

Promotion



Eluard Louis

Eluard Louis, who has served for the last eight months as Bookkeeper/Management-Assistant for the Foundation has been promoted to Assistant Director. In addition to continuing his present duties, he will assume primary responsibility for reporting the Haitian finances and become the designated administrator of both the clinic and the English language program of the Foundation.

As the administrator of the clinic he will run the day to day operation of the clinic including decisions on purchasing medicines and supplies. He will work with the Haitian clinic committee for advice and consent on clinic policies. He will continue to make reports and requests as needed to the FDF.

As the administrator of an experimental program to improve the English language instruction in Fond Doux, he will cooperate with other teachers of English in the village. The major foci of the program will be finding a way to enable English speakers to practice oral English and to work with teachers willing to improve their own English ability and ability to teach oral English. He has already been working with the teachers of English at the Ravine Parc English Club.

Eluard has been engaged in the Fond Doux Clinic almost from the beginning and previously worked as an instructor of English at Wonderful Institute in Petit-Goave. He attended classes at Quisqueya University and Haitian American Institute in Port-au-Prince. He is married and the father of one child.

Meet Cassandre Jean



Cassandre is one of several high school students being helped by the Foundation. High school education is not one of our priorities because it is being addressed by other mission groups in Fond Doux, but we are often implored by our Haitian friends for help. So, we help. She attends the Wesleyenne School in Fond Doux and is also attending Sanctuary English Institute at Olivier near Fond Doux on a Foundation scholarship. She was recently interviewed by Venelson Vitelus:

“I am Marie Cassandre Jean. I'm 19 years old. I live in Fond Doux. I'm a student at the Wesleyenne School. I have one year remaining to be finished with my high school. As for my religion, I am a Christian and attend worship at the Wesleyenne Church.

I have four brothers and two sisters. I'm living in a family of three -- one of my brothers, one of my sisters, and my mother. My mother's name is Ketlie Jean. My father does not live with us. In fact, he denies me. He hasn't taken care of me since I was a baby. So, in that sense I can say that I have no father. I love English very much. I dream about becoming a good English speaker and then a chemist.

In my community the greatest need is finding water for the gardeners to be able to water their gardens. I also wish for a university so people don't need to go somewhere else to learn a profession.

It was a pleasure for me to share this information. I don't have the words to thank you for your help. Thank you so much. May God bless and protect all of you who have been willing to help me.”

We thank our donors that give her, and others, hope.

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Meet Rosemarie Fontenel



Rosemarie is one of three students that graduated from the Hope for Tomorrow School in Ravine Parc¹ last Spring who received scholarships to the Wesleyenne High School in Fond Doux. She was interviewed by Venelson Vitelus. She is 17 years old.

"I go to school on foot. Yes, from my house to the school is a long distance.² During my walk to school, I usually have some other students who live next to my house walk with me. Sometimes Ancito Gene, my former teacher, drops me off at the school as well.³ I go to school from 10 AM to 6 PM. I get home very late because I also always need to go home on foot; that causes me to arrive late. The school opened on October 4th, but I first started on January 9th. The subjects that I have are: math, French, Creole, science, social science, Spanish, and English⁴, but my preferred subjects are English and math.

About the English club at Ravine Parc, that is something that I very much love because it helps me getting started in learning English. What made me become a student at the club? it's because when I heard people speaking English, I saw it's a beautiful language. Also, I went to school next to the club. I always heard when Ancito would be teaching. That motivated me to come. I love the club because I learn native English⁵ and the teachers have good articulation.

I became familiar with the Fond Doux Foundation because of the club and then there was also an activity where I was involved with the Foundation. I participated in a distribution of food that was made at Émile Maceus's house. I learned about it from Ancito. I helped them put rice in bags.

¹ Google maps calls the place Ravine Paques.

² Over an hour's walk.

³ He has a motorcycle.

In my free time I like to watch TV. I had a phone for that; but unfortunately, it is broken now. I can't use it anymore! What I would like to achieve in my life is to finish my high school and afterwards go to a university. And then, I wish to build a house for my mother. I want to help my brothers too. My dream is to become an engineer and a translator.

