



HAITI MISSION, INC.  
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OCTOBER 2016

*"To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.  
This is to have succeeded."* Ralph Waldo Emerson



## "A Natural Disaster of Apocalyptic Dimension"

Many of you already know that the eye of Hurricane Matthew passed directly over Jeremie and the villages that we have been serving for over 15 years. The slow moving storm left near total destruction in many areas and the aftermath has left our friends of Haiti in desperate need of our help.

At a time when we had plans to begin our sponsorship campaign for the 2017 Silent Auction to continue our home building, Mother Nature has once again left us with another task at hand. A recent email HMI received from friends who have been on one of our mission trips summed things up succinctly, **"Father Joe's message was incredibly telling in its simplicity, saying little more than "we are alive".** (Even more incredible, because of our houses, buildings, water wells and other improvements which HMI had done in preparation for the possibility of something such as this, **no one** died in our villages!)

Many of you have likely experienced or know people in the US who have been through a natural disaster. Many of us have been through many hurricanes and flooding events and have witnessed firsthand what impact it has on our communities. The physical, mental and financial burden can be devastating. Multiply that many times over and maybe one can begin to understand what our area of Haiti has experienced. (A strange advantage in our villages -if there is any- is that they are not waiting around for the electricity to come back on or other services to be provided since they didn't have any of those to begin with.)

The good news is that Bec's Bakery, the Numero Deux School, the Kayenroud school and Fr. Joe's Compound were all built to withstand this type of event and are intact. Fr. Joe had ordered a month's supply of food to feed the school children and they are now feeding families from Bec's and the school. Both are used as shelters and distribution centers.

We have built 84 houses in the area and although we do not know the full extent of damage, all of the homes we have gotten pictures of up to now are standing tall but with no roof.

We have received many text messages and emails from friends who have asked to help and want to know what to do, so we have come up with a plan described following the pictures below of some of the damage.

## "Pictures are worth a thousand words"

**The School at Ravine Sable**



**Our Lady of the Assumption Church –  
Numero Deux Haiti**





(Top Picture)

**Mrs. Emile Charles' house (House #5 built in 2010)**

(Bottom Picture)

**Mrs. Sadila and her family – House #40**

**"Great works are not built by strength but by perseverance. We will persevere! (Samuel Johnson)**

And very apropos to our situation are these encouraging words. "What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway." (statement found written on the wall in Mother Teresa's home for children in Calcutta)



### **The Plan - Hurricane Matthew Emergency Relief Campaign**

HMI sent \$18,000 a few days before the hurricane to be utilized to Feed Children at School in October (\$3000) and \$15,000 for building Homes # 85 and #86.

There will not be school in October and Fr. Joe certainly will not be building homes #85 & 86 at this time, so we have released the \$18,000 to Fr. Joe to be used immediately in whatever way he sees fit to help with feeding and/or gathering supplies that are needed to help the community.

**With the amount over \$18,000 that we raise we will focus our efforts primarily in three areas:**

1. Continue with distribution of food and supplies that can be obtained through our local contacts via available through transportation.
2. Maintain the 14 wells that HMI considers are our responsibility, if supplies and parts are available, to help prevent diseases of all kinds but especially cholera.
3. As supplies become available, utilize our work crew to repair as many of the 84 previously built HMI homes as possible.

If there are excess funds available from this Relief Fund after 1-3 above, then we can expand or increase our distribution efforts on mission trips scheduled for December 2016, April and May 2017. ( Of course these mission trips will only take place if Fr. Joe feels like we can come help and not be more of a burden)

### **Later Plans that are already Funded:**

When the children start back at school we will begin feeding them again since we do have all designated money available to do that through the school year.

When supplies become available we will begin building homes again with #85 & 86. Obviously, this will happen when God is ready. We have funding available/pledged through silent auction and donors to build 20 more homes (Through #104).

We will rely upon Fr. Joe's input on a regular and timely basis as to the direction we can be most useful.

**We cannot say it better than an email received shortly after the storm.**

**"Without a doubt, HMI has a busy few months ahead. We were fortunate to visit the area, see the great services the group provides, and experience the sense of hope and resilience in the people. The storm has changed the scope of the work, but that call to serve remains."**

God bless you all for the support you have given HMI in the past. If you have any questions or suggestions please let us know. Our mission trip planned from December 28 - January 4 lead by Dr. David and Laura Fakier is ready and excited to roll up their sleeves and help where they can. Keep praying for HMI and our Haitian family members as we begin to rebuild and restore our friends to wholeness.

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This newsletter is dedicated to raising funds to help the families whom we have come to know and love in the villages around Jeremie, Haiti who have sustained a direct hit from Hurricane Matthew. May God bless you and your loved ones for your commitment to the poor by giving in whatever way the Holy Spirit directs you.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Here is my gift to help out with rebuilding from Hurricane Matthew.**

**Here is my immediate donation to use where most needed:**

\$1000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

This monetary gift is made in memory of \_\_\_\_\_,  
please send an acknowledgement card

to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

- Send me envelopes to be a monthly "helping hand":  
 I will be a prayer partner and pray for the Haiti Mission.  
 Please put me on your email/info list. email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I am interested in going on a mission trip.

Call me @: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Haiti Mission Inc. is a 509(a)(1) tax exempt public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Tax ID#14-1861365*

**Haiti Mission - Caring with Generosity and Joy**

**THANKS FOR HELPING!**

**No donation is too small. No gift unappreciated!**

Haiti Mission, Inc. does not discriminate because of race, religion, sex, age, disability, national origin or financial status.

***"He who has compassion on the poor lends to the Lord,  
and he will repay him for his good deeds." Pvb 19:17***

***"No One has ever become poor by giving"***

The hand written words of Anne Frank (1929-1945)

**FAIE'S FACTS**

During this final month of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, we have the opportunity to be attentive to the corporal and spiritual needs of our brothers and sisters in Haiti. What better way to give alms than to help feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, give medical aid to the wounded, help provide some personal care needs for the prisoners and to offer our prayers to comfort the afflicted in Jeremie and the surrounding villages!