

Clinic to Open March 12th



Repairing the Roof of the Clinic Building

March 12th has been set as the tentative date for opening the Fond Doux Clinic. This past month has seen a flurry of activity in getting the place ready to open. The repairs to the roof were finally made, the place was thoroughly cleaned and the inside painted. Some needed equipment was purchased and some furniture was either made or purchased. Because the decisions about electricity are more complicated, the place still does not have electricity. That will be added later. The preference is solar power rather than a generator because of the uncertain gas supply and expense. However, some shade problems for the solar panels must be addressed first. The Wesleyenne Church has agreed to proceed with providing solar panel access. Meanwhile small solar portable solar lamps will provide lighting.

Two new employees are being hired. Rosemène Merjuste will be the cleaning lady. We will introduce her in a future issue of the Flyer.

Ernst Point du Jour has agreed to become the new secretary-bookkeeper. He will man the clinic office, keep the minutes of the clinic committee and records of attendance at health and nutrition classes. Individuals that attend the classes on health and nutrition will receive reduced cost for health care. Ernst will also be the Foundation bookkeeper for receipts and expenditures and will assist micro-loan recipients with their bookkeeping and other Foundation projects as needed.

Meet Ernst Point du Jour



Ernst Point du Jour¹

Emile Maceus: Would you mind saying something about yourself? Tell us a little bit about your childhood, your background?

Ernst: I am Ernst Point du Jour. I am from Petit-Goâve. I was born in Fond Doux. I went to school at College Wesleyenne de Fond Doux. I did my last grade (13th grade) at Lycée Faustin Soulouque.

I completed my classical studies in 2014. After that I moved to Port-au-Prince for my university studies in January 2015 to learn accounting science at the University of André La Roche.

Normally, my university course should have lasted four years. I started in January 2015. I stopped at the end of 2016 after spending two years at the university. I stopped at my sophomore year because I was unable to pay the university.

There were several reasons why I chose to become an accountant. First, I love numbers. In my high school days, I excelled in math and physics. I said to myself that I need to learn accounting. Then, I have always dreamed of working as an accountant in an institution, an organization, to help my community. Unfortunately, I was unable to attain my objectives, my goals.

But before I go on, I forgot to mention that I was previously a student (helped) through an organization called Compassion, whose purpose is assisting people

¹ The interview was conducted in October 2021. Ernst once was a student sponsored by COMPASSION, a program

which previously sponsored children in the Wesleyenne Church and School of Fond Doux.

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with their education. There was a program called LDP in Compassion that assisted students with tuition and dorm fees. To participate in the program, you have to complete your studies by the time you are 18/20 years old to benefit from the program. Unfortunately, this program stopped by the time I finished my classical studies. It's the reason that I didn't further participate in that program.



Ernst Point Du Jour

I had wished to work at Compassion because my field of study would prepare me for many different roles in the organization – like a project director or finance director. I wanted to help my community. . . Thanks to Compassion, the rate of offenders decreases. I always said that it would be an honor for me to work for them in order to thank them for their assistance. They supported me from my elementary grade through my terminal grade. I wanted to join the board and assist them through what I had learned. . .

Besides desiring to work at Compassion, I have seen myself as a leader that protects the community, secures the nation, and helps the country move on. I tried to enroll in PNH (Police National d'Haiti). Their motto is "Protect and Serve." Unfortunately, I was not selected. Needless to say, I am still ready to serve my country whenever they call me. Enrolling in PNH would not only have meant that I wanted to protect my country, but I wanted to have an income also.

(After leaving the university), I tried many other things including going to Chile. I went to Chile in 2017 to find a better life. I thought that traveling there would be life changing, Unfortunately, I encountered many problems during my stay in Chile. It was hard to find work; life was extremely hard for me. Then, I was suffering also with sickness; so. I decided to come back to Haiti.

After coming back, I have looked for many jobs but I have never been hired. I can say it's not the fact that I am not qualified for the job, but rather I can say that

to work nowadays you need a godmother or a godfather in the institution. . .

I have a certificate that attests to my qualifications. I learned computerized accounting when I was a student at the university. Furthermore, I also learned office computers.

For me, life goes on! I always know that there is hope as long as I am alive. I know that going to school or to a university does not mean success. But when you compare the success of a person who has obtained a degree with a person who didn't, it's not the same. I would like to continue with my studies. I hope in ten years I will be able to be a great entrepreneur, an accountant. However, to reach my goals I will have to continue my studies. That process is a bit hard because of my economic situation.

Having a bachelor degree rightfully does not mean success. There are also other ways to learn and to succeed. Accounting science is one of my priorities, but there are many things I could do to have success in my life.

Besides accounting, there are a lot of things I would like to learn -- like becoming a journalist, doing something in communications. I want to learn. I love to read. I love to learn many other things and subjects in order not to stay mute while educated people talk. I love education. . . . I would (even) like to go to an auto school to learn how to maneuver a backhoe loader. What prevents me? . . . It's the same problem, my economic situation. We have the desire to learn. However, we don't have money to pursue our goals.

Emile: Do you have anything else that you would like to say?

Ernst: Yes, I have heard about the Foundation through a friend. I know and see the work the Foundation is doing in the community. The staff of the Foundation is doing a great job in the community. I can say this about the Fond Doux Foundation, it's an organization that people can give credit to and can trust. I want to congratulate the Fond Doux Foundation for helping people that are very much in need in the community. That's a tough program. I will pray to God to help the Foundation achieve their goals, to succeed in everything they are undertaking.

Emile: In the name of the Fond Doux Foundation, we thank you for answering our questions, we hope that God will continue blessing you and your family abundantly.

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Ministry to the Aged



Venelson with Saintanty Merolis (age 96)

Venelson Vitelus has been assisting some elderly people with their tasks. On Sunday Jan 30th Venelson and Emile Maceus distributed rice, beans, oil, milk, spaghetti and some other ingredients from the Foundation to five different families in special need, including Saintanty and her 100-year-old husband.



Widow Felicy Lutervil (age 85) with her Food

The goal of the FDF is self-sufficiency, but sometimes the need is so great that people need immediate relief! Venelson's aged grandmother Charmante, who has been ill, was also one of the recipients.



Emile (front) and Venelson (back) with Food



Charmante Augustine with her Food.

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Birth Control Class

A class on feminine hygiene and birth control was held on February 2nd at the Methodist Church in Fond Doux, taught by the community nurse Myrdred Delva. Forty-two women and teenagers were in attendance. Unfortunately, they ran out of hygiene kits at the event. Fourteen young women were put on a waiting list. However, the Sewing sisters of Epworth Church recently sent 42 more kits with the help of Mission to Haiti, which included the kits in their recent shipment to Haiti. The wait should not be long.



Hygiene Kits Ready for Distribution



Pharadia Elizè Asks a Question on Birth Control



Nurse Myrdred Teaching the Menstrual Cycle
Our Platon School Staff



Left to right: Orlmy Dorcé, Avena Belabe, Sarra Rubin Lissa, Pastor Jonas Pierre, Lisèmene Dorcé and Eugene Bélizaire. The school depends upon your support. Thank you for your prayers and gifts.

For information on any projector or to donate, you may contact the Foundation through our website, by email or by the US postal service:

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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.