

Anonymous donor will match up to \$15,000 collected through April!

The cry of the poor in Haiti has never been more heartbreaking than this year. Food is scarce. Medicine at the clinic is almost depleted. Living in Haiti is harder than ever in 2008.

Can you help in any way? Your gift will be a treasure for those going to bed hungry tonight. A donation now, will be doubled. Please help us meet our goal!

Yes, I do want to help those in need!!

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please add me to your volunteer list _____

Here is how I want to make a difference!

Count on me each month for: \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$200 Other \$ _____

Direct funds to: Most needed Orphanage Education Medical Water / Food Agriculture / Jobs

Send a child to school:

COTELETTE: \$15/month \$90/semi-annually \$180/annually

PORT-AU-PRINCE: \$35/month \$200/semi-annually \$400/annually

ST. SUZANNE: \$17/month \$100/semi-annually \$200/annually

I want to help with a one-time donation of: \$ _____

I want to pay by MasterCard Visa Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Make your tax deductible checks payable to: HBHH, 2617 Prospect Rd. Tampa, FL 33629

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Newsletter design and print production has been donated.

HELP BRINGS HOPE FOR HAITI, INC.
"The LORD hears the cry of the poor." Psalm 34

2617 Prospect Road
Tampa, Florida 33629

Mission Trip 2008 June 7-14 (space is limited)

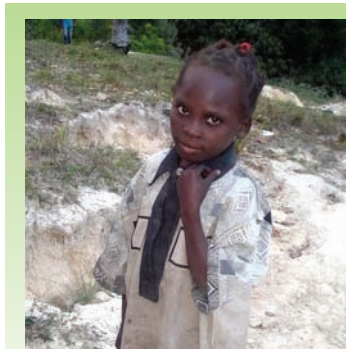
2008 will witness the third summer mission trip for HBHH.

After meeting with Father Medenel, HBHH decided that the summer mission of 2008 will encompass two main areas of activities:

Cotelette School: paint the exterior of this newly completed school.

Agriculture:

- Plant between 1–2000 fruit trees, provided by Food for the Poor, on parish grounds
- Plant "Ti Fores" (little forest) on parish property, using fruit and lumber tree seedlings grown in the Shade Nursery built by HBHH during the summer of 2007.



Emanuel, an orphan

Starvation is real and right now.



The Cry of the Poor

HELP BRINGS HOPE FOR HAITI, INC.

"The LORD hears the cry of the poor." Psalm 34

March 2008

Poor of Haiti face greater challenges than ever!

During February of 2008, Patricia Eddy took two Tampa area groups to the Fort Liberte diocese in Haiti and found that many of the ongoing difficulties endured by the poor have increased in severity.

Actual instances of starvation have increased at an unprecedented rate. With the rise in food prices, the demand for emergency food rations has risen tremendously, outstripping the abilities of HBHH to keep pace.

The food shortage has had the effect of degrading the health of the villagers, particularly the young and the elderly. This decline in health has increased the need for additional medi-



Emanuel, an orphan

cines in the clinic that can be distributed to the poor. While free medical attention is now possible because HBHH is funding a doctor for the clinic in St. Suzanne, that care is of limited use if enough free medicines are not available.

Fr. Medenel is very concerned about the plight of the young and elderly throughout the village.

Especially critical is the growing number of orphans. It is Fr. Medenel's belief that these heartbreaking circumstances can only be healed through the construction of an orphanage and home for the elderly – in close proximity, so that both groups can help each other.

Visit to Food for the Poor

Father Dukin, of Food for the Poor in Cap Haitien, met with Patricia and Judge John Laurent. These key areas were addressed:

- **Emergency food:** although Food for the Poor has limited supplies of unallocated food products available, Fr. Dukin did give Patricia a limited quantity of emergency food rations that Fr. Medenel was able to use immediately in dire cases of need.

- **Trees:** Fr. Dukin pledged to supply almost 2,000 fruit trees for the 2008 mission in St. Suzanne – trees that will be planted throughout the parish property.

- **Poor village:** tour of housing constructed of concrete brick designed by Food for the Poor. Fr. Dukin committed to use money currently being raised by Christ the King CCD students for this purpose to be spent in the St. Suzanne area.



A donation now, will be doubled up to \$15,000

HBHH

HBHH Mission Statement: *Our mission is to help bring hope for a better life to Haitians by showing them God's love in two ways. Meet basic needs of food, water, sanitation, education, medical, and clothing. Help create independence, giving a hand up, not just hand outs, by providing adult, child, and teen education, and helping to create jobs for the people of Haiti.*

Patricia Eddy
Executive Director and Treasurer
Drew Peloubet
Vice President
Barbara Byars
Secretary

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From the Executive Director

I just returned from Haiti and saw and learned many new things that I'm eager to share with you in this newsletter.

I witnessed the increasing difficulty each priest faces in feeding the poor in Haiti. Like many of you, I'd read about people in Port-au-Prince eating mud cakes because actual food was not available. A bag of rice that used to cost \$32US now costs \$54US, resulting in the cut back of food distributions from charitable organizations.

