



Rescue One

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



Vision
That all children living in
Haiti be raised and
educated in a safe,
wholesome Christian
environment.

Mission
We partner with Haitian
churches who desire to
rescue, one at a time,
vulnerable children in their
community.



"Mèsi bokou"
(Thank you)

All photos are from our sixth and
newest church partner, the Beree Church

Engaging our Mission During a Crisis

This past fall, the vision and mission statements of Rescue One were put to the test. In the midst of looting gangs, burning tires and general mayhem in Haiti, can our program be nimble enough to handle the situation and continue our holistic ministry of care to the vulnerable children there? The answer is a resounding, "YES!" Our Haitian partners continue to be reliable, capable and dedicated to finding solutions that we could not begin to direct from the US. The small size of our organization enables us to be in quick and direct contact with the Haitian staff and to support them in their efforts.

As soon as the US Board received news of schools being closed, terror in the streets and starving children, we encouraged our Haitian partners to do everything in their power to keep the Rescue One children safe and fed. Each of our 6 church programs responded in a manner appropriate to its situation. **This newsletter presents, with joy and thankfulness to God, some of the blessings that they were able to bring about.**



The children savor their daily dinner.
In red shirt, the cook; in blue, the coordinator.

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

Two of our church partners, the Salem 6 and the Beree Church, are in neighborhoods where the children can walk safely to the meal location without threat of violence. Even though school was not in session, these programs prepared meals as usual.

At the Beree site, Pastor Azer (below, in white shirt) had a Christian movie for the children to watch when they came to eat. Our Haitian director, Kerline, had a video chat with them and was also able to visit them. Some of the children in this program brought an extra plate inside their school bag so that they could bring some food home to share with family members.



Yes, they can eat it all!

At the Salem 6 site, our faithful coordinator, Emmanuel, had the older students tutor the younger ones in math. He sought additional material for the grade 13 students to study and is looking for a tutor to help students prepare for the national exams that will be coming very soon.

For the other 4 programs, staff prepared 69 kits of dried food that could be distributed to the children for preparation at home. It was possible to reach most of the children this way.

Many parents expressed their gratitude but one of the most touching responses the US board received was a taped phone call of a mother saying thank you. Even though the tape is in Creole, the word "mèsi" came through repeatedly and clearly.

As this newsletter goes to press, life in Haiti is slowly and cautiously returning to a new normal. School resumed in December even though the situation is unpredictable.



Thank God for the measure of relief that RO was able to bring in times of insecurity.

Pray for continuing stamina for our Haitian partners.

Pray for a student who was diagnosed with typhoid fever. Our staff took her to the doctor and is educating her mother on how to care for her.

Pray, also, for a teen with an undiagnosed stomach issue. Pray that a diagnosis and cure will be found.



In addition to making sure that the students were fed, the coordinators rose to the occasion and each church planned a Christmas party for their students, emphasizing the real story of Christmas and organizing games. It was a meaningful time for the children.



Some fun and some learning games

We can't emphasize enough the difference your gifts make to these children in Haiti. Without your help, many of them would have been without food and without hope during this crisis.

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 or you can donate by PayPal on our website. All contributions except for printing and mailing costs go directly to Haiti.