

## The Fond Doux Flyer October 2024

### Progress of Fund Drives

School/Center - rev. goal \$100,000 -- \$57,106  
 Next House - goal \$ 6,000 -- \$ 00  
 Campus Well - rev. goal \$ 10,000 -- \$ 1,400  
 Thank You, donors. Without you little can be done.

### Emergency Food Distribution



**Anecheca Jean and Rosemarie Fontenel**

Rosemarie Fontenel is the oldest child of Marie Bellabre. She is one of our high school students. Rosemarie lives with Anecheca Jean, also one of our high school students, and Anecheca’s mother so that she can attend school more easily. Both of them are very active in the English Club in Ravine Parc. Rosemarie has been very concerned about the poverty of her family. She wanted to start a mini-business by making and selling pastries, but the Foundation board declined sponsorship because of lack of sufficient planning. During this past summer, however, Rosemarie borrowed some money from a neighbor and bought oil to sell at the market place. She sold the oil and repaid her neighbor. How much money she actually made, we do not know.

In August she wrote the secretary of the Foundation asking for help for her family, telling him that her family was hungry with no food to eat. She told him that her family consisted of her mother Marie Bellabre and siblings: Miguelson 15, Lené 12, Wisline

8, Desline 6, Delinesja (Delincia) 3, and Benête 7 months. Miguelson (Miguel) like Rosemarie is no longer living at home. He likewise is attending school on a Foundation scholarship at the Wesleyenne School. He stays with Ancito Gene while attending school.

We authorized a food kit for the Bellabre family although the rest of the family does not actually live close to Fond Doux. They live up the mountain southeast of Fond Doux near to the farmers that walked hours to hear Dr. Libby Engel talk about the care of goats. The Bellabre family lives in the 7<sup>th</sup> district of Petit Goave. Petit Goave has 12 districts. You will find the 7<sup>th</sup> district right where the words Petit Goave are in the middle of the map. Fond Doux is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District. You find it listed as Fond Douze on the eastern tip of Lake Miragoâne.



**Map of Petit-Goave by Google**

Ancito Gene, the leader of the Ravine Parc English Club, was able to contact her family. Marie Bellabre left her home in the 7<sup>th</sup> district on foot on a Tuesday night at 10:00 PM according to Emile Maceus with a group of vendors going to the market in Violet. They arrived there at 5:00 AM Wednesday morning getting ready to set up for the day. Marie and her six year old daughter continued on to Rosemarie’s home and then Rosemarie and Ancito Gene joined them and walked to Emile’s home west of Fond Doux, arriving at 9:00 AM. There a picture was taken. Marie, when given the food, profusely thanked the Foundation. She returned home the same day carrying the food arriving back home about 10:00 PM, happy and exhausted. Such food distributions are made possible by American donors that donate to the nutrition fund.

## The Fond Doux Flyer October 2024



**Marie Bellabre, Rosemarie and Desline**

Another family to receive an emergency food distribution was the Jean Louis Jean family. His wife is Gerta Derisier and their children left to right are Bebé, Charmanta, Lorisienne and Junior. Jean Louis Jean was a charcoal maker, but lost his business when he used up all his money to buy food for the family instead of supplies. This is a situation that happens often in Haitian families.



**Jean Louis Jean Family**

## Severe Burn Victim



**Saraphina Gene**

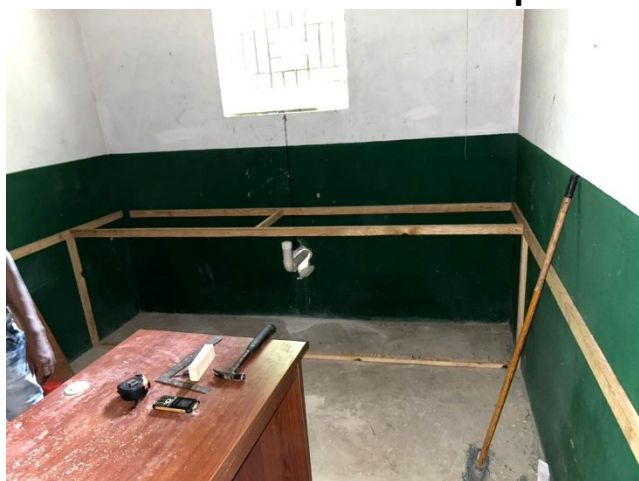
On September 11<sup>th</sup> Saraphina Gene of Ravine Parc suffered severe burns to the upper half of her left side. Her brother Ancito Gene described briefly her situation to the Foundation secretary:

"My sister suffered a very serious burn, I talked to Emile (our Executive Director) about it and he talked to you and sent some pictures to you. My aunt died. During the wake my sister tried to make something to drink with alcohol in it over the fire. The alcohol got into the fire and it fell on her. She is in very bad condition at the moment. Her name is Saraphina Gene. She lives at Ravine Parc. Emile gave me 2000 Haitian dollars (about \$75 USD) for her (to receive emergency aid), but things are very hard for her. She developed an infection in her lung. The doctor will transfer her to another hospital that is very far away because the doctor says she has to have a scan. I can tell you that things are very hard because we don't have money to do the scan. Further, she will need to stay at the hospital where she goes to get the scan. The doctor will transfer her on Friday."

