctor started the orphanage. Some parents were found and then new orphans were identified, so there are now 13

children in this small orphanage in Diquini

that has been sponsored by the Puerto Rico Adventist Church. But when Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico, the funds stopped coming and now these 13 children need some new sponsors.

The children are cared for by volunteers, and they are in a house that was built by the Puerto Rican Church prior to the Hurricane, but it has very little furniture in the home. They have bunkbeds in the rooms, but no dining room table to eat at and no other furniture in the house.

But God provides miracles when you least expect it. As I was waiting for my flight home at the airport, I spoke with a missionary who lives and works in Jeremy, Haiti, and he manufactures large wooden tables and chairs. I shared with him the



story of this orphanage who needs a dining room table, and God opened his heart and he expressed a desire to donate a kitchen table for the house. We are working on making that happen, so God is already blessing in the lives of these dear ones. God performs miracles when you sit next to someone and step out in faith to share what he puts on your heart.

Right now, their food budget is \$500 per month, and we see this as another opportunity for God to pour out his love. Our small organization currently supports 22 orphans in two orphanages already, and we do not have the funds to help this new orphanage, but we know that God has the funds that are needed, and he will provide a way. If you would like to help these children, please let me know.

It has been a very successful trip and we praise God for his blessings. We are working on opening up opportunities for individuals or groups to travel to Haiti to meet and interact with these children and the Haitian people. More information will be on our website soon, but if you are interested, let me know.

May God continue to greatly bless you and your family as well as the Children of Haiti.

Charles McEndree 813-469-8684

To donate, visit our website at <u>www.reliefforkidsinhaiti.org</u>, and find the DONATE button at the bottom of the page.



Wegthlande

Loventha

Wendy

Jenica



Xavier

Schrrood

Judith

Dieu-Maitre ("Jamet")





Jasmine

Mivelore

Deede

Ely

Franceline

Sassan



Tatane

Mislane

Schneider



Cedric

MacKendy

Crezou