

## Gene Home Burglarized



**Gene Family Home**

Although one would think that someone living in a home such as this would have little to steal, the family of Ancito Gene, one of our Haitian co-workers, found their home broken into when they returned home after attending a funeral for an uncle. Their recently received tarp to prevent the rain from entering their house was stolen along with food, clothing and some money that the mother had borrowed from some friends to purchase things from the market. The theft has gone unsolved. It was possible because there was no lock on the door and because of its inadequate structure. Theft has not been a major problem in the local community before. This is a disturbing new reality along with the increasing violence in the country. The Foundation was able to provide some food for the family and a new tarp as well as a few other things.

The Gene family needs better housing like many other people living in the community. We provide tarps, an inadequate response, but at least a response. Building homes is so expensive (relative to our resources) that it cannot become a high priority for the Foundation. To build a one-room house costs about \$7,000 USD. A two-room house costs about \$12,000 USD. We build houses only when we have funds designated for that purpose.

Our limited resources are directed primarily to health care, nutrition and education. Even here the demand outstrips our resources. But we reach a far larger segment of people.

The Gene family is very grateful for our response to their tragedy. They repeatedly ask God to **bless us**.

## An Expanded Ministry



**Students from Life for All Ministries at the Clinic**

“Life for All Ministries” is a Saturday Club for children. at Madeleine, Haiti, a couple of kilometers west of the Methodist Church of Fond Doux, within walking distance. Our proposed campus is just across the road from the Methodist Church. The Club is run by Madam Benita, a dynamic local resident. The club has about 150 students that meet weekly for Bible lessons, fun and other educational activities. The club arranged for a meeting with parents to hear about our program at the clinic and to grant permission for their children to come to the clinic. Beginning in August and for several weeks into September, we were able to bring about 25 students from their program per week to the clinic for free check-ups. We are glad that we could reach these children in this way. **Thank You, clinic donors.**

Madam Benita would have liked us to expand the partnership in other ways. Because there are no public schools in the area, families need to pay tuition for their children to go to school. Many families cannot afford to pay. We presently are supporting 30 such children. She would have liked us to provide tuition for 20 more such students from their club. However, we cannot expand our program in this way, since we have already denied requests within our existing partnerships, because they were beyond our financial capacity. These include textbooks for children at the Methodist School (\$3,000), uniforms at the Methodist and Platon schools and teacher salaries at Ravine Parc.

We were able, however, to increase our nutritional supplement program Vita Mamba to nearly 100 additional children this year, 36 at the Methodist school and 60 at the Ravine Parc English Club. This is a significant expansion of our ministry. **Thank You!**

## Fond Doux Flyer October 2023

### Demonstrations Disrupt Clinic

On September 14<sup>th</sup> demonstrations in Petit-Goâve prevented our nurse Myrdred Delva from getting to the clinic. When she was confronted with a road block and potentially violent demonstration on the way to the clinic, she turned around and returned home rather than risk her life. Meanwhile 20 students from the Life for All Mission showed up for a check-up. They were rescheduled to the following week. We are glad no one was injured.

### Bertina Alexis



When our Executive Director Emile Maceus visited the Alexis family after they moved into their new home, this is what the youngest member of the family Bertina told him: “When I am going back to school I will not be afraid to be with some of my classmates anymore, because I live in a beautiful house now. When we were in the leaking tent, I always stayed behind when my teachers and classmates were going home after school, because I didn’t want them to see where I live!”

#### **“I didn’t want them to see where I live!”**

What a statement! Even children are affected by living conditions in ways that we might not suspect. The temporary living quarters, “the leaking tent”, lasted about a year for the Alexis family. We are glad they are now in their new home! We wish that more could find a nice place! But we are making a difference. At least one child is no longer ashamed to let people see where she lives. We wonder: How many others are ashamed of where they live?

### Lights for Platon



#### **Street Lights near Fond Doux**

When it gets dark, what do you do? You flip a switch and the lights come on. But what do you do when you do not have electricity? The village of Platon used to have a giant flood light powered by solar power. However, as with all things, the passage of time causes erosion of parts which eventually no longer work and need repair. That happened to the giant floodlight in Platon and the village went dark. “Can you do something?” we were asked. “The children have no place to study!”

The problems are multiple and repair extremely costly. So, the villagers asked us if we could find an alternative. They suggested several solar powered lights such as the street lights near Fond Doux. They can be purchased for \$150 each. The villagers said that they could provide the poles, if we could provide the lights.

At the recent meeting of the board of the Fond Doux Foundation, the board authorized the purchase of two such street lights. “Village youth will use the street lights with which to study”, said the villagers. We hope these lights prove useful for that, of course. We think, however, they will probably serve many other useful purposes as well.

“Let there be light!” And now there will be.

Thank you, donors, – for the little things that we take for granted!



## Fond Doux Flyer October 2023

### Meet Wilnor Charlemagne



**Wilnor Charlemagne**

The Haitian Clinic Committee has five members. Two are appointed by the Wesleyenne Church of Fond Doux, our partners in the clinic. Two are appointed by the Fond Doux Foundation and the fifth is appointed by the other four members. Wilnor Charlemagne is this fifth member. Recently Emile Maceus, our Executive Director interviewed him. This is what he said:

“First of all, I was born in Fond Doux. My father and my mother are also from Fond Doux. I have lived here since I was a child. I went to school here, more precisely at the Wesleyenne school from elementary to 6th grade. After my 6th grade certificate, I went to a city school.

