



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



GO MULES!

A mission trip to Haiti is filled with adventure, emotion, joys and disappointments but it certainly has its share of fun also. When you mix incredibly beautiful terrain with incredibly terrible roads, rock slides or foot paths you get a perfect place for a diesel Kawasaki Mule to strut its stuff. HMI has had one of these incredible pieces of equipment in Haiti since 2010. Words cannot express what a blessing it has been. Every mission team will attest to the fact that the "Mule" is not only a work horse (excuse the pun) but a lot of fun also. Everybody wants to drive the Mule in Haiti. With the increase in HMI activities, especially water well drilling and house construction and the further deterioration of the roads due to Hurricane Matthew, the board of directors had been trying to decide on what type of vehicle would be best to send to alleviate the transportation problem. All sorts of suggestions were put forth until one day the light dawned on us to try to buy another Mule exactly like the one we had. Since we already had trained a couple of Haitians to service the unit and do most of the mechanic work on it and had a good supply of spare parts, we began the quest to locate another Mule. If you've been following our newsletter narrative, you know that our search was rewarded and after refurbishing it we shipped it down to Haiti. So now we have two! If you are asking how strong are the Mules and how much can they carry? The picture of our Summer Young People's Mission team tells the story. We haven't found the limit to how many people these Mules can carry yet. If you can find a place to stand, sit or hold onto, it will take you to wherever you want to go. Go Mules! We've got a lot of work for you to do!



After Hurricane Matthew

**CHICKEN
RESTORATION**



After the Youth Trip

When Hurricane Matthew hit on October 4th, 2016, Fr. Joe had just purchased 800 chickens for the poultry farm, 500 baby broiler chicks and 300 laying hens. You can see by the picture of one of the poultry buildings in this issue of our newsletter that the situation was not good for the chickens. All the baby chicks perished as did half of the laying hens. All the feed that had been purchased got wet and was useless so all the surviving chickens were distributed to the people in the community to help them survive until more help and food supplies could arrive. Our "young people mission" in June had Thomas Lirette as one of the members. His family owns a large chicken farm outside of Natchitoches, Louisiana and had been instrumental in helping HMI purchase the land where the poultry farm is located as well as help with the construction of the buildings. Thomas' primary mission for this trip was to get one building back functioning. As you can see, he and the other members of the team were able to "get er done"! Congrats to Thomas and his buds. Now another member of the team, Anne Claire Crain is doing fundraising to get some more chickens! What I know about Ann Claire and this mission group, it will happen!

PRISON MINISTRY

Because of the houses we had built and the wells drilled, although the impact of Hurricane Matthew was devastating and horrendous, miraculously no lives were lost in our villages. Quite an accomplishment when one considers that there were about 30 people who died in Jeremie itself and close to 1000 throughout the region. Similarly, because of the work of HMI, many lives were saved in the Prison. For quite a number of years, HMI has been working with the administration of the Jeremie Prison to do what we could to improve the conditions. Over the years we have drilled a well in the prison, advocated with the UN to repair the dilapidated roof and repair the cement in the prison courtyard so that the prisoners could get out of their severely overcrowded cells more often and overall continued to do what we could to improve the living conditions. HMI sends a monthly contribution to Fr. Joe in order that he can address requests for dental and medical needs as well as buy personal items for the prisoners that have no way of getting help. When Hurricane Matthew hit, much of the prison roof came off. With all the other things HMI had to address at the time, we tried to do what we could for the prisoners. As soon as our mission teams were able to get back into the area, we got to the prison. We were able to get some funds to repair critical needs in order to safeguard the prisoners and the prison administration and began our “Party at the Prison” process where we bring in a hot meal, cold drinks, peanuts, playing cards, a few soccer balls and most especially care and concern. It worked. We were able help get the situation improved as well as get some additional funding to try to get the prisoners a lawyer in order to speed up the process of having the mostly minor offenses addressed and get those released as soon as practical. There’s no doubt that because of the intervention of HMI in the life of the prison community, many lives were saved there also.

“One afternoon during the mission trip, we went to the prison in Jeremie and brought them meals, snacks and some much needed love. Most of the people in this prison are there for very minor charges which have very severe consequences. The intense heat and living situations there are indescribable. There are as many as 35 people in small cells designed for six inmates who have to share a bucket to use as a toilet. I felt an intense sadness visiting these people. When we were able to serve them a home cooked meal and show them some sort of love and kindness that they so rarely see, their hearts were lifted and so were ours. I wasn’t allowed to take pictures in the prison but I did take a picture of the pile of food we brought in!” (Kristen Wheeler – May 2017 trip) Five of our mission teams visited the prison from December 2016 to June 2017 to bring physical, spiritual and emotional help to the inmates in the Jeremie Prison.



Jumping for Joy!

Mission trips are not all work. We always make time for fun hikes up and down mountains, playing games with neighborhood kids, and swimming in the beautiful Caribbean Sea. Here is Ann Claire Crain enjoying the little beach hideaway close to our mission compound.

FAIE’S FACTS

Kids say funny things.

1. A religion teacher was explaining to the class that during the Sacrament of the Sick the five senses were anointed because with them we sin. One of the students asked how do we sin with our noses? Another quickly answered, “By sticking them into other people’s business!”
2. Another teacher asked her high school sophomore class if they thought the newspaper was spending too much time on discussing Euthanasia. One of her students quipped, “Yes, they should pay more attention to *Youth in America!*!”
3. The teens who recently went on the mission trip to Haiti showed they understood very well the following quote from Mother Theresa:

“Charity and love are the same - with charity you give love.
So don’t just give money but reach out with your hands too.”

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

_____ **\$1000** would help us drill a well in a community without fresh water.

_____ **\$100** would sponsor a teacher in the community schools. (Payable monthly/quarterly or yearly – we would appreciate a one year commitment)

_____ **\$35** would buy food and supplies for a family

_____ **Help** to feed the children at school by buying supplies to use at Bec’s Bakery

_____ **Help** for the young people’s project to purchase chickens for the farm

_____ **\$12 annual membership** in the “Woman-to-Woman club of Haiti that helps poor women get the medical treatment they need who otherwise would go untreated.

Yes, 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)