



HAITI MISSION, INC.
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JULY/AUGUST 2016

*"To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.
This is to have succeeded."* *Ralph Waldo Emerson*



"God incidences", Miracles and other Neat Stuff

As you have hopefully heard by now, Haiti Mission Inc. is having a raffle with all proceeds dedicated towards the home building project. Since HMI has not promoted a raffle in its existence you may be wondering how it all came about. On the day of this year's Golf Tournament & Silent Auction we were approached by a friend of HMI with wonderful news that **Mr. Bennett Frisella** wanted to donate a **Polaris Ranger ETX** for our use to sell and that he would like the proceeds to go towards building a home. To say the least, we were very excited about his gift and planned on selling it after the tournament for approximately \$9000.

God likes to work with our "small" plans and He likes to turn them into something much bigger. We were then approached by **Mr. Kelly Dupre** who heard about the gift and he was very persuasive in the need to have a raffle to try to multiply the donation many times over. **The old expression that you cannot out give God just keeps coming to mind loud and clear.** So the raffle idea was quickly discerned and we now have tickets available for purchase at \$20 each or as a special 5 ticket pack for \$100...don't do the math - it is for a great cause.

Here are a few important things to know about why we are trying to sell 2000-3000 raffle tickets and raise \$40-50,000.

The recent **Bec's 7th Annual HMI Silent Auction** took in an amazing **\$115,520** when all sponsor donations were included. This money is dedicated as matching money to building homes. It will provide half the cost of the home or \$3750 once we receive donations totaling the other \$3750. We currently have enough money from this year's silent auction to fund the matching amount through **Home #104**.

From the donor side we already have funding pledged or received to fund through Home #85. We also have pledged funding in place for home #100 which we hope to build by the end of April 2017. So as you can see we are in need of half the funding for **Homes #86-99 which represents 14 homes or \$52,500**.

We have always been amazed at the generosity of donors particularly in the second half of the year who make donations towards a home. We often receive donations of \$3750 or more to dedicate a home or two. We also receive many smaller donations which we combine together and add up to \$3750. We are hoping to have a successful raffle which will help tremendously towards our goal of building **Home #100 by the end of April 2017**. Our construction crew has already shown us that they are more than capable to build three homes in a month so it is up to us to try our best to let God's plan unfold.

What can you do to help? Obviously purchasing a ticket or multiple tickets would be great. Asking to help sell some tickets would be even better. **There is a \$500 cash award to the individual selling the most raffle tickets.**

The drawing will take place on October 9, 2016 at a Jambalaya & White Bean supper at St. Bridget Community Center. In addition to the Polaris Ranger ETX as the grand prize there will be a second place cash prize of \$1000 and third place cash prize of \$500.

If you would like tickets please contact Mr. Ronnie Thomas who is the raffle chairman at 985-688-6010 or email him at msgt.ret.thomas@gmail.com.

As always, thank you and God bless you for your support of HMI!



Happiness and houses

Pictured is Mrs. Marie Louise Rene'. I thought you would enjoy this casual, relaxed picture of Mrs. Marie, sitting on her front porch with her cat. This represents so much about what HMI has wanted to achieve. Below is where she was living with her grandchildren before the miracle of a new house came into her life. In May of 2014, her house was crumbling around her, dangerously threatening the safety of all who were existing there. Now her faithful and persevering prayers have been answered and our hope of bringing Mrs. Marie and her family from pitiful misery to hopeful poverty has been achieved. What is so interesting about Mrs. Marie is that she is the local herbalist. Several of our missionaries have been the beneficiary of her skills. Rashes and abrasions of different types have been treated by Mrs. Rene' with remarkably quick results. We would show the affected area to her, she would go off into the brush a little ways, re-appear with some herb or grass, heat it or mash it, apply it with instructions on how often to repeat the applications and low and behold, the problem would quickly clear. More of Mrs. Marie Rene's story can be read under house #29 on our website. She and her grandchildren along with their pet cat have a place to live that not only brings safety and comfort but a smile on their face every day!



This is where Mrs. Rene' was existing before – by the grace of God – HMI was able to build her a home.

Message from Father Joe

Praise be to God, everything went fine with sunshine for the tournament and silent auction! Please don't forget to thank, on our behalf, everyone who contributed to make the event a success. May God continue to protect and bless them all!