The thing that marked me during my childhood is football. I remember when I was 10 years old, I loved playing soccer so much. Because of my interest and love for soccer, there were missionaries, Americans, who came to visit us in the community. They saw my performance in this game. As a result, they supported me with my school and they also helped me with food. Needless to say, things haven't been easy for me.

Regarding soccer, many people were saying that if I were in Brazil, I would probably go further with soccer, and I could have taken care of my family through it. Because I was extremely good at this game, I could have probably played at a pro level.

For a time, I was part of the Christian Love Assembly (Assemblée de l'amour Chrétien).

I have six sisters and four brothers. Most of them have their own families. I live with my mother.

I heard about the Fond Doux Foundation thanks to the many people the Foundation has helped and from Emile Maceus and Dady Pierre who asked me to become the fifth member of the clinic committee. I said, “yes” knowing that the clinic will help many people in the community. I thought it was important to participate in this initiative. I did not choose to be here because of profit for me. People can go to other clinics for maybe services that we don't have at the clinic, but the clinic is open to serve us here in the community. It is a relief to know that a clinic is available to us because there are people who succumb to a simple fever; but if the clinic is open, that person can get first aid. I see that it is in our own interest to collaborate with the Fond Doux Foundation to realize this project.

What I would like us to improve are the hours and days that the clinic is open. because many people might need the clinic to be open 24/7. The fact is that it may not be open the day when a person needs medical attention. If the clinic were open more hours and more days, it would be a real change for the community.

I finished my classical study in 2014. After my classical study, I took an English class at HAI (Haitian American institute) called HAITIANO in Port -au-Prince. I stopped at the lower intermediate level. Someone was helping me pay for this school. Unfortunately, I needed to drop out due to the fact that I had trouble receiving the necessary amount from the staff in charge of distributing this money. Afterwards I chose to go to the CUDI in Miragoâne, taking Education Science. I passed to the second year, but I can no longer afford it. I can tell you that I'm looking for a job. For now, I'm not doing anything, just surviving.

What surprised me among the projects carried out by the Foundation is the case of Antoinette. She was a person living in the community where the hope of having a roof over the head of her family was almost impossible. However, thanks to the Foundation, which did everything, this family has a home to live in. That really surprised me, because it's not every day that organizations and people create opportunities to give homes to people – people who really deserve it.

Finally, I would like the Foundation to continue this project to build houses for the most disadvantaged because there are many people who need a house in the community. We face two major problems in the community: employment issues and the fact that it is almost impossible for a young person to build a house.”

## Fond Doux Flyer October 2023

### Congratulations



#### Jowasky Saint Surin

Jowasky Saint Surin was designated laureate of the Capois la Mort High School in Fond Doux for the year 2023. This is the highest academic award that one can receive at the school. He received the highest score on the state exam among all students in the school.

Jowasky has been one of the leaders in the Saturday Club at the Methodist Church in Fond Doux, the English Club in Ravine Parc and has served as a sometime reporter for the Flyer. With his father he was instrumental in providing some relief for prisoners at the Youth Prison in Petit-Goave and he also arranged help for some nearby school children. He previously was a student at the Simple English School in Miragoâne on a scholarship and is presently studying sewing.

### Tongue Surgery

Thanks to the generosity of those responding to our special appeal, the surgery for Schneider Saint Surin, our scholarship student studying in the Dominican Republic, is being scheduled. Thank you, donors.

### Haitian-DR Hostilities

The relationship between the two countries has deteriorated into significant hostilities. The armies of both the Dominican Republic and Haiti face each other across the Massacre River which is the northern border of the two countries. The Haitians are building a canal to divert water for irrigation. The Dominican Republic also uses water from this same river for irrigation. In response to this diversion, the President of the Dominican Republic invalidated all Haitian visas and is checking all forms of transportation to locate Haitians to deport them. The ability of our scholarship student to remain in Haiti is unclear. Please pray with us.

### Prayers for Haiti

Dear Friends,

Every night before I go to sleep, I pray for the 16 Haitian people with whom I regularly or occasionally speak or correspond and for their families and friends. I have become acquainted with them and they are dear to my heart. My heart aches when I hear they are hungry, or afraid because of gangs, or lack access to employment, food, education, books, clothing or health care.

Recently, I have begun to pray that God would open the eyes, ears and hearts of my American friends and churchmates. I pray not only that they see and feel the pain that I see and feel, but they should know what a difference they can make, how radically improved the lives of our Haitian friends can be! I pray that more of those that think that they are supportive allow themselves to be **deeply** touched. I know there are those whose heart is open, but have not realized how important their personal response is.

This past month, the FDF board turned down requests to help 35 additional students for student aid and did not fulfill the full extent of requests from the 3 schools with which we are associated for books, uniforms and teacher pay. We even became concerned about our funding for our clinic work. Yet we can do all of this and so much more. We actually have opportunities on the horizon if only just a handful of people see the possibilities. Pray with me. God may be calling you.

John Clausing , Secretary  
Fond Doux foundation

#### **“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.