



HAITI MISSION, INC.

P.O. Box 694 Thibodaux, LA 70302

Phone: 985-855-3127

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February 2020

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

Ralph Waldo Emerson



2020 Haiti Mission Inc.

Silent Auction Sponsorship Opportunities Final Request

Since the last newsletter we have received generous donations/pledges from additional Gold Sponsors and Builder Sponsors pushing our current sponsor total to \$89,500! Amazing! In order to reach our goal of building 30 homes per year we need a total of \$225,000 of which \$112,500 is needed from the Silent Auction. Our first mission trip of 2020 returned from Haiti a few weeks ago witnessing to the difference these homes are making in people's lives. We were with a group of 14 from Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in New Orleans. Six additional homes were pledged by members of our group and parish.

Your generous support has helped many poor families we serve. I would invite you to visit the HMI website and read about some of the home recipients and view the before and after pictures. Our construction team is currently finishing construction on homes #173, 174 and 175. The need for homes is endless for the desperately poor families we serve. Our goal is to lift one family at a time from misery to poverty, but we cannot do it without your help! Please consider helping if you can and take the time to send the information to others who may be able to help. We would like to have commitments no later than February 17, 2020 so that we can include the names of our sponsors on information pertaining to the event which is scheduled for April 27, 2020 at Ellendale Country Club. Sponsor donations will not be due until April 2020.

God Bless,

Dr. David & Laura Fakier

Our first mission team of the 2020 season returned home tired but safe and sound and rejoicing that they had once again experienced the powerful working of the Holy Spirit in the mission field we call Jeremie, Haiti. Welcome back! Thanks for the wonderful work you did. Our families and friends there are renewed in hope and happiness because of your presence among them.

Save the date! Our annual silent auction and golf tournament is going to be on Monday April 27th in Houma at the beautiful Ellendale Country Club. It's not too early to start inviting your golf friends to come be with us.

Peace!



Front Row (L to R): Elizabeth Landis, Cynthia Gaudin, Mary Zamora & Emily Dardis
Second Row: Courtney Leal, Anne Middleton, Gabby Gonzales and Laura Fakier
Third Row: Danielle Randazzo, Elaine Gootee and David Fakier
Fourth Row: Fr. Jonathan Hemelt, Linda Reboul & Ramiro Guerra

Meet one of the families at the beginning of 2020 that have been blessed by your continued prayerful support of the work of HMI via the Silent Auction!

Ednel and Nadia are a young couple with one child, Marx. They are active members of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish who attend Mass regularly. Ednel helps with drilling and repairing wells whenever there is work to be done. Ednel and Nadia are very kind and gentle people who are trying their best to raise their son under the difficult situation you can see in the before picture. The HMI selection committee has decided to make the beginning of 2020 very special for them by helping them get a better place to live.



They send their prayerful thanks to all who have helped make this happen in their lives.

Here's another family at the beginning of 2020 that have been blessed by your continued prayerful support of the work of HMI via the Silent Auction!

In the "before" picture you see Jean Fado (39 y/o) with three of his six children. He and his wife Elicie, have two girls and four boys. They live mainly on what they can produce on farming the land around where they live. Jean Fado works as a cement mason helper when he can. The "before" picture describes their living situation much better than any words can. The selection team felt it would be great to have them moved in a decent and more comfortable house for the beginning of 2020. Since their new home has been built in Bec's s/d, they send their prayerful gratitude to all the family and friends of Rebecca Claire.



20th Anniversary - Thoughts on the work of Haiti Mission Inc. – Keeping it Simple!

As we enter the 20th anniversary year of HMI, the Spirit has increasingly focused my prayer time on the achievements and milestones of this mission! I know the Spirit - through prayer - is what led me to HMI. First and foremost were the prayers of my wife Becky, as she made a Haiti mission trip prior to my first trip. Ever since my first trip, the Spirit has been working on my imagination as to what will be the next area of need that will benefit the majority of the Haitian community that we serve. Thoughts and ideas come and go, but one thing that keeps coming back is the why and how! What has enabled this organization to continually exist and grow for the past twenty years? Ultimately, I believe it's because this is where the Spirit wants us!

Recently during my Morning Prayer, I was reading the daily scriptures. The gospel that day was John 21:15-19. I focused on versus 15-17. Jesus asked Simon Peter "Do you love me?" three times. After each of Simon Peter's replies, Jesus said, "Feed my lambs", "Tend my sheep" and "Feed my sheep." This made me question how **simple** and elementary this must have sounded to Simon Peter. Jesus could have replied, "Build my Church" or "Make disciples of all men." But no, **simply feed and tend my Sheep!** This is exactly how HMI has successfully operated since its inception - a **simple** idea - raising funds and scheduling missionaries to accomplish the task with the help of as many Haitians as possible in order to create income for our brothers and sisters while making life a little better.

