



The
Haiti Micah
Project

Highlights

Investing in Children and Adolescents in Haiti

September 2013

Organization:

Haiti Micah Project
501(c)(3) organization
established in 2005
CFC # 86354

Project:

Haiti Micah Project
A Residential Home for
Street Children and
Vulnerable Children

Location:

Mirebalais, Haiti

Officers:

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Sarah Bushman, Editor

Students at St. Mary's Show Their Character

By Brett Marcotte

The job of the administration and teachers is to educate the children in their care. St. Mary of the Hills School takes it one step further; imparting spirituality, wisdom, and character. On a beautiful, sunny spring day, St. Mary of the Hills School showed off the fruits of its labor! In an ongoing effort to support the families in Haiti still feeling the effects of the 2010 earthquake, students, teachers, parents, and friends numbering over 150 joined together to "Walk for Haiti." On the 3-mile or 7-mile courses through the streets of Milton, the virtues of commitment, generosity, kindness, and compassion were evident.

The "Walk for Haiti" is an ongoing effort started in 2012 by 8th Grader Thalia Etienne (Randolph) and 7th Graders Jacob Martens (Milton) and Janelle Saint-Eloi (Mattapan). These students approached the School Principal, Lisa Fasano, two years ago looking to help all of the children still homeless and in need of so many of life's basic needs. With the assistance and guidance of faculty and parents, these students have collected funds over two years to provide food, clothing, and shelter to children who were orphaned in 2010. "As a school, we always try to remind the students of the need to give back to others. We are fortunate to be blessed with so much. It is our obligation, as educators, to encourage and facilitate student service," says Principal Fasano. "We are proud of Thalia, Jacob, and Janelle for thinking of others and prompting the school community to become engaged." Seventh Grader Jacob Martens was "excited to see it all come together, a whole community effort to help others."



The "Help Haiti" initiative at St. Mary of the Hills School started long before the January, 2010 earthquake. Grade 5 teacher, Alexia Etienne, a Dominica native, introduced the Haiti Micah project to the students. Mrs. Etienne's classes had sponsored children and sent funds to specifically assist those children. The goal of the Haiti Micah project is to "reach out to needy children and provide them with the proper care, guidance, education and skills that they need so that they will play an important role in improving their conditions and the conditions of this poverty-stricken country."

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In addition to supporting Haiti, the students immediately thought of another timely need for support--the victims of the Boston Marathon tragedy. Our school community is made up of many parents who are members of the Boston Police and Boston Fire departments. We have families whose parents are doctors and nurses in the City hospitals. The notion to give came without hesitation. A donation was made to "Boston's First Responders Fund" where 100% of the proceeds goes to the victims of the Boston Marathon terrorist attack.

We continue to be proud of our School community. The students continue to be positive role models to their classmates, their elders, and the community.



Thalia, Janelle and Jacob with Rev. Arthur F. Wright

Correction from Summer 2013 Issue: In the article "Fitting the Pieces Together," please note that Neuroblastoma is one of the more rare childhood cancers, not one of the more common, as previously written. There are about 700 new cases of Neuroblastoma in the United States every year according to the American Cancer Society.

Be Part of the Solution—Sponsor a Child



Kerbinia Jules

The Sponsor a Child program provides a child who lives in abject poverty the opportunity for food, water, clothing, and education. Many of our children come from the Azile, a government facility where people are all but forgotten. Without your support and commitment, many of the 500 children currently participating in the HMP program are at risk of not getting their basic daily needs met. The Sponsorship program is a personal commitment that offers safety, security, and hope for each child's future. At this time of year

when families are struggling to provide the basic necessities for an education, the needs are even greater.

Families in Mirebalais, look to HMP for hope. We need you to help us provide for a better future. Please join the other 250 sponsors who support our efforts and are the backbone of our work. Please go to our website, www.haiti-micah.org and click "How You Can Help."

October 12—The trail races are back! Fast Trak Racing (<http://www.fasttrakracing.com/>) has made Haiti Micah Project one of their partners. When you sign up for a race, you can designate HMP and a portion of your entry fee goes directly to our programs in Mirebalais. So walk or run in beautiful Fort Hunt Park at 9AM, Saturday October 12. Let's get the word out!



HAITI MICAH PROJECT

WE HAVE A NEW ADDRESS!
3606 Seminary Road
Alexandria, VA 22304

<http://www.haiti-micah.org>

Visit us on Facebook.

