

## **Community Health Worker**



**Christela Julsaint**

For many months, the Flyer has been focusing on the progress towards the opening of the Fond Doux Community Clinic which opened on May 25<sup>th</sup>, and rightfully so, because it is a really big deal. It will be an even bigger “big deal” when we get the lab set up and the amenities all installed. But as important as the clinic is, it is open at the present time only one day a week -- on Thursday.

What happens, if you have an emergency on some day other than a Thursday? Well you seek out Madam Christela, our community health worker. She is not a medical professional, but she has been trained to treat wounds, burns and dehydration. One week this month she saw 4 wound victims and 3 burn victims. An example is when one of our committee members was in an accident. He was injured sufficiently that the skin was broken.



**Wound from Accident**

Madam Christela cleaned the wound and placed an anointment to cover the wound. In this case she chose not to bandage it, although she could have. The patient was very pleased.



**Wound after Treatment**

Madam Christela has been serving the people of Fond Doux for nearly a decade. She was the first person to become a permanent employee of the Foundation. She is available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. Now with the availability of the community nurse, she is an even more valuable asset to the community as she works with her to coordinate care. The community health worker is also able to give out hygiene kits to teenage girls when she has one to give. They are always in high demand and we have difficulty in keeping them available.

## **Meeting with Midwives**



**June 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting Of Midwives**

A training session is scheduled for August 1<sup>st</sup> with our community nurse Myrdred Kaminski Delva.

## The Fond Doux Flyer August 2022

### Platon Latrine



**New Latrine at Platon (June 2022)**

Construction of a latrine to serve the village and the school in Platon began in 2019. It was done primarily with volunteer labor and proceeded slowly – very slowly. This year a roof was finally put on the new facility. It may not seem like much, but it is a genuine improvement for the people of the village of Platon and for the students and teachers at the Good Samaritan School in Platon.



**Construction Began in 2019**



**One of the Stalls of the Latrine**

The Foundation subsidizes the school (pays the salaries of five teachers) and paid for the materials for the construction of this facility. It is difficult to measure the importance of such small things as a decent if not elegant latrine! We rejoice in some small things that improve the lives of our friends and partners in Platon, Haiti.

### Fond Doux Soccer Team



**Team in Training**

There are few opportunities in Haiti including Fond Doux to come together as a community, relax and have fun. Life is hard and recreational activities are few. One exception is the ability to play soccer or to come together to cheer the local team as they play in a community league against rivals from nearby towns. In January of 2021, the Foundation completed the expansion of the community soccer field in Fond Doux to make it regulation size. It was not the most popular project of the Foundation in the US. But it is a hit in Fond Doux. We still have a deficit of \$3400 USD because we use only designated contributions to pay for the soccer field. This year special donations raised

## The Fond Doux Flyer August 2022

enough money to buy some new uniforms and shoes for the community soccer team. The whole community takes pride in the team. The first game took place on Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup>.



**New Uniforms for the Village Team**

### Inflation Hurts the Poor

Haiti has been hit by many disasters. They never seem to get a break. We have in the past shared the stories of hurricanes and earthquakes, gangs and kidnapping, poverty and corruption, failure of government and poor soil. Yet, one of the cruelest things hitting the people of Haiti is inflation. A few years ago, we built a house for Antoinette Innocent's family. The cost was a little over \$7000 USD. This month we are building a home for the Alexis family, the identical house is costing us \$11,600 USD. The cost of food has also skyrocketed. Haiti imports much of its food from the USA. If prices go up here, they go up there as well.

### New English Class



**Ravine Parc English Club**

Ancitho Gene, an English scholarship student at SES in Miragoâne and a teacher at the Ravine Parc Primary School, and Jowasky Saint-Surin, an SES graduate,

have started to teach interested students in Ravine Parc to speak the English language on Friday and Saturday mornings. Emile Maceus, the Haitian Executive Director of the Fond Doux Foundation, is overseeing the class. Eluard Louis helps with English pronunciation. Makendy Lazard of the Simple English School (SES) in Miragoâne is a consultant. Both Ancitho and Jowasky say the students are eager to learn English. They have a total of 20 members in the club. The children range in age from 10 to 17. For some of the older children, it is the only education they are receiving because of their inability to afford tuition to high school according to teacher Ancitho Gene. [There are no public schools in the area.]

Because, Haitian children are often hungry and malnourished, the board decided to occasionally provide a Vita Mamba snack, a specially designed Haitian children's nutrition supplement, for the young people in the class. They also purchased a radio, useful for learning English through English songs. This was a request of both the teachers and the Executive Director.