So many of these **simple** HMI ideas or thoughts over the years continue to produce tremendous benefits for our Haitian friends. From how can we get the fresh water from the top of the mountain to the bottom so more people can have better quality and healthier water, to ideas of drilling water wells, improved housing, education, health and of course the basic necessities like food and medicine. Another example of a **simple** idea becoming a reality was the completion and operation of the sugar cane mill. With Fr. Jomanas leading the way they took a WWII vintage single cylinder Lister diesel engine and a 18' long x 6" wide belt to rotate a cane press to produce molasses. With this accomplishment the local farmers no longer have to transport their cane miles to be processed, and will hopefully produce greater profits from their harvest. Through the collaboration of hundreds of volunteers and donors, there's great hope and anticipation for the 20th anniversary of Haiti Missions Inc., and to focus our efforts into the next 20 years! The Spirit will continue to inspire new ideas and visions for the future and through continued prayer and guidance of the Spirit, the volunteers, donors and missionaries will continue to step forward and accomplish the mission of HMI for many years to come. God Bless and lets continue keeping it **simple!** (*Bobby Barrilleaux has been to Haiti three times and continues to help with technical and not so technical jobs yet nevertheless - vitally important!. He and his lovely wife, Bethel live in Raceland, LA.*)

Faie's Facts

In honor of the time that I hope all of us will be given in the New Year, I'd like to share this poem with you.

"I HAVE ONLY JUST A MINUTE"

by Dr. Benjamin E. Mays

I have only just a minute,
only sixty seconds in it.
Forced upon me, can't refuse it;
didn't seek it, didn't choose it.
But it's up to me to use it.
I must suffer if I lose it;
give account if I abuse it.
Just a tiny little minute,
but eternity is in it.

It's Official – Our Lady of the Assumption Dedication in Numero Deux April 24th, 2021

Many of you have sent gifts for the construction of a new church for the community after their old church was destroyed by Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. Construction is proceeding nicely and just a few more \$\$\$ will help us complete it by 2021. More detail is on the website. This beautiful church and Shrine to Our Lady of the Assumption will be a grand and glorious place of worship that will give glory to God and honor His Blessed Mother. To quote his Excellency, Bishop Decoste, Bishop of Jeremie, Haiti, "This will be a place of pilgrimage!"

(Mass for the January 2020 mission team celebrated by Fr. Joe and concelebrated by Fr. Jonathan Hemelt, pastor of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in New Orleans, in the substantially completed Our Lady of the Assumption church)



Upcoming Events and Important Dates in the life of HMI

April 27th, 2020

HMI Golf tournament/Silent Auction at Ellendale Country Club

Summer Youth Trips are being planned

Call Joseph Schonacher 985-209-3990 or joseph.schonacher@gmail.com for more information.

May 15th– May 21st

HMI/Renewal Ministry trip

June 8th—June 15th

Fakier Summer Trip

N.B. Our one week mission trips fill up quickly. If you are interested in travelling to Haiti on one of our mission trips, please contact us so we can advise you of availability and get you scheduled. God Bless you for your mission heart! (N.B.) Passports must have at least six months left before expiration in order to enter Haiti.

Save the Date

Monday, April 27th, 2020 – That's the date of this year's 11th Annual Golf Tournament and Silent Auction at lovely Ellendale Country Club. It's never too early to start thinking of things that would make good Silent Auction items. Paintings, arts and crafts, hunting or fishing trips, vacation camps or beach houses, etc. can all be turned into funds that can take people out of misery, giving them hope for the future with a new house and easily accessible potable water.

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This newsletter is dedicated to raising funds to help the families receive the miracle of a new home one day. May God bless you and your loved ones for your commitment to the poor by giving in whatever way the Holy Spirit directs you.

Here is my immediate donation to use where most needed:

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

Please consider Silent Auction sponsorship.

_____ Silent Auction Gold Sponsors \$3750 (6 Remaining)

Listing on all event banners/posters and press releases, Listing on Haiti Mission website, Food and drinks on day of event for sponsors and guests, **Dedication of one home.**

_____ Silent Auction Builder Sponsors \$1000 (Unlimited)

Food and drinks on day of event for sponsors and guests.

This monetary gift is made in memory of _____

please send an acknowledgement card to: Name: _____

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)