



## HAITI MISSION, INC.

P.O. Box 694 Thibodaux, LA 70302

Phone: 985-855-3127

www.haitimissioninc.com

**July 2022**

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

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



### 13th Annual Haiti Mission Golf Tournament & Bec's Silent Auction Report

Thank you and God bless you! With all the struggles our community has faced and continues to face from Ida storm damage and recovery we are amazed at the generosity of HMI supporters. We continue to be reminded how God's plan is far better than we can dream of and that we just need to remain faithful and leave Him in control. We received another record setting total from our 2022 Sponsors and Donors prior to the event. We received bids on all but two items. As in the past, many winning bidders also added to their donation and additional donations were made without bidding on items during the event.

The combined total raised is a new record setting amount of **\$216,638** which is nearly \$51,000 more than last year's total and nearly \$25,000 more than our adjusted goal of \$192,000. Because of your generosity, we have enough matching money in place to continue building four homes per month between May 2022 and April 2023! We once again need to give special thanks to our sponsors and to many generous people each year that continue to help either by donating items, bidding on items or making donations.

**Our final total of \$216,638 will be restricted towards matching funds to continue to build the next 54 homes.** Despite the increase in the total cost of homes to \$8000 we have half the money in place from the SA. We will continue to build homes for each \$4000 we collect from donors. Since the Silent Auction began dedicating money in 2013 to be utilized towards building homes we have raised **\$1,180,668** in matching money. Our construction team of Haitians has grown to 70 men who are building homes #274-278 this month. We are now on our way to Home #314 over the next year which will put us at nearly 2.5 million utilized for home construction since 2013. **Amazing! You Cannot Out Give God!**

We just returned from a mission trip in June (enjoy the details in this newsletter) and currently have one more trip planned in 2022. What a joy it is to represent all of our HMI donors and supporters as we dedicate homes and are blessed to witness how lives and families are generationally being changed. Please visit the HMI website and look for more exciting updates. Thank you once again for all you are doing to make this possible. God bless you and your family. "If you are able to be an instrument in the hands of God and if you have trust, love, and the patience to accept His plan for you, He restores to you a hundred-fold what you have given."

**Mother Elvira "Sparks of Light"**

Pax,

*David & Laura Fakier*

(P.S. The golf tournament itself cleared almost \$29,000. These are the funds that are used to pay for repair of water wells in communities in Haiti that have no way of funding this need themselves. It also takes care of repair of our precious drill truck and other equipment that we have there in Haiti as well as everyday expenses incurred by our mission. Special thanks to those that sponsor and play in our tournament. It all comes together to do some great things.)

### Another Great Trip!!

It was challenging to travel to Haiti in pre-Covid times but now one must add in covid testing, constant flight changes and oftentimes airline changes. Add reports of violence and kidnappings and a mission trip to Haiti is not for the faint of heart. Undaunted and determined, the June 2022 team led by our "Haiti Heroes", Dr. David and Laura Fakier, made it happen. We are so proud of all of them and so happy that things worked out so well! Details of the trip will be in our next newsletter. For now, we encourage them to take a much-deserved break. Bask in the joy of another grace-filled, faith-filled, and fun-filled trip that brought joy and hope to some people in Haiti that the world has forgotten. Welcome Home. You done good!



(first row) Nancy Greenhaw, Mary Ellen Haydel and Gabby Gonzales  
(middle row) Laura Fakier, Anna Lynn Haydel, Caroline Haydel, Nancy Haydel, Katherine Hale and Fr. Willy (top row) Fr. Joe, Lloyd Greenhaw, David Fakier, John Bonvillian, Jennifer Bonvillian, Lorraine Steigner and Robert Hale

Jennifer Bonvillian (June 2022 team) with some of her new friends. (She says, "It was always easy for me to support HMI with prayers & donations. I said I wanted to go on a mission trip to Haiti for years. To be completely honest, I was scared & actually hoped the trip would be cancelled. How thankful I am that God didn't answer that prayer. I am forever changed by the love & joy I experienced during my time in Haiti. I can't wait to go back!")

### Upcoming Events and Important Dates in the life of HMI

**November 10<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 ..... Winter Mission 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 to enter Haiti. Travel advisories regarding Covid testing and vaccination may also apply.





