

**FDf Board Meeting**



**Dr. Libby Engel, President**

The Board of Directors of the Fond Doux Foundation met July 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> at the home of board member Linda Mitchel at Emerald Isle, NC for their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual planning retreat. They reviewed job performances of staff, looked at funding commitments, possible fundraising options and prioritized current and future projects. They approved two projects highlighted in other articles in this newsletter, a university scholarship and enlarging their commitment to combat malnutrition. They also approved the purchase of a motorcycle. Unfortunately, they needed to deny some requests from Haiti in order to prioritize others.

The board reviewed our options for the clinic. We were hoping to have renewed our contract with the Wesleyenne Church of Fond Doux for the use of the present clinic building. However, difficulties in these negotiations have caused the board to consider again the option of possibly moving the clinic operation to proposed facilities on our land instead of continuing the present partnership. The decision depends on the conclusion of our negotiations. The issues resolve around money and clinic priorities. The outcome will determine where we build the proposed restroom.

**Ongoing Funding Priorities:**

- 1) Funds for clinic operation.
- 2) Funds for Platon School operation.
- 3) Expand funding against malnutrition.
- 4) Scholarships.

**Capital Fund Priorities:**

- 1) Restroom for the clinic.
- 2) Community Center/School (also clinic?).

**Status of Capital Fundraising Goals:**

Restroom	\$ 4,700	Goal \$13,000
Community Center/School	\$19,000	Goal \$80,000
Solar Power	\$ 8,000	Goal \$ 8,000

We presently have a request for restroom construction money from the Endowment Committee of Epworth Church waiting the endorsement of the Outreach Committee of Epworth.

**Foundation to Fight Malnutrition**

The Fond Doux Community Clinic has been cooperating with a pregnancy program run by Michaelle Sainatus of Fond Doux and supported by Angela Lewis of Oklahoma to work towards healthy babies. The clinic also hopes to provide good care of babies after birth, pre-school children and school age children as well.

A big problem in Haiti is malnutrition. Studies have shown that providing adequate nutrition in the first 5 years is critical for the physical and mental development of children. The board is arranging training for our community nurse in a program sponsored by Meds and Food for Kids designed by Dr. Patricia Wolfe of St. Louis, MO. It utilizes Medika Mamba, a supplement especially developed for care of severely malnourished Haitian babies. We hope to stock a sufficient amount of it at the clinic. We are also working on ways to improve nutrition for other children. The Foundation recently voted to expand the Vita Mamba nutrition program to the Ravine Parc English Club and hopes to expand it to the Methodist School kindergarten as well. We would expand it even further if we had sufficient funding.

**New Motorcycle**



The Foundation recently purchased a motorcycle for the use of our Assistant Director Eluard Louis. He makes frequent trips to the Ravine Parc English Club among other duties. It is similar to the one purchased for the use of our Executive Director Emile Maceus. Eluard is responsible for the administration of the clinic, the

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English language program and the Haitian banking and financial reporting. He needs reliable transportation to perform these duties.

### Scholarship for Johnson Louis



The Board of Directors recently approved a university scholarship for Johnson Louis. Johnson is 29 years old and the son of Mannerle Louis and Yvrose Pierre. He has three brothers and two sisters. He is a member of the Methodist Church of Fond Doux and the Bible story leader in the Saturday Club sponsored by the Foundation at the Methodist Church.

He said, "The most important part of the Saturday Club for me is teaching the Bible. Religion is very important in my life. I became involved with the Methodist Church because of an evangelistic campaign at the church. Ever since I have been involved."

He is interested in becoming a teacher, He says, "My life is teaching. I don't have a job; but sometimes, I tutor kids in the community." He will use the scholarship to enter Emile Durkheim Normal School in Miragoâne. He hopes to teach at the Methodist School in Fond Doux when he completes his education.

