

House for Japhcanie Alexis



Current Alexis Family Home

The effects of malnutrition in young children are sometimes irreversible. This happened with Japhcanie Alexis. Some mission team members took Japhcanie to Mirebalais Hospital several years ago after a local doctor diagnosed her with brain cancer. Actually, the modern hospital in Mirebalais operated by “Partners in Health” discovered that she was really suffering from a severe deficit of Vitamin A, common in Haiti and other underdeveloped countries. It left her nearly blind. Being blind in Haiti (even partially so) is a huge handicap for any child and is difficult for any family to cope with. Several people associated with the Foundation and its mission teams have paid special attention to this family ever since.

Recently, the family received some tragic news. An older son in the family was killed in gang violence in Port-au-Prince. The family is in mourning.

Some very generous anonymous donors decided that they were going to make a difference for this family. Adequate shelter is a problem for many families in Haiti. A contractor evaluated the Alexis house for repairs but it was found to be non-repairable. The donors asked the Fond Doux Foundation to build a house for this family, if they provided the funds. Her new house will have 2 bedrooms, solar lighting, bathroom and a rain water catchment system for household needs. A \$100 donation could welcome this family into their new home with some beans, rice and oil.

Other Projects Needing Gifts

The Clinic. In this issue you will see and hear about the opening of the Fond Doux Clinic, a project 3 years in the making. We need some major donations to get this project up to a standard to which we desire – the addition of a public latrine (\$6,000) and a diagnostic lab (several thousand dollars) as well as gifts for ongoing operational expenses.

Platon School. We are the chief funding for a small elementary school in the remote village of Platon, Haiti. We recently initiated a program to eliminate malnutrition among the students of the school, where one third of the children come to school without breakfast. We need donors who will give continuously to sustain this program. The new program adds \$150 to our monthly budget, and we have **two other schools** that we would like to add to the program if we had the funding – the Methodist School of Fond Doux and the Ravine Parc School just outside of Fond Doux.

Chicken Farm. We were on the verge of opening a chicken farm to provide needed protein to the diet of hungry children, when the land owner backed out of his financial agreement. This has caused us to search for another site. The best alternative appears to be the purchase of land and building our own chicken coop. This raises start-up costs, but it enhances our ability to devote more of the proceeds for charity. One-time donors (up to \$20,000) could make this project of self-help come into being. This is a donation that could keep giving and giving back!

Methodist School and Community Center/Library.



The Methodist Church of Fond Doux

The Methodist School of Fond Doux meets in the Methodist Church of Fond Doux and is severely overcrowded (100 students in a one room building).

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The Foundation needs a location to operate various community activities, including its nutrition, health and animal husbandry classes plus possible trade school classes. A joint project with the Methodist Church of Fond Doux, the Methodists of New York and other willing partners will be searching for a minimum of \$40,000 to build a multi-purpose building to house part of the school and a community center and library.

University Scholarships. The Foundation spends about \$10,000 per year to send young people to college so that they can return with the appropriate skills to help the community. Each new scholarship costs about \$2,500 per year. We thank the donors that are sponsoring our students!

English Language Instruction. This month we launched a new strategy of helping the English teachers in the high schools of Fond Doux teach their students to actually learn to speak and become fluent in English. The current experiment is funded by an anonymous donor, but a companion piece of opening an English only forum for people to practice their English has not yet been funded. The cost could be modest, perhaps \$100 a month.

Agricultural Improvement. We now hold educational classes and assistance in goat deworming and vaccinations. We dream of an agronomist and irrigation projects that must wait for some American donors to catch a vision of how important these could be. Just dreams right now!

Emergency Needs. Every year the Foundation provides emergency food and other supplies to combat the extreme poverty and lack of ability to combat the man-made and natural disasters in the Haitian community.



Emergency Food Distribution

Epworth Outreach Committee has generally given about \$3000 annually for this cause. Most people in the community eat but one meal a day. Some eat two meals. Virtually none regularly eat three meals a day. Your Foundation is at work doing what our donors will support. We have stretched our dollars to work hand in hand with the Haitians and give hope to those that often have no hope. Thanks for your continuing support.

Vita Mamba Snack



Platon School Children and their Snacks

Vita Mamba, the Haitian grown and manufactured snack with a peanut butter, soy and dairy base, provides all the usually missing nutrients of the Haitian diet, including protein and vitamin A to name a few. Buying these products in Haiti helps the economy of Haiti as well as provide the needed nutrition. After receiving these snacks, the children went outside and played vigorously as well as worked on their lessons. This is an experimental program dependent on developing a sufficient financial base.