About my family, I have a big family, 2 brothers and 3 sisters. My brothers and my sisters are not going to school anymore. They used to, but they don't anymore because of a lack of money. My Father is dead and my mother is not able to support them. About the two boys, one is 15 years old and the other one is 13 years old. As for the three girls, one is 7 years old; one is 4 years old and one is 2 years old.

The biggest problem that we have in my community is a problem of water and the road is not very good either.

In conclusion, I have a lot to say to the American friends at the Foundation. One important thing that I ask: Please, keep helping me finish with my schooling. In the future, I want to be able to help myself and my mother. Thanks for your help!"

Alexis Family Home



Day 1 Construction Begins

After several delays caused by the necessity of obtaining a clear title to the land and the illness of our contractor, construction on a new home for the Alexis Family of Fond Doux has begun. Many families struggle

⁴ Note that she is studying four languages, How difficult!

⁵ They have a radio with which they listen to native speakers.

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with inadequate housing, The roofs leak. The sides are porous as well. The Alexis family not only had a non-repairable house, but is coping with a nearly blind daughter, Djaphcanie, and had the additional misfortune of an older son being killed by gang violence in Port-au-Prince. The Foundation once had a goal of providing a new home every year for a family in need. But we actually build one only whenever we get sufficient funds designated for housing. A modest two-room house now costs about \$11,400. The Alexis family is the fourth family that we have helped with a new home in the last 10 years.



Day 17 Working on the Foundation



Day 28 Building the Walls

Sometimes we receive help from unexpected places, The Body of Christ Church, pastored by Jean Richard allowed us to store cement in their building to keep it out of the weather while we are building the house. Thank you, Pastor Jean Richard.

We expect to complete the home this month.

Vita Mamba Report



Children Playing After Snack

Pastor Jonas Pierre, administrator of the Good Samaritan School of Platon, reports that since we instituted the everyday snack of Vita Mamba, the nutritional snack, at the School at Platon that the attendance has been better, there are fewer sick children, those that come are more active and that the grades are better. Our Executive Director asked us, if we could extend the program to the Methodist School and some other schools? We told him only when we have commitments (pledges or money) to cover it. It costs about \$50 a child per school year to provide the snacks. There are about 100 children at the Methodist School and 100 students are the Ravine Parc School. To cover both means about \$10,000. Our present pledges cover only the Good Samaritan School (\$3,000). We thank the faithful donors making this possible. It is making a difference!



Methodist School Child with Snack at the Clinic

The clinic stores some Vita Mamba for malnourished or hungry children. We are also looking to provide Medika Mamba for severely malnourished children.

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Meds for the Clinic



On Wednesday, March 1st, Emile Maceus, our Executive Director, traveled to Port-au-Prince to purchase meds for the clinic. Because of gang activity, this is a dangerous trip. Fortunately, he made the trip without incident, for which we are grateful. The clinic does not like to store a lot of medications in the clinic pharmacy because they become a target for theft, but we do need to have the stuff needed for in-clinic use (injectables), the most frequently prescribed medicines, those difficult to obtain locally, and those for acute care.



Nurse Vava Shelving the Meds

On Thursday March 9th, Emile tried to return to Port-au-Prince to pick up hygiene kits that were transported to Haiti with the assistance of Mission to Haiti. He needed to turn back because of gang activity, a wise decision. He has not yet rescheduled. The hygiene kits, made by Epworth's Sewing Sisters, include washable sanitary pads designed to keep teen girls in school.

Congratulations Ancito Gene



Ancito Gene, the organizer and one of the teachers in the Ravine Parc English Club recently joined Venelson Vitelus and Jowasky Saint Surin as a recent graduate of the Simple English School in Miragoâne. Venelson and Jowasky also teach English at the Club. Ancito was previously a teacher in the Hope for Tomorrow School in Ravine Parc and is now a student at Ecole Normale de Petit-Goave majoring in education on a Foundation Scholarship. He expects to return to the Hope for Tomorrow School as a fully qualified and certified teacher upon completion of his university training. He is also a member of the Haitian Fond Doux Foundation Committee.

“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.