



## HAITI MISSION, INC.

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www.haitimissioninc.com

**December 2023**

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

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



### A Christmas Twenty-Three years in the making



"Before"

Soon after arriving in what has come to be the HMI mission field – Numero Deux, Haiti, there was so much to do, we didn't know where to start. We knew the water situation had to be remedied somehow and we had a basic plan, but the people had nothing and were so destitute, it was overwhelming. Discussing the needs of the people with Fr. Joe, since he didn't know



"After"

where to start either, he suggested we ask the people what they wanted first. Meeting with the people, we were able to develop a list of five major areas: food, water, education, housing and a church. When we attempted to structure the list from one to five in order of importance, the community wanted a church first! We knew that there was no way we could come back to the US and begin raising funds for a church first. We did promise that at some point in time we would help build a church but could not possibly envision a church the size and shape of the one they had pictured in front of the dilapidated building they were currently worshipping in. (Oh ye of little faith!) Those of you that have been following the HMI adventure, know that we have had great success with water (over 70 wells), housing (333 as of this Christmas), education (St. Bridget school system), and food (family distribution). God gave us our way for a while but on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 by way of Hurricane Matthew, He showed us that He was answering the people's prayer by completely destroying the old church. It was time for HMI to focus on the community's #1 priority – a new church! The story is a fascinating one. ([found on pages 60-63 of A tale of One Citie: From 'THAT' ... to 'THIS'](#)). We have come to realize that all the experiences that we went through to succeed at the other four goals were the foundation for us to accomplish the greatest "before" and "after" house building of our work in Haiti – building the House of God – L'Eglise Notre-Dame de L'Assomption de Numero-Deux! (Our Lady of the Assumption Church – Numero Deux, Haiti.) This past August 15<sup>th</sup>, on the Feast of the Assumption, the massive statue of Our Lady atop her Son's temple was completed. How beautiful and how stunning to see such an example of faith, hope, love, and God's providence in this remote and forlorn place in Haiti. What a sign to the world of how to improve life, health, peace and happiness for so many by praying like everything depended on God and working like everything depended on us!



(The Christmas crib in its home in the Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Numero Deux is a grace filled blessing that gives hope to the community every Christmas!)

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*Merry Christmas to all!*



### 2024 Haiti Mission Inc. Silent Auction Sponsorship Opportunities

Next year will be **Bec's 15th Annual HMI Silent Auction**. By the grace of God and thanks to many generous donors, we have raised a total of **\$1,450,503** over the past 14 years. Since 2013 we have dedicated all the silent auction money to our Home Building Project. Each home cost \$8000. HMI dedicates the silent auction money as a matching donation to build a home. For every \$4000 donated to HMI for homes, we take \$4000 from the

Silent Auction restricted account proceeds to complete the funding. Our construction team of 70 local men is able to build **four homes per month** and completed home **#327 in October 2023**. This represents more than **\$2,500,000 invested in home construction**. HMI is committed to helping as many families as possible move from "misery to poverty". The impact these homes are having on the families of recipients and the overall community is remarkable. Faith and hope are alive and spreading in the Numero Deux area thanks to God and the generosity of all of our donors.

**In order to reach our goal of building 48 homes per year we need a total of \$384,000 of which \$192,000 is provided by the Silent Auction.** Last year was our eighth year raising money through sponsorships prior to the auction. Thanks again to our many generous sponsors who contributed **\$176,300** prior to the event. The sponsor support propelled the Silent Auction to a fundraising total of **\$212,000**. We hope to raise a minimum of **\$160,000 through sponsorships** and the balance through the sale of silent auction items. The good news is that we have already raised **\$84,400** which is over 50% of our total sponsor goal! Thanks to all of you who have helped us in the past. Your generous support has helped many poor families that 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 on the HMI website. 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 sponsor commitments no later than **early March 2024** so that we can include the names of our sponsors on information pertaining to the **event which is scheduled for May 13, 2024 at Ellendale Country Club**. **Sponsor donations will not be due until May 2024**. God Bless and Pax, David & Laura Fakier (Sell your possessions and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with treasure in the heavens that does not fail.) Lk 12:33

#### Silent Auction Title Sponsor

**Bec's 15th Annual Haiti Mission Silent Auction In Memory of Rebecca Claire Fakier**

**Silent Auction Co-Sponsors Beth & Marty Deitchman - Paula & Charlie Laurent –**

**Silent Auction Gold Sponsors \$4000. (31 Remaining)**

**Susi & Tom Morrison - Julie & Dr. John Steigner - Elaine & Pat Gootee Elizabeth & Justin Corte**

(Listing on all event banners/posters, Listing on Haiti Mission website,

Food & drinks on day of event for sponsors and guests, Dedication of **one home**)

**SA Builder / Builder + Sponsors \$1000 - \$3999. (Unlimited)**

(Listing on Haiti Mission website, Food & drinks on day of event for sponsors and guests)

(Because of printing deadlines, the most current list of sponsors and commitment totals can be found on the website and on email updates)





Meet one of the Families  
receiving a special  
Christmas this year!