Engineer Paul Chery  
(June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1957 –  
May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022) RIP

FAIE’S FACTS

Very few of the people reading this newsletter ever heard of this man – our dear “Engineer Paul”, who was the husband of “Tete”, the coordinator of everything HMI does in Haiti. It would be impossible to put into words what this husband and wife team has done to make our mission work possible. Tete, an architect and Paul, an engineer (who are dear friends with Fr. Joe) made it possible for HMI to function efficiently and effectively. Paul, the silent giant, made things happen with the power that only humility can bring. Let this small tribute be a sign of our profound appreciation for all this wonderful man did for his family, his country and HMI. The following statement epitomized Paul: The importance of good people in our life is just like the importance of heartbeats ...it’s not visible but silently supports our life. Thank you Engineer Paul for who you were and what you did for so many. You will be sadly missed.



it's hard to believe that anybody could be trying to live in there. Bergmann Acluche a 66-year-old widower, whose health has been deteriorating, used to be a very good farmer, but he can't do much anymore. The place in which he lived that you see in the “before” picture was contributing very much to his debilitating situation. (This is located in Tiga which is in Bec’s s/d.) Also, in this pitiful shanty lived three of his six children and one grandchild. We are so happy to help move him into a more decent and secure place to live that can hopefully improve his health. He sends his deepest appreciation and thanksgiving and assurances of prayer to all who helped bring about this miracle in his life and that of his family.

**Meet one of the families**  
being blessed by your continued  
prayerful support of the work of HMI!  
Haiti – House # 269  
*The Bergmann Acluche Family*



Just when you think you've gotten rid of  
all the really bad shacks and huts you  
find another one like this that's so pitiful

One of solar lights  
also charging a phone.

Lighting up the Hills!



The Family Distribution is always one of the highlights of a mission trip. An average of 150 families are selected each trip to be the recipients of groceries, various supplies and \$20 in cash by way of our “Dirty Card Helping Families” project. Tom Morrison, one of the dear friends of HMI who visited Haiti on a mission trip, was inspired to research solar lights in order that the families - especially the children - could have light to live by. Once a decision was made on the most suitable for Haiti, with both personal commitment on the part of Tom and participation by some friends, the solar light project was born. The positive impact of the solar lights has been tremendous. Since 2018, we have been able to distribute over 1300 lanterns during our "new home dedications" as well as during the family distributions. A longtime HMI supporter, Tom Morrison, began Starpoint Charitable Project in June 2018 which has funded the lanterns. An additional 500 lanterns have just been received in Haiti which will be distributed during upcoming trips. There continues to be limited power on the "main" road, but no power to the homes. The solar lanterns now provide clean, renewable, inexpensive lighting. Lighting solutions prior to the [LuminAID lanterns](#) were limited to candles, wood fires, or kerosene lanterns, which are unsafe, unhealthy, and costly.



The Fakiers with Fr. Joe  
presenting a light to a family.

If you would like to learn more and support the effort you can contact Tom Morrison at [tom.starpointcharitable@gmail.com](mailto:tom.starpointcharitable@gmail.com) or go to the Donate tab and designate Solar Lights as your donation. The cost of each light including shipping and custom fees is approximately \$40. Thank you, Tom, for all you are doing to help Light Up the Night in Haiti!

Worker bees

Haiti Mission Inc. has been able to accomplish incredible – some would say miraculous – things in its twenty-two-year history for many reasons. It goes without saying that one can see clearly the grace of God at work in the work of our hands. That grace however is manifested in the faces of our wonderful volunteers or as we like to lovingly refer to them as our “worker bees.” We have a number of these volunteers that work throughout the year keeping our books in order, producing, assembling, and distributing the newsletter, updating the website and other necessary functions to keep our beloved non-profit corporation in compliance with all necessary directives and keeping it active. The time that our “hive” becomes really active is for our annual golf tournament and silent auction. Various activities begin months prior, but on the day of the event, everyone gets there early and stays late, keeping the well-oiled machine that has been developed over the past thirteen years going. Thanks to all who have helped and continue to help in any way.

What a story!

As the Haiti Mission adventure continues to do what it can for the people of Haiti and grow and develop, the idea that the story should be told from the beginning for all those who have joined the journey along the way began to develop. For a couple of years now Mrs. Faie and Cathy Weimer have been chronicling the Haiti Mission story. Their work is done! The 22 years of God’s grace and guidance has been put into a book that I know you will all enjoy. The title “A Tale of One Citie: Transforming Numero Deux - from ‘THAT’ ... to ‘THIS’” describes in pictorial form the projects, all of the groups that have travelled there with HMI in as much detail as possible in a book of 140 pages. To paraphrase the last words of St. John’s Gospel, “There are also many other things that we did, but if they were to be described individually, I do not think the whole world would contain the books that could be written!” We’re hoping to have it ready for the middle of August. (See the donation sheet for more information and how to order.)



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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.

**Yes, Here is my immediate donation to use where most needed:**

**\$1000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$4000 would sponsor a new home and get a family “out of the mud and into safe secure housing.”**  
(Our new home design is keeping the cost of constructing the homes at \$8000 with the \$4000 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.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$35 would buy food and supplies for a family (\$100 to help 3 families)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$40 would buy one solar light.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of “A Tale of One Citie: Transforming Numero Deux - from ‘THAT’ ... to ‘THIS’” when it becomes available. (Enclosed is \$20 per book & \$5 S&H per order)**

**Please ship to:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**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*

***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)**