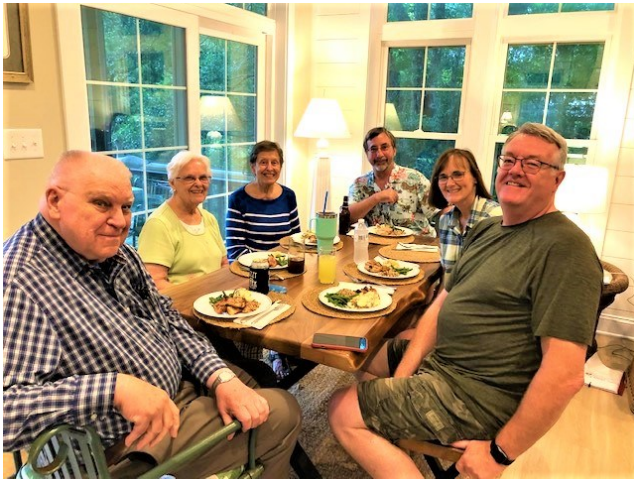


**Radio for English Club**

Ravine Parc is a small community part way up the mountain directly north of Fond Doux. Further up the mountain are two more small villages, Delatte and Gibney. Epworth and Fond Doux Foundation mission teams used to visit Delatte regularly and Gibney occasionally. The road is so bad, however, that the teams stopped making the trip. A number of Epworth members used to sponsor students in the Delatte school. On the other side of the mountain is the remote village of Platon where the Foundation supports the Good Samaritan School of Platon.

## The Fond Doux Flyer August 2022

### FDF Board Retreat



On July 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> the Fond Doux Foundation board met at the home of Linda Mitchell for their annual board retreat. Having just opened the Community Clinic, our number one goal is to raise an additional \$1000 per month to support the recurring costs of the clinic to provide medicine for those that cannot afford it and salaries

The Fond Doux Foundation has a comprehensive approach to Mission -- all the basics, physical and spiritual: water, food, health care, education, spiritual values and community cooperation. We are partnering with a local committee, three churches (Methodist, Primitive and Wesleyenne) and one school (Good Samaritan School of Platon). Members of the local Haitian committee also teach in two other schools, the Methodist School of Fond Doux and the Ravine Parc School. As a result, we have become enormously aware of the great needs encountered by these teachers – especially lack of food, clothing, tuition, and adequate housing for their students.

Since there are no public schools, parents must pay tuition for their children. We have discovered numerous children whose parents cannot pay the tuition, but also very alarmingly do not have enough food to feed their children. On an emergency basis a few donors have helped with providing some scholarships for these children to remain in school. However, the board decided that the best use of our resources (if we are to help these children) is to expand the nutrition program -- Vita Mamba, the Haitian produced snack that provides all the missing nutrients in the Haitian diet. We are providing these snacks now for the Platon School. We would like to provide this for the children of the Methodist School

also and then if possible the Ravine Parc as well (a hundred students each) about \$550 per month per school. We decided to see what response we can get for these purposes. Finding support for our ongoing costs for the clinic and increasing support Vita Mamba are our greatest present needs.

#### Recurring (present needs) Monthly\*

Present Clinic Operation	\$1000
Platon School Teachers	\$ 500
Vita Mamba (Platon School)	\$ 330

#### Additional (desired) Monthly

Vita Mamba (Methodist School)	\$ 550
Vita Mamba (Ravine Parc School)	\$ 550
Additional for Expanded Clinic	\$ 200

\*This is not a complete listing of all ongoing projects.

The board is also working on four major construction projects (that can be paid from one-time gifts): completion of the clinic facilities, community latrines, a chicken farm and a community center/school near the Methodist Church. For the construction projects to take place we need some major donors. We have been seeking a volunteer grant writer to help us search out secular sources. We are also seeking a grant from a local Church. For the Community Center/School we are also seeking help from some Methodist Churches in New York, who were the original sponsors of the school. Progress has been slow. We will probably need to proceed sequentially. The projects range from \$15, 000 to \$40,000+. If you would consider a major gift we would love to talk to you or if you know someone interested please let us know. We can only do what our donors provide. Thank for your continuing support!

### **“SO LITTLE CAN DO SO MUCH”**

To learn about our projects or to donate, you may contact the Foundation in a number of ways:

Website: [www.fonddouxfoundation.org](http://www.fonddouxfoundation.org)

Email: [John@fonddouxfoundation.org](mailto:John@fonddouxfoundation.org)

Address:

Fond Doux Foundation

PO Box 51443

Durham, NC 27717

Website manager: Brent Engel

Newsletter editor: John Clausing

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.