However, there are unmistakable signs that the work you support is making a real difference. Last year I could see a change for the better in the goods and food being sold in the village square. This year, I could see progress in agriculture programs started last summer. Most importantly, those plans had been made by the farmers of St. Suzanne themselves, a key step toward ownership that is tremendously encouraging.

How can I thank you for all the help and support you have given? Every day prayers are being answered in this small mountain village because the people of HBHH are truly hearing the cry of the poor.

Sincerely,

Patricia Eddy

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Signs of progress are everywhere!

While it is impossible to ignore the pervasive problems within Haiti, it is equally impossible to overlook signs of progress that didn't exist when HBHH first came to Haiti.

Bathrooms: The wonderful fundraising work of the Jesuit Key Club students has changed this part of student life at the St. Suzanne School forever. The differences between old and new bathrooms are dramatic.



Church: Paint was delivered to the village by HBHH. The plaster was repaired and fresh paint applied to give the exterior of the church a brand new look. The villagers completed the project on their own initiative – a gratifying sign of growth and progress.

Agricultural Shade Nursery: con-



structed during the summer of 2007 during the Young Adult Mission, this 5,000 sq. ft. facility has been taken over by St. Suzanne's Agriculture Council and put to wonderful use since its completion. Specifically:

- A successful pilot cabbage planting provided food for the parish poor and will be expanded during the Spring of 2008.
- A Haitian yam project will be the next pilot planting.
- A tremendous number of fruit tree and fast growing lumber tree seedlings have been raised for planting on parish property during the summer 2008 mission.
- A rabbit-raising pilot project is also planned for the summer/fall of 2008.

• **Wells:** A well drilling rig has been donated by Blackbird Technology, Inc from Herndon, VA and shipped to Haiti. During the summer of 2008 wells will be drilled in Cotelette, St. Suzanne, Dilaire and finally throughout the diocese of Ft. Liberte!



• **Medical:** The doctor funded by HBHH for the St. Suzanne clinic has begun a Mobile Clinic, serving the surrounding villages to see patients where there is no doctor or clinic available.

Agricultural seminar in St. Suzanne huge success!

HBHH began its agriculture initiatives during the summer of 2007, led by Judge John Laurent. Two key activities took place: a meeting with a large group of farmers from St. Suzanne and the construction of a 5,000 sq. ft. shade nursery for the cultivation of young plants.

In fall of 2007, Judge Laurent and Patricia attended a worldwide ECHO conference focused on implementing third world agricultural programs. They were able to take specific lessons away from the conference and apply

them to HBHH's work in Haiti.

One result was an agricultural seminar held in St. Suzanne, attended by the farmers as well as Patricia and Judge Laurent, and put on by a Mennonite group located in the city of Dezam. The purpose of the seminar was to teach "Ti Fore" (little forest) growing techniques acquired by their twenty years of experience.

The purpose of "Ti Fore" is to grow a mix of fruit and lumber trees in a confined area. This helps with reforestation, erosion, and provides farmers



Tampa parish moves forward with twinning

Father Waters of Corpus Christi Parish in Temple Terrace, along with Terry Boehm and Mike Kovac of his parish, joined Patricia on her February trip to Haiti. This was Fr. Waters' first trip to his twinned parish in Dilaire, Haiti, though Fr. Janvier has made two trips to Tampa to meet the parish-

ioners of Corpus Christi.

Fr. Waters remarked to Patricia, "Until you experience the poverty in person, you can not totally understand the plight of the Haitian people."



(Left to right)
Fr. Waters,
Fr. Janvier,
Terry Boehm,
and Mike Kovac.

with long term fruit crops and shorter term cash crops. The farmers have decided to move forward in the following way:

- Planting 2 – 4 "Ti Fore" plots on parish property during the Summer of 2008.
- Plant seeds in the shade nursery during the Spring/Summer of 2008 so that all 32 farmers will be able to plant their own "Ti Fore" plots.
- Teach other farmers how to replicate this cash and fruit crop technique.

CONTAINER WISH LIST

Container leaves early April.

URGENT ITEMS NEEDED:

- Food: rice, beans, peanut butter
- Lumber: 2x6, 2x4, plywood
- Paint brushes, rollers, handles, extenders
- Shovels, watering cans, plant fertilizer
- Clothes, closed toe shoes
- Metal: tin roofing material
- Over the counter medicine, vitamins

Call Frank for pick up: 813-233-6712.

Blake High School Key Club Fundraiser and Silent Auction

WHEN: Saturday April 19, 2008
WHERE: Blake's central courtyard
TICKETS: \$7
1701 N. Blvd. Tampa, FL 33607

To benefit Help Brings Hope for Haiti

A relaxing afternoon of barbecue and bidding is planned, highlighted by the guitar and vocal skills of the Blake students.

Items to be auctioned include autographed Lightning hockey sticks and pucks, Le Creuset cookware, and a hot air balloon ride, etc.

For more information and tickets, please email Audrey.Bannon@gmail.com.

Please help us with any amount you can!