Haiti House #331  
Alexandre Dominique



Alexandre Dominique and his wife, Francine St Dic, live in Carrefour Caton. They have raised 8 children and now live with Francine's sister and one of their granddaughters. Despite their age, they still have to work very hard as farmers and selling a few little things, just to be able to provide for their household. They had no hope of ever living in a better situation until God heard their cry for help. They thank God for his tender care and the donors of HMI who have made their old age tremendously easier. Given their circumstances, you can see why they are so grateful to the generous donors of HMI who will helped to move them into a beautiful new home and make this Christmas so special!

**Praise the Lord!** This is what our new houses look like because of the hard work and determination of the HMI construction team. What a Christmas gift! Because of your continued help, HMI will be able to bring hope and help to many more families in the upcoming year.

Christmas Message from Deacon Lloyd and Mrs. Faie

It has been another busy year for HMI. More wells have been drilled, homes built, children educated, fed and cared for and families given hope. We now have over 70 wells drilled in Haiti. Construction of homes, which now number 332 have been helping four families a month get out of misery. None of this would have been possible without your sacrificial love and generosity. The Board of Directors of HMI would like to thank you for all you have done to help us continue to help those in need in Haiti. Behind every number is a child, a family and a community that has hope because of your support. In the epistle of James, we read, “Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his own face in a mirror. He sees himself, then goes off and promptly forgets what he looked like. But the one who peers into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres and is not a hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, such a one shall be blessed in what he does” (James 1:22-25) Haiti Mission has often been the only hope many of these families have had – the only family and friends bringing fresh water and care. We continue to be committed to bringing water to within 500 feet of every child and family in this region of Haiti as evidenced by the continued commitment to drilling and maintaining wells. Our passionate response to the sound of a hungry and thirsty child is why we are there. We will continue to work untiringly until these children and their families have the basic needs they deserve. Our mission has done so much, but we can only see clearly how much more needs to be done. As we bring our twenty-third year to a close, we are more confident than ever that God’s grace and blessings will continue to flow through us into the lives of more people who have been oftentimes forgotten by the world. With your help we will answer the call of the poor and the needy. With Christ at our side and the power of God in our hearts, we will persist in this labor of love. No matter what challenges we face, we will persevere and continue to be doers of the Word and not just hearers. Merry Christmas and may peace and God’s choicest blessings be on you and your families,

Deacon Lloyd and Mrs. Faie Duplantis



The Blind Man’s Pillow Award Recipients  
August 2023

Since 2019 CORTEC & CORTEC Employees have supported the HMI home construction project and Bec's Silent Auction. The CORTEC annual fundraising effort was conceived of and lead by Justin Corte after he and his wife Elizabeth made a mission trip to Haiti with HMI in June 2018. The generous contributions from CORTEC & CORTEC Employees have since contributed to the building of 23 homes which have generationally changed the lives of the Haitian families receiving the homes. In addition, Elizabeth & Justin (5) and Bobby & Ginny (1) have also personally contributed to the funding of 6 additional homes dated back to 2017. Although the award was presented at a special dinner of friends of HMI at the Corte’s, we thought we should put it in the Christmas newsletter as a way of thanking all the Cortec Employees since they generally have their fundraising campaign at Christmas time. HMI wants to let you know what kind of wonderful Christmases you have been giving to some folks that you’ll never get to meet. Keep up the great work! Merry Christmas to you all. On behalf of the poorest of the poor in Haiti, We / HMI cannot thank you enough. Blessings to all those involved with the annual fundraising efforts and generosity.



Elizabeth & Justin Corte (receiving the award on behalf of their parents, Ginny & Bobby Corte, and All of CORTEC & CORTEC Employees)

Merry Christmas and Mesi Anpil!! (Thank you very much!)

(the story of the Blind Man’s Pillow Award and past recipients can be found on pages 100-102 of A tale of One Cite: From ‘THAT’ ... to ‘THIS’ or on the HMI website).

Upcoming Events and  
Important dates in the life of HMI



May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024



HMI Golf tournament/Silent Auction  
at Ellendale Country Club

2024

Mission Trips—TBA

N.B. Hopefully we will be able to travel to Haiti more often this upcoming year. If you are interested in travelling with us on one of our mission trips, please contact Dr. David Fakier at 985-804-3112 so he can advise you of availability and get you scheduled. God Bless you for your mission heart! (Passports must have at least six months left before expiration in order to enter Haiti.)

FAIE’S FACTS



A farmer grew an award-winning corn that he entered in the state fair where it won a blue ribbon. A newspaper reporter interviewed him and discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors. “How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?” he asked. “Why sir,” said the farmer, “didn’t you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn.” His corn cannot improve unless his neighbor’s corn also improves.

What is the moral of this story? The good we do to others will rebound to us. No wonder God commanded us to love one another with His love, which is all about the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

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

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**\$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 \$7500 with the \$4000 matching money for each home provided by funds raised from the annual silent auction)

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

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**\$35 would buy food and supplies for a family (100 for three families!)**

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**\$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.**

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**Please send me a copy of Deacon Lloyd and Faie’s book, “A Tale of One Citie: Transforming Numero Deux from ‘That’ ... to ‘This’ (\$20 + \$5 S&H)**

*“Because I believe that love begins at home and if we can create a home for the poor... I think that more and more love will spread.”*