To fully understand the story, one needs to recognize that Haitian gatherings, like a wake, are outside in the open air and that Haitian families do all their cooking over an open fire because they do not have kitchens. Further, Haitian hospitals and doctors do not treat patients unless they pay in advance. The Foundation's clinic is an exception because of our financial subsidy.

## The Fond Doux Flyer October 2024

### The Clinic Lab Takes Shape



**Construction Begins**



**Progressing**



**Complete**

Much of the clinic equipment was purchased a year ago, but now the laboratory space is being prepared for better utilization as we prepare for the hiring of a laboratory technician. This included installation of a

sink. Up until now, clinic personnel, without specific training, were using “off the shelf” kits for the tests that the laboratory could provide. Although the lab will not have the capabilities of a hospital, it will now have the capability of running blood tests and tests on urine samples like American doctors routinely ask for.

### Teacher Training



**Teachers with Certificates**

The Foundation conducted three days of teacher training from September 23<sup>rd</sup> to September 25<sup>th</sup> for 35 teachers in the Fond Doux area (27 attend all three days): Seventeen teachers were from our partner schools: the Methodist School of Fond Doux, the School for Tomorrow in Ravine Parc and the Good Samaritan School of Platon. Eighteen other teachers joined them including 6 from Jeanne Dicette Bernard and 9 from Capois la Mort along with a journalist and the principal from the Ravine Parc school. The training sessions covered 4 major topics:

1. Didactic transposition, the art of adapting and modifying a field of knowledge to the learning levels of the students,
2. The principles and working methods of an active teacher including the use of questioning and creating teaching materials,
3. Professional development, specifically through preparing for the start of the school year by planning activities, and by gathering and organizing materials, equipment and supplies, and very importantly,
4. Measuring and evaluation of student progress and teaching success.

Members of the Methodist Church were responsible for providing lunch and coffee for the participants. For a 2<sup>nd</sup> year, the leader was Brunèsse JEAN from Technologies of Education. He lives in nearby Vialet.

## The Fond Doux Flyer October 2024

### Informational Dinner



**Map of Fond Doux Area Showing  
Methodist Church, Our Land and Clinic**

An informational dinner concerning the work of the Foundation held at Epworth Church on September 22<sup>nd</sup> was attended by approximately 40 people. They were greeted by a display of posters including one showing the location of the Methodist Church of Fond Doux, the location of our land and the location of the clinic. The dinner was provided by the board members during which slides of village life in Fond Doux were shown. After dinner the board showed a PowerPoint narrated by board members.

The Rev. John Clausing thanked all donors and then also spoke about the Haitian partners that help us: the Methodist Church (our primary meeting place) including providing Bible stories, the school at Platon, and two English Clubs. We provide basic education for 90 students (30 on scholarships, 60 at the Platon School) and are developing English language skills for over 100 other students in the clubs. The university scholarship program has produced a medical doctor, two teachers and a non-profit executive that have now returned to help the community.

Ruth Clausing showed the hygiene kits that Epworth Sewing Sisters make to keep teenage girls in school. Educated women mean educated children.

Dr. Libby Engel spoke about the Fond Doux Community Clinic, which is the largest project of the Foundation. The Foundation's concern for animal health led the villagers to have concern for human health as well. The Foundation entered a partnership with the Wesleyenne Church of Fond Doux that owned a clinic building with 6 rooms that was standing empty. The building repair included sealing out bats. The highest percentage of patients are fevers and urinary tract infections. It is open four days a week. Presently, we are remodeling the lab in preparation for hiring a lab technician. (See a previous article.).

Dr. Libby then substituted for board member Linda Mitchel (unfortunately ill) to talk about the nutrition program to combat malnutrition. The clinic treats severely malnourished children. Vita Mamba, a food supplement for school children has made a dramatic improvement in student health and learning. She also explained the Foundation's work with surveys and education on cholera and malaria, etc.

Jim Johnson thanked the donors again and talked about our construction projects: Our new toilet at the clinic and our shelter program to provide dry housing. He emphasized the proposed community center that will house part of the Methodist school and provide a dramatically better learning environment for 120 children squeezed into their small sanctuary. We need about \$60,000 more to build. He concluded the board's presentation by talking about the agricultural program to improve food production in the gardens.

Schneider Saint Surin, a scholarship student from Fond Doux now in the US spoke about how the Foundation personally gave him hope with an education and about the transformation of the village because of the continuing return of the people from the Foundation. He offered an emotional "thank you" that affected the entire assembly.

Rev. Clausing then requested us to consider "digging deep" especially for the community center/school, the clinic and the nutritional program Vita Mamba. Proceeds at the dinner were \$3460.25. We think that other donations may follow. Thank you, donors.

### **"SO LITTLE CAN DO SO MUCH"**

To learn about our projects, you can reach the Foundation in a number of ways:

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

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

By US mail at: Fond Doux Foundation, PO Box 51443, Durham, NC 27717.

Donations can also be through:

PayPal: Fond Doux Foundation

Venmo: @FondDouxFoundation

Or through Epworth UMC Church, Durham, NC

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.