

Nursing Scholarship



Frantz Delma

Originally **Frantz Delma** was awarded an English scholarship. When asked why he wanted to learn English he said, “To put it in a nutshell generally, speaking English is a good addition to our knowledge, because most of the books that can improve our knowledge are written in English. I would also include technology. It seems to me that I’ll go through this experience so late, but I’ll always reinforce my mind with this quote: “It’s never too late to learn because to be human is to be an eternal learner. “

He is in his middle 30’s, a married man and has been working as a coworker in New Success Production (Schneider Saint Surin’s company) as a comedian actor -- as Grandma. He finished high school 8 years ago, went to a medical college to study nursing in T-Goave (two years at Lumière), but unfortunately quit, due to financial problems.

Having learned of his broken nursing education and his desire to continue in his nursing education and with the recommendation of the FDFC (our Haitian partners), two FDF board members made special contributions to the scholarship fund to enable him to pursue finishing his nursing education. Schneider Saint Surin informed him of this possibility. This is how he described the scene:

I personally had a long conversation with Frantz this morning. I specially told him he is approved by the FDFC, and there’s a huge chance for him to start in January. “OMG” said Frantz. He began sweating like he was running and started trembling and eventually became speechless. I could imagine how big a storm was inside of him. It was an unexpected thing that I told him. Then, I gave him 10 minutes to calm down.

I read the messages and gave him a clue about the conditions as well. He totally agreed. He would still like to also take English. Why? “Because,” he said, “the majority of the medicines are written in English.” Further, he expects to be able to converse with the FDF and help the mission teams as well when they have medical stuff to give. “I think this is awesome!” said Schneider Saint Surin. Unfortunately, the English will need to wait. The nursing course is 7 days a week.

Because of the lateness of the hour when he finishes his school day, he has had difficulty finding public transportation home. After consideration of many options and the uniqueness of his situation, and after consultation with our Haitian partners (the FDFC), the Foundation decided the best and cheapest solution was the purchase of a motorcycle for his use.



Schneider’s Tribute to the FDF

“I’m so thrilled to hear such magnificent news (speaking of Frantz’s continuing his nursing education). So far, I think we’re walking victoriously. You FDF probably don’t really understand the great work you’re doing at the village, but we, the FDFC, we’re speechless towards these helps. One of the

biggest things I think you're chasing is that when a young person finishes her/his schooling, one of the biggest dreams is to flee far away from this country. A common phrase we use is "this country doesn't offer the youth anything; it offers nothing!" But you know what? When many young people hear about these magical works you're doing, I think they will lower their desire to go away...

Once more, FDF, (Me personally) you guys are WONDERFUL PEOPLE. May the LORD BLESS AND KEEP PROVIDING for the foundation."

Music Teacher Scholarship



Ismaelo Polistin

Ismaelo Polistin was awarded a scholarship to study music to be able to better lead the music club at Fond Doux. He is paid \$100 a quarter to lead the club, which meets twice a week. The music club was begun when Erin Engel taught several high school students to read music. They in turn taught younger students. This past year they have been learning to play the recorder. Previously Brunise Delma and later Valdine Vitelus had been assisting him. Now Ismaelo wants to study music to be able to lead the music club better. He is enrolled (Saturdays only) in Ecole Musique Jerald Duperville, The Jerald Duperville Music School. Ismaelo is still a student in the Fond Doux Secondary School during the week and expects to graduate in 2021.

Christmas Party

The last part of 2019 was a very difficult time in Haiti. Demonstrations disrupted the economy, closing schools and creating wide spread hunger among the more vulnerable of the population. The Fond Doux Foundation decided to do something positive this past Christmas season, to provide a meal for the children at the Capois La Mort Co-educational school in Fond Doux, the school associated with the primitive Church of Fond Doux and in which our mission teams have conducted classes. We proposed this to the FDFC (our Haitian partners), but they made a counter

proposal to invite vulnerable old people and needy children for a Christmas meal and party. It was held December 26th. Approximately 400 people were invited and attended the event in three different shifts.



Preparing the Christmas Meal



Children with Christmas meal

Emile Maceus, one of the organizers of the event, said," Thanks to those that contributed in order to make this come to pass! You probably know that Haiti is one of the rare countries in the world that has food

insecurity.... On behalf of every child, every person that came to get a meal, I thank you! Thank you for sharing love and a smile to our fellow citizens (FDFC). There was no better way we could say Merry Christmas to our Haitians than serving a meal! May God bless you, your family and also may God keep blessing the United States of America!".

