

The Fond Doux Flyer December 2022

Brent Engel Visits Haiti



Eluard, Emile and Brent Engel

On November 17th and 18th, Brent Engel, Treasurer of the Fond Doux Foundation, went to Port-au-Prince to meet with Emile Maceus, the Executive Director of the Foundation, and Eluard Louis, our Haitian Bookkeeper-Management Assistant, for the purpose of coordinating the work of the Foundation.



Emile, Brent and Eluard with the Centrifuge

Brent brought a significant number of supplies and equipment with him including a microscope, slides, centrifuge and refractor for the clinic laboratory. He also brought biohazard collection bags and an otoscope (device to look in the ear) for the clinic. In addition, he brought along 4 computers and three cell-phones to be used by our students and/or staff. He also brought some personal items hard to find in Haiti. The visit was short and arduous.

They met in a hotel not far from the airport. The agenda included a wide-ranging review of the projects of the Foundation in various stages of implementation in an effort to keep a free flow of information between the American and Haitian parts of the relationship up to date.

Because of the Pandemic and turbulence in Haiti, the regular mission trips have been suspended. When they might resume is unknown. In the mean time we keep our presence through the work of our Haitian staff and volunteers. Good communication is essential in this very difficult time for our Haitian brothers and sisters.



Le Petit Delma with New Computer

Le Petit recently received a computer as one of our university scholarship students. He studies accounting and business administration at Miragoâne University.

Teacher Training



Teaching the Teachers

Many teachers in rural Haiti have very little education. Many in fact have little more or no more than a high school education. The Foundation is seeking to improve the competency of the teachers in the schools with which we are associated. We are the chief sponsor of the school in Platon, have forged a partnership with the

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Methodist School of Fond Doux and give an occasional helping hand to the School for Tomorrow in Ravine Parc. We have several scholarship students that attend the Wesleyenne School of Fond Doux and the Capois la Mort and the La bonne Semence schools also of Fond Doux.

On November 17th and 18th, 32 teachers from these 6 schools were able to attend 2 days of intensive training with professors from Quisqueya University providing the training. This was arranged by our Executive Director Emile Maceus and paid for by the Foundation. Professor Jean Brunès designed the curriculum. Professors Valcin Lejuste and Dino Joseph were the other leaders.



The Three Professors

The teachers studied didactics (various ways to teach) pedagogy (the ways students learn), and class management including lesson planning and docimology (the art of testing). They participated in various ways including the act of brainstorming. The sessions were held at the Methodist Church of Fond Doux.



Those that Received a Certificate

Meet our New High School Students

Because of the turmoil in the country, schools did not open this Fall in Haiti -- one of the continuing tragedies hitting the country. However, all schools should be opening soon, by January at least.

When the Foundation reported that some students were not going to be able to attend high school because of financial difficulties, several people stepped forward and offered to sponsor students for a high school education even though this has not been an announced project of the Foundation. The Foundation has honored their requests and has arranged education for a number of students to begin high school (seventh grade) as soon as school begins.

The Fond Doux Foundation has been sponsoring the School in Platon for three years. However, the Good Samaritan School in Platon stops at sixth Grade. Students who desire to go further must leave the village and board in Petit-Goave with another family.



Romendia Sylvestre of Platon

Romendia Sylvestre will be attending College Jacques Stephen Alexis in Petit-Goave. We have arranged a place for her to stay in Petit-Goave with a friend. The US sponsor will pay tuition and other expenses including books, uniform, school supplies and transportation.



Rosemarie Fontenel from Ravine Parc

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Rosemarie Fontenel is 17 years old and will be a seventh-grade student at the Wesleyenne School. Previously, she needed to drop out of school repeatedly because the family could not afford her tuition and other school expenses. She is the oldest of 5 children and also participates in the English Club at Ravine Parc. Rosemarie served as a volunteer worker in the distribution of food that the Foundation sponsored in October in response to the food crisis caused by the road blockades and high cost of gasoline.