FAMILY OF THE MONTH

The place Mr Sima Charles used to call home has long since fallen down around him. Mr Sima is a very good, faithful hard working man. He attends Sunday Mass regularly and is a very faith-filled individual, very young of heart who loves participating with the youth group in the parish. A relative has given him a place to live in the place pictured for many years. As you can see by the “before” picture, this place was in very bad shape. If HMI would not have intervened, everyone living here would be homeless also. The HMI selection team decided to build him a decent place to live. May God bless all who played any part in showing God's love and goodness to Mr. Sima and the family that will benefit from this act of grace.

And as of June 2016, by the grace of God and your help, here is where Mr. Sima and his extended family will be able to live.



Families and Homes go together!

In the recent apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis, “The Joy of Love” there are many things which reinforce and encourage the work of HMI. In Section 44, there was a particularly profound statement that really strengthened our firm commitment to taking people out of misery to a dignified poverty by building houses. The Pope stated, “It should be kept in mind that the family has the right to decent housing, fitting for family life and commensurate to the number of the members, in a physical environment that provides the basic services for the life of the family and the community. Families and homes go together!”

R.I.P

The story of HMI is an odyssey of a family - an intriguing family story of a community in South Louisiana becoming joined at the hip with a village outside Jeremie, Haiti. The family story has, as all family stories do, great times, sad times, bad times and good times. One of the great stories is that of Mozart - a hard working, dependable man who has been Fr. Joe's go to guy to fix problems. Mozart has been mainly involved in the development and day - to - day operations of Bec's bakery and the chicken farm. Once Fr. put these operations in the hands of Mozart, things went as smoothly as can be expected for Haiti. Mozart had also raised his children to be hard working and responsible. He had his 24 year old son Marc “David” as his right hand man at Bec's. Even though David was only 24 years old and the youngest of the group at Bec's, he was doing a great and dependable job. On Sunday, June 12th, he was playing soccer and enjoying the day in the Grand Anse river right outside Jeremie when he drowned. This tragedy shocked and distressed the community in general but especially our team at Bec's. Fr. Joe asked that all of our HMI friends remember Marc David in your prayers and in a special way, his father Mozart, who is having a really tough time with the loss of his beloved son.



Faie's Facts

In the current horrific news we see evil in action. Let's take that word and turn it around, so that it becomes LIVE. Anyone who is EVIL is living life backwards. But let us also note that God is in the GOOD that is also present all around us; however, it usually is not newsworthy.

LORD, HELP US ALL TO LIVE GOOD LIVES.

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This newsletter is dedicated to raising funds to help the families whom we have come to know and love in the villages around Jeremie, Haiti especially through our summer raffle house building initiative. May God bless you and your loved ones for your commitment to the poor by giving in whatever way the Holy Spirit directs you.

_____ \$3750 would sponsor a new house and get a family “out of the mud and into safe secure housing.” (Our new house design is keeping the cost of constructing the houses at \$7500 with the \$3750 matching money for each house provided by funds raised from the annual silent auction)

_____ Send me _____ books of raffle tickets (tickets are 5 to the book-\$20/ticket) to sell to my friends and family.

_____ Here is my gift. Please send me _____ raffle tickets.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone # _____ Email: _____

Here is my immediate donation to use where most needed:

\$1000 _____ \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

This monetary gift is made in memory of _____,
please send an acknowledgement card

to: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

_____ Send me envelopes to be a monthly "helping hand":

_____ I will be a prayer partner and pray for the Haiti Mission.

_____ Please put me on your email/info list. email: _____

_____ I am interested in going on a mission trip.

Call me @: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Haiti Mission Inc. is a 509(a)(1) tax exempt public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Tax ID#14-1861365

Haiti Mission - Caring with Generosity and Joy

THANKS FOR HELPING!

No donation is too small. No gift unappreciated!

Haiti Mission, Inc. does not discriminate because of race, religion, sex, age, disability, national origin or financial status.

*“He who has compassion on the poor lends to the Lord,
and he will repay him for his good deeds.” Pvb 19:17*

“No One has ever become poor by giving”

The hand written words of Anne Frank (1929-1945)