Next Mission Trip

Linda Mitchell and William Devorick plan to go Fond Doux in April. It is not clear if Andrea Harris and Gabby Duerk will accompany them. If you are interested contact: www.fonddouxfoundation.org

Board Resignation

Sue Stutz, who had been a member of the Board of Directors in 2019, resigned effective last December. She cited inability to devote the time needed to properly do the work. She is an active President of the Epworth UMW. A replacement is being sought.

English Language Students

Three Fond Doux residents begin English language instruction this month at Simple English School on FDF scholarship. They are Westenson Paulo, Hardy Merjuste and Jowasky Saint Surin.



Westenson Paulo

Westenson Paulo is in his late teens (19) and finished high school this past year. He previously started studying English but had to quit for financial reasons. When asked why he wanted to study English said, "First, I love English so very much. Second, I realize that many English speakers travel to Haiti very often, especially Americans. Third, I have always desired to establish strong communications between the Haitians and Americans by translating for them. So, I want to speak English in an extraordinary way.



Hardy Merjuste

Hardy Merjuste is a student at College Mixte Capois La Mort, the secondary school in Fond Doux and a son of Albert Merjuste. He is better known as Jameson. He and his family live in a house erected through the efforts of former board member Ed Cerne, supervised by Emile Maceus. They used to live in a UNICEF tent.



Jowasky Saint Surin

Jowasky Saint Surin is the third son of Fritzmann Saint Surin. Both Kender (now in Chile) and Schneider, his older brothers, speak English. He has been encouraged by them and his father to learn English. Schneider said about him, "He's driving crazy for English! He is actually learning English at SES. I'm trying to play the same role with him that my older brother used with me." [Kender was the driving force to get Schneider to study English.] Jowasky turned sixteen on January 6th. He is in the 10th grade and previously spent three sessions at SES.

Late Breaking News

As we are going to press, we discovered that we may have found an answer to one of our prayers. We think that PARTNERS IN HEALTH will treat a medical problem for a young boy well beyond our abilities to help. He suffers from a deformed face. Surgery in the

United States would cost over \$100,000. Mission to Haiti and Baptist Children’s Hospital, Miami, Florida were instrumental in helping us find this potential help. They still must do the examinations to decide. Keep praying for Jamessel. More details in next month’s Flyer.



Samuel and Uncles, Uncle Joseph on the Right

Last month we shared part of an interview with Joseph Frontus, the uncle of a young lad, Samuel, who suffered from painful abdominal hernias. Their surgical repair was made possible through donations to the Medical Fund of Fond Doux Foundation. The Frontus family has one less problem to contend with because of these contributions. They still struggle with the economy and a senile father. The interview was conducted and translated by Emile Maceus.

Question: Has Samuel already started to school?

Answer: No, he has not started to school yet.

Question: Is it because of the sickness or the economic issue?

Answer: No, not because of the sickness; he has not gone to school because of our economy.

Question: Do you guys wish to see him going to school soon?

Answer: Well, we are going to work harder to see if he can start going to school soon. We know that education is necessary for him, that’s why we are going to do the best we can.

Question: Could you tell us how many people live in the house?

Answer: There are seven people that live in the house. Samuel’s mother doesn’t live here. She dwells in Port-au-Prince. Samuel’s grandma, my mother, died. As a result of my mother’s death, my father lost his mind, which makes our situation worse. Anyway, we organize ourselves to fight for our survival, despite all of the difficulties.

Question. So, your father does nothing for a living, right? Who then is taking care of the family?

Answer: Sadly, my father has become like a real child, (As an aside he said, “I saw him somewhere a short while ago.”) because we have to take care of him.

Question. Now, who is watching over the family?

Answer: We do what we can to fight back against life. If you would like to have a look over there, (*He points his finger*) you can see some seedlings. We try to grow different kind of trees here. (*One could see that he had palm trees, avocado, mango and cherry trees plus flowers.*) We take some plastic bags. Then we plant some seedlings. When our seedlings grow up enough, we borrow a wheelbarrow from our neighbors. Afterwards we go to the public market where we sell them and we share the money. There is our livelihood.

Emile: Congratulations! You guys are very courageous.

University Scholarship Donor Sought

We would like to find someone or a group of people to pledge \$2000 a year for 4 or 5 years for a university scholarship. For additional information, contact us:

Website: www.fondouxfoundation.org



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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, USA, whose Christian community outreach began in 2011.