Anecheca Jean from Ravine Parc

Anecheca Jean is 15 years old and lives in Delatte (north of Fond Doux further up the mountain from Ravine Parc). She is a graduate of Hope for Tomorrow School in Ravine Parc. She has one brother and one sister. Although it is a long walk, she will walk to a high school in Fond Doux. She takes part in the English Club in Ravine Parc sponsored by the Foundation.



Lorvinsky Bogelin from Ravine Parc

Lorvinsky Bogelin is 12 years old. He has two brothers and two sisters and lives at Roma near Delatte. Like Anecheca, he is a graduate of Hope for Tomorrow School in Ravine Parc. He also will need to walk to Fond Doux to attend school. He is the only one of the new

high school students whose education was not interrupted by temporary withdrawals from school. He likewise takes part in the English Club.

Two other students are also receiving a high school education scholarship because of connections that developed through mission trips. We normally do not offer scholarships in Fond Doux as that is the mission of Mission to Haiti. However, on rare occasions, mission team members have offered special assistance.



Rikelme Boutoute from Fond Doux

Rikelme Boutoute became a close friend of an American mission team member during several mission trips. When it became apparent that he was not going to be able to attend school because of financial difficulties, the volunteer's grandmother decided to help him do so. He is also known as Patoutou. Our Haitian staff verified his need.



Japhcanie Alexis from Fond Doux

Japhcanie Alexis is nearly blind. As a small girl she was taken to the hospital sponsored by Partners in Health at Mirebalais, Haiti because a local doctor suspected brain cancer. It turned out instead to be a Vitamin A deficiency. She is now old enough to begin seventh grade and is sponsored by two former mission team

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members who became acquainted with her then and have helped her since. They are the same people that are providing a new home for her and her family, a project on temporary hold. An older brother of hers was killed this year because of gang violence in Port-au-Prince.

Response to Cholera

Another tragic result of the recent gang activity has been the outbreak of cholera in the country. The blockades which have stifled the Haitian economy also caused a scarcity of water in Port-au-Prince leading unfortunately to an outbreak of cholera. Since then, it has spread as far as Vialet, just east of Fond Doux.

With cholera so close to Fond Doux, the Foundation is planning a class on cholera prevention to be taught by our community nurse, Myrdred Kaminskie Delva. The foundation will provide all persons present with soap, bleach and water purifying tablets. The foundation has a few wash buckets for distribution for those that have no a wash bucket at home. We will provide more if needed.

Another Partnership Developing?

Fond Doux, Haiti has been blessed by the presence of Mission trips not only from the Fond Doux Foundation, but also Chi Alpha campus ministries of the Assembly of God. Initiated by an American missionary known as Pastor Bob, about 30 years ago he began to develop a compound known as Theo's Place, God's Place. [Theo is the Greek word for God.] This is located just east of the Wesleyenne Church which in turn is located just east of the Primitive Church, with which we have shared ministries. They are in close proximity. The Methodist Church, where we have been hosting many of our programs recently is 20 minutes further west.

Students from the campus ministries helped Pastor Bob build a small church and a small school. He is now deceased, but the mission compound is now led by a Haitian Andre Vinelon, who moved there about 15 years ago.

Some people who visited Theo's Place as university students became attracted to the possibility of a continuing ministry there. Among these are Elisha Chan, Bryan Citrin and Angela Lewis.

In 2015 they began a pregnancy program to help pregnant women with proper food, vitamins and education to insure healthy babies. Recently, Angela

Lewis, the American that sponsors the pregnancy program and Micha Sainatus, the Haitian nurse technician living in Fond Doux that runs the program and Micha's brother David met with our Executive Director Emile Maceus and explored the idea of running this program from the clinic building.



Angela, Emile, Micha and David

Since the clinic is not open six days a week, this seems like good stewardship. It also involves breaking down the walls of competition among the various churches of Fond Doux and fosters cooperation among them. At the same time our community nurse is exploring ways to give better health care to pregnant mothers. Cooperation would seem to make good sense. However, exploration does not always mean that it automatically happens. We will keep you informed. Whether it happens or not, the two missions are talking with one another. That is a good thing.

"SO LITTLE CAN DO SO MUCH"

To learn about our projects or to donate, 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.