Johnson is also interested in increasing the food supply in Fond Doux. He is an advocate for irrigation for that purpose. He was also approached by our Executive Director to help supervise a garden project on our land. Aside from planting some corn and plantain, however, this project has been on hold until we can erect a fence to keep out animals that eat garden plants.

He is a small farmer in his own right, caring for several animals on his parents' land, two beef cattle, four goats and a pig. He appears to be a well-rounded individual and we believe will make an excellent teacher.

### A Big Thank You

This past month we sent out an emergency request for our Medical Emergency/Surgery Fund, a special fund to provide life-changing surgeries or treatments for people unable to pay for them. Our "jars were empty" and we needed funds for our university scholarship student Schneider Saint Surin. Over two years ago he ate some sugar cane that cut his tongue and apparently imbedded part of it into his tongue and injured a blood vessel. Over time this created a very significant and growing problem. After consultations with a regular doctor and then a surgeon recently, it was determined he required immediate surgery. We needed a minimum of \$2300 to cover this surgery. There could be other expenses as well. The appeal has so far netted \$4750 for the fund with \$2950 designated specifically for the surgery related expenses. As a result, the surgery can be performed. We want to thank all those that contributed to this special appeal as well as all those that previously made contributions to this fund so that others have been able to live or lead significantly better lives. THANK YOU.

### Welcome Daphcamaëlle Michael



**Dave & Sandy Michael with Daphcamaëlle**

Congratulations to the proud parents of Daphcamaëlle Michael. She is the daughter of our night watchmen Dave Stevenson Michael and his wife Sandy Desrosier Michael. She arrived by caesarean operation on July 24<sup>th</sup>. On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, her parents brought her to the clinic for her first check-up. This is the third birth to one of our employees in the last year. She joins Emily Maceus and Eud Louis, children of our Executive Director Emile Maceus and Assistant Director Eluard Louis respectively. They were both born last October. We rejoice with the proud parents and wish her well.



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### Our Night Watchman Injured



**Dave Stevenson Michael**

Unfortunately, we have also received word, that our night watchman, Dave Stevenson Michael was involved in a motorcycle accident. He was on his way home from a soccer game on August 16<sup>th</sup> when another motorcycle crossed in front of him. He tried to avoid the accident but wound up lying on the road with several broken bones and severe lacerations. The bones were set by a doctor, but the wounds have needed attention every several days. He came to the clinic for further treatment of his wounds. The nurse Myrdred Delva has made special trips to Fond Doux from her home in Petit-Goave to treat them. He is recuperating. He survived. That is the good news.

### Death in the Family



**Dod Sanole Alexis (Center)**

Tragedy struck the Alexis family again shortly after moving into their new home. The Alexis family was the recipient of a new home provided by the Foundation. Dod Sanole, one of their young children, died. He is pictured here so happy when the family moved into their new home and had received some food. Tragically a month later he is now gone.

The family has been no stranger to ill fortune. Last year shortly after learning that they were going to receive a new home, they discovered that a married son was killed by gang violence in Port-au-Prince. Then after their existing house was torn down in order to build the new house, they discovered that they did not actually own the land upon which their home had been standing and lost a court battle to retain the property. We needed to purchase new land to build their home. The drawn-out dispute meant that they were homeless for almost a year while the process to obtain a place to build and then build the house took place. Even the building of the house was slow because the builder became ill necessitating unexpected further delay.

The Foundation became aware of this family some years ago, when the older daughter (not picture here), was taken to the Mirebalais Hospital for what was first diagnosed as cancer of the eye. It turned out to be damage due to Vitamin A deficiency (malnourishment) which caused the loss of vision in one eye and diminished the vision in the other. Several members of a mission team have been looking after the family ever since.



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### Tarp Ministry

Last month we reported that 30 Tarps were distributed in the village of Platon and five in Fond Doux to people that had homes that could not keep them dry when it rains. We thought that our readers might want to see some of the homes and recipients of these tarps.



Many of these homes need more than tarps as you can see, but the tarps do make them more livable.

### **“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)

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Website manager: Brent Engel

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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.