Response to Burke's Plea

Last month we led off our monthly Flyer with the heart-wrenching letter from one of our Haitian translator's, William Burke, who moved to Dame Marie, Haiti. Although his home is outside the area of the Foundation's purview, we raised \$800 to send emergency food and seeds to help him and his neighbors. This is not a solution to the widespread famine in Southeast Haiti which requires a massive response from either the Haitian government, international organizations or both. We have notified some organizations that may have greater resources to mobilize their response including UMCOR. However, the Foundation is not in a position to undertake a major project in this area. Nevertheless, we could not allow the plea to go completely unanswered!

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Fond Doux Clinic Opens



Myrdred Kaminski Delva

May 25th, 2022 marked a significant day in the village of Fond Doux and in the history of the Fond Doux Foundation. The community nurse, Myrdred Delva serves as the medical director of the Fond Doux Clinic, which opened after three years of dreaming and then planning for this day!



Lock Repair

Among the things that needed to be done before opening were repairing the locks to secure supplies and equipment, painting the walls to provide cleanliness and a good appearance, and the purchase of cleaning supplies and equipment including a rake, mop, brooms and even a wheelbarrow to keep the yard in good condition. The water and electrical systems were not yet in place on opening day. A generator was purchased to provide needed electricity, but a solar system is being planned. The water system should follow shortly. The diagnostic laboratory is in the planning stage but not yet approved. We believe that a good

microscope has been located and will be donated, but not yet obtained or transported.



Painting the Clinic



Wheelbarrow, Rake, Mop, Brooms



Opening Day Patient Arriving

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A Thank You

In recent months the Fond Doux Foundation has greatly increased its cooperation with the Methodist Church and School in Fond Doux. In the process, we discovered the sad fact that the teachers of the school were 18 months behind in receiving their pay. Further that they are receiving only \$75 USD per month when they are actually paid. The dedication of these teachers to continue teaching when they are not being paid is astounding. As people affiliated with the Methodist Church, we found this situation to be intolerable. Although the Foundation is not responsible for the payment of these teachers, nor are we in a financial position to assume responsibility for the school, the board of directors authorized the payment of \$1000 USD to give a gift to these dedicated teachers. We believe this is money well spent. It is the equivalent of one month's payroll. Thirteen staff members received monetary gifts equal to one month's pay.

We received a letter written in French from the school. Here is the letter in English translation:

Fond Doux, April 2, 2022

To: Fond Doux Foundation
From: Methodist School of Fond Doux
Purpose: Acknowledgement

Very dear Fond Doux Foundation,
We have difficulty finding the right words to congratulate you on the noble and precious work you have done in the field of social assistance specifically in educational activities.

With this said, we the heads of the Methodist School of Fond Doux, are very interested in school and educational activities. That is why we thank you sincerely for the payroll donation you sent to pay the staff who are not lacking in joy. We must say that we are happy to have received this money. In fact, it is to show our gratitude to the Fond Doux Foundation that we write this letter to thank you for this donation.

So, please believe, very dear Fond-Doux Foundation, our distinguished greetings.

For those responsible,
Lovely Felix, Educational Director
Veldor Roseme, Founding Director
Sonise Colidor, Teacher

English Language Instruction



Group Picture of English Teachers

On May 18th, 19th and 20th four English teachers representing La Bonne Semence school plus seven other English teachers met at the Methodist Church to learn new ways of teaching the English language under the tutelage of Makendy Lazard and staff from the Simple English School in Miragoâne. The La bonne Semence school seems committed to teaching English to be spoken and understood. The La bonne Semence teachers were Marcathur JOSEPH, Jean Meny DAMUS, Clismith POUSSIN Junior, and Joachim ESTIMÉ. Mr. ESTIMÉ also teaches at the Capois La Mort school. The other teachers were Pierre Chardson DORZENE (teacher at the Wesleyenne School), Chermitil JEANNOT (teacher in Petit-Goave), Thabitha JEAN BAPTISTE (teacher in Violet), Wilnor CHARLEMAGNE (teacher in Lamadeine), Ancitho GENE (Saturday Club at the Methodist Church) Venelson VITELUS (Saturday Club) and Wisny LEBLANC. This is part of our new strategy for the teaching of English announced last month. Food for the event was prepared by women from the Methodist Church.

To learn about this or other projects, you may contact the Foundation in a number of ways:

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The Fond Doux Foundation engages friend-to-friend with people in and around the village of Fond Doux, Haiti, helping to provide better access to medical care and health education, improved nutrition through agriculture and animal husbandry, educational scholarships, and intercultural faith-based activities. FDF is a 501(c)3 organization based in Durham, North Carolina.