



Rescue One

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

Mutual Encouragement

Donors, what an encouragement you have been in this uncertain time of Covid-19. Your continuing gifts are blessing the children of Haiti and are giving our Haitian partners the opportunity to use their gifts to bless the children and their families. We have seen our concept of subsidiarity in action as the Haitian staff has created food packets for the children during the months of May-August when school was not meeting. Each church committee customized kits and placed them in locations where the parents could conveniently pick them up. Cooperation has been evident as committees have helped other church committees when their members were unavailable. Committee family members have stepped up, also, to make sure the food was available. Seeing the staff work together to resolve many issues has been a major source of encouragement to our director in Haiti and to the US board.

Your gifts have encouraged us as a board. All of us together have encouraged the Haitians. They, in turn, have blessed and encouraged us with gracious comments such as these:

"May the Lord of all comfort continue to encourage us all to keep on loving each other, specially the neediest among us. God bless you and my regards to all the donors and all the board members."

"I love to help the kids. This is a passion for me."

This cycle of encouragement is a rich evidence of the grace of God in all of our lives.



But encourage
one another daily.
Hebrews 3:13

Have you shared the joy of giving to Haiti? Tell your family and friends about our ministry. Pass on this newsletter to a neighbor or sit down with a grandchild and show them what a blessing it is to give to these precious children of God.



Since school has now resumed, the students can again eat their meals at school. All 6 programs are serving a main meal. Two programs have resumed the breakfast program. The other 4 are trying to work out logistics so that they, too, can offer a breakfast program.

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

Meet Joseph

High on a hill facing the blue of the Caribbean Sea and overlooking the slums of Port-au-Prince is the Bolosse Church and the Maranatha School. This church was one of the first churches in the Rescue One program. Today the neighborhood has deteriorated and become very dangerous but our faithful partners there do their best to maintain the program.



Joseph is a 12-year-old sixth grader in this program. His parents and 3 siblings have lived in a slum near the church where gangs fight from time to time in front of their home. The sounds of gunshots and the sight of heavy weapons traumatized Joseph but his family could not afford to leave and rent elsewhere.

When Covid 19 came to Haiti, the parents took the family back to the countryside where they originally lived. While they were gone, gangs set fire to their small dwelling and the family lost everything they owned. Despite being out in the countryside, the parents came each month to pick up the food sack that Rescue One provided.

Joseph loves the RO program and when he heard that school was about to resume, he begged his parents to return to the city. And that is what they did. At this time, Joseph and his mother are staying temporarily in someone else's home so that he can attend school. The zone is dangerous but his parents do not want Joseph to miss school.

Joseph is extremely grateful for the Rescue One program. He and his parents constantly call the coordinator to thank her.



View of Port-au-Prince from the Bolosse Church

Covid 19 and Life in Haiti

As this newsletter is being written, Covid has not had as severe an effect in Haiti as predicted. This is surprising because most citizens cannot isolate. They live in crowded conditions and must sell their wares and shop for necessities in crowded market areas.

The Haitian staff of Rescue One has been using phone contact rather than personal visits with the families of the students. They are educating the families on the best ways to protect themselves. Thus far, none of our students has been ill with the virus.

Schools have resumed. Students are wearing masks and we pray that it will not be necessary to interrupt their education again. The months of August, September and October will be considered the last semester of the 2019-2020 school year. The 2020-2021 year will start in November.



A Haitian woman carries her goods to the market place.

Prayer Corner

Thank God that as fellow citizens of God's kingdom, we can mutually encourage each other.

Pray for health and safety for each of our students like Joseph as school resumes.

Pray for the Haitians whose lives in an already stressed society are complicated by the issues of run away inflation and numerous tropical storms/hurricanes that are slamming the country. As this newsletter goes to press, Hurricane Laura is causing extensive flooding and destruction.

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. 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.