



HAITI MISSION, INC.

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August 2026

*"To know even one life has breathed
easier because you have lived.*

This is to have succeeded."

Ralph Waldo Emerson



5th Annual St. Bridget Haiti Mission School- Teacher Support & Feeding the Children Appeal

St. Bridget HMI School-ND began in 2004. The existing hurricane proof school was completed in 2012 thanks to donations from many HMI supporters, led by Pat & Sue Biggam at a total cost of \$250,000. The excellent school includes 10 classrooms, bathrooms, a large library and feeding room and administration offices.

In the latest school year, 2025-26, enrollment increased by more than 8% to 362 students and continued with 18 full-time staff members with HMI contributing \$1425/month or **\$17,200 per year (Teacher Support)**. Teachers on average make just under \$100 per month and are paid for twelve months.

HMI also has funded a school lunch program (**Feeding the Children**) since 2012 which provides a substantial hot lunch daily to the students and staff that attend. Last school year HMI provided nearly 6% more meals than the prior year for a total of 46,109 meals at a cost of **\$23,325** or 51 cents per meal. The school lunch program ensures that every child attending school at St. Bridget's will have a least one nutritious hot meal a day.

HMI realizes that the above two programs are very important to the community and the children, and we hope to be able to continue to provide for the financial needs of the programs. To do that in a more predictable way we decided to have an Annual Appeal to our donors focused on Teacher Support and Feeding the Children prior to the beginning of each new school year.

Last year's fourth annual appeal was very successful, raising nearly \$26,000. Thank you for your generous support! Because of the success of the annual appeals and our monthly donors this year on our mission trip in June/July we were able to host an appreciation lunch reception for the Teachers, Staff and Feeding the Children Workers along with their spouses and/or guests. The fun event included food, drinks, and a raffle with Mardi Gras theme. In addition, HMI provided a much appreciated and deserved \$100 bonus for Teachers and Staff and a \$75 bonus for the Feeding the Children Workers. Six new Soccer Balls were also provided In Memory of Nicole Anne Davis, "Our Soccer Saint" by her mother Sharon. **(Photos throughout this newsletter & more on web-site).**

Our goal for this year will be to raise a minimum of \$25,000. The money will help HMI to continue to fund the programs in 2026-27 school year.

The 5th Annual appeal will begin August 1 and extend through September 13, 2026.

If you would like to contribute to the 2026 Appeal please forward your contribution to HMI at P.O. Box 694 Thibodaux, LA 70302 dedicated to Teacher Support / Feeding the Children program or donate online at www.haitimissioninc.com utilizing the dedicated donation tabs.

Together we can continue to serve God while "feeding" his little ones, body, mind and soul. Thank you for your generosity and God bless you and your families.

Finally, more soccer balls!

It has been over three years since an HMI team has been able to bring soccer balls back to Haiti. There have been numerous logistical reasons making it impractical to try to ship anything for the past few years. When we were finally able to travel to Haiti in the beginning of 2026, we had so much to bring that soccer balls missed the cut on that trip. Finally, the summer 2026 team was able to bring a few balls to the great joy of the school-children. One thing that HMI has learned over the years is that nothing brings happiness to children and adults alike as does a soccer ball! (Soccer Balls for St. Bridget School are donated In Memory of Nicole Anne Davis "Our Soccer Saint" by her mother Sharon Davis.)



Dr. David and Fr. Joe presenting
some precious soccer balls
to the school principal.

"Before"



Haiti House #431 Jean Claude François

Jean Claude François is a widower who lives with his two children and a nephew in Numero Deux. He farms to care for his family and although he is very poor, he is

a man of dignity. His living condition was deplorable as you can see from the photo. They send profound thanks to God and to the donors who have so significantly changed their lives.



"After"

Faie's Facts:

Thoughts to ponder during the last days of summer:

A flower teaches us simple lessons:

Stay rooted, keep growing, bloom where you're planted.

Two power tools --- Silence & smile:

Smile is a way to solve many problems;

Silence is a way to avoid many problems

Haiti Team, from left—Gabby Gonzales, Laura and David Fakier, Julie, Oliver “JO” and John Steigner

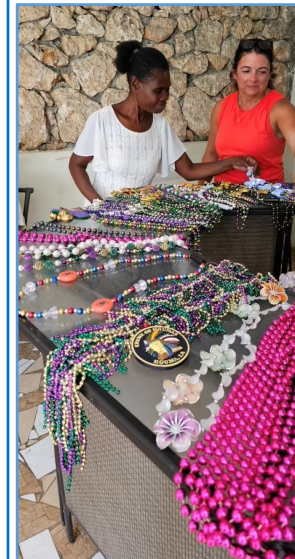


Summer 2026 Mission Trip

The summer team was the first relatively “regular” trip HMI has been able to make in over three years. Things in Haiti – at least in the Jeremie region where we work - are returning to more normal conditions, especially regarding safety. The group was able to put in a solid week of work and accomplish all their goals. On the top of the list was dedicating and blessing homes that have been built. Thirty-two was the goal – thirty-two happy, grateful and thankful families were visited and blessed! Besides the prayers and fellowship, each family received one of our wonderful solar lights. A distribution was held for 163 families who also received a solar light along with the provisions and a cash voucher of \$20. The families are always so grateful for the “Dirty Card” sponsors here in the US that make this special part of each trip possible. Feeding the prisoners in the Jeremie prison is always one of the toughest things that the team does. No matter how hard we try to improve the conditions there, with each visit we find more prisoners than at the previous time. No matter how tough, the special “home-cooked” meal with a cold soft drink always lets them know that someone cares. With an entire week to work, there was time for fun with the people in the area. Fun at the beach, a stop off at the Missionaries of Charity orphanage as well as doing some medical and unique financial assistance were also all part of this Summer’s mission trip. Congrats to this Summer team on a job well done and thanks to all the donors who made all this happen. N.B. God willing we’ll try to schedule two trips in 2027 with room for 10 to 12 on each trip so if you are interested, call Dr. David Fakier at 985-804-3112 to discuss the details. (More pictures of this Summer’s trip can be found in the Gallery page of the HMI website)



Well Rehab! Now that the new church has been built and the activity level for both church and school has so dramatically increased, much more water is needed. Earlier this year, HMI received some funding for water-well drilling and restoration. With those funds, Fr. Joe decided to install an electric pump in that well in order to accommodate the greatly increased demand. It has functioned all these years with a manual, hand-pump which has periodically failed, primarily due to the amount of use. After sixteen years, the well is still flowing and producing more than ever.



***Teacher and
Feeding
the Children
Worker
Appreciation Reception
held July 3, 2026***



***“Throw me something,
Mister!!”***

The team brought a little Mardi Gras to the celebration for the Teachers and Feeding the Children Workers in July!



Besides receiving a very nice reception with food and drinks, the Teacher/School Staff and Feeding the Children Workers, also received a bonus from the team. A few years ago, HMI gave bonuses to the teachers, but this is the first time we have done an appreciation reception such as this for all the teachers and support staff. We added a little South Louisiana flare with a Mardi Gras bead raffle. At this time the team also gave out gifts such as a couple of our cherished Solar Lights and as well as two bags of groceries and other supplies that we give at the family distribution time. Everyone enjoyed themselves and we were happy to be able to sponsor such a small token of our appreciation for the hard work the school team is doing.