



The
Haiti Micah
Project

Highlights

Investing in Children and Adolescents in Haiti

Summer 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:

The Rev. Joseph M. Constant
President
William J. Taczak, Jr
Vice President
Dr. Ruth I. Quartey
Secretary
James Snow
Treasurer

Directors:

Eleanor Braun
Sarah Bushman
Col. Ossen J. D'Haiti
Richard Frazer
The Rev. Rudolph Stewart III
Karen Wires

Accounting/Bookkeeper:

Olivine Pilling

Legal Consultant:

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Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Advisory Board:

Michelle Baptiste
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Douglas Fraedrich
Pierre Shostal

Newsletter:

Sarah Bushman, Editor

Fitting the pieces together: the Joshua E. Tielking Memorial Scholarship Fund

Joshua Tielking loved jigsaw puzzles and at 6 years old, could complete puzzles with more than 500 pieces. The task of piecing together the tiny shapes, one that would exasperate many adults, was one of his favorite things to do. He also loved his family, especially his sister Rachel.



Josh passed away in 2010 from Neuroblastoma, one of the more rare childhood cancers. Josh's godparents, and HMP supporters, Doug and Laura Fraedrich, wanted to do something to honor his memory. They created the Joshua E. Tielking Memorial Scholarship Fund. Josh was very intelligent and, despite his autism, his spirit shone through to touch those around him. "We see the same spirit in the children of Haiti and hope that we can provide the resources for some of them to achieve their potential, which Josh will not have the opportunity to do," Laura writes.

The fund will provide financial aid to individual children in the HMP program to support post-secondary education and/or vocational training. A member of the HMP board will be appointed as administrator and will oversee the Fund, review applications, and make scholarship grants.

For scholarship recipients, the fund will cover all school expenses, including tuition, room and board, books, uniforms, healthcare and other expenses as needed. The priest of St. Peter's Church in Mirebalais, teachers and board members in Haiti and the US can submit grant applications on behalf of young adults who have successfully completed elementary or secondary education with the support of the HMP.

Josh's parents sponsor a young girl in the HMP house in Mirebalais. Perhaps she will be able to grow up and realize the same dreams his family held for Josh. She might be able to use the scholarship fund to go to college and raise up her own community. Deepak Chopra wrote "there are no extra pieces in the universe." Josh's legacy will continue to bring many difficult pieces together, creating whole lives.

For information on how to contribute to the Joshua E. Tielking Memorial Fund, please visit our webpage and click on "How You Can Help."

Updates from Haiti

HMP Children Took National State Exams

The HMP children continue to flourish in school. We had 58 students taking the national state exams. The Department of Education in Haiti requires that students pass the national state exams in order to proceed to the next cycle. In addition to exam fees, HMP provided many of these children with stipends to purchase new clothes.



- 29 students took the second cycle 6th to 7th grade exams.
- 23 students took the third cycle national exams 9th to 3rd Year (Secondary) exams.
- 5 students took the 1st (Secondary) to Final Year (Secondary) exams.
- 1 student took the Final Year (Secondary) exams.

The current structure of the Haitian education system has three levels of education—preschool, primary and secondary. Preschool encompasses children ages 3-5, primary is from 6-15, with national exams given at ages 9, 11 and 14, and secondary is from age 15-18 with national state exams at age 17 and 18.

HMP Has a New Address!

The Haiti Micah Project has a new location. Please send all correspondence to:

Haiti Micah Project
3606 Seminary Road
Alexandria, VA 22304

We are grateful to Immanuel Church on-the Hill (ICOH) for agreeing to provide HMP with office space to conduct our activities. ICOH has been a strong supporter of HMP and we look forward to deepening our relationship with the ICOH community as we continue to grow.

Board Member Updates



Board Member Colonel Ossen D'Haiti has been assigned a 12-month tour of duty in the Persian Gulf. His many years of service in the United States Marines Corps have been well recognized and celebrated. We are grateful for his invaluable service and commitment to this country. We are also thankful to Colonel Ossen D'Haiti and his family for offering their talents and resources to the HMP. While on duty, Colonel Ossen D'Haiti will receive periodic HMP updates and we look forward to having him back on the HMP Board upon his return. We will keep him and his family in our thoughts and prayers.



Board Member Updates, cont.

Fr. Joseph Constant, President

In June, I completed my work at Virginia Theological Seminary after serving as a staff member since 2005. I am grateful for the support Virginia Theological Seminary gave to the work of Haiti Micah Project, as for many years our Board met on the campus of the Seminary. I also had the opportunity to share in the work of HMP with the students and staff at the Seminary who have volunteered many hours to our mission, including our finance manager Olivine Pilling.



Fr. Joseph with Tom Kerns, architect for the cathedral in Port-au-Prince

While this was a significant transition, I am continuing my work in the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church's office as a Special Coordinator for Haiti. My responsibilities, in collaboration with a team of colleagues, include coordinating the rebuilding efforts of the Episcopal Church's institutions in Haiti beginning with the Holy Trinity Cathedral Complex, which was destroyed in the January 12, 2010 earthquake.

The summer months have provided an opportunity for travel and connecting with our brothers and sisters across the country. In June and July, I traveled to several US cities and states, including Jacksonville, and Boston. I attended several conferences including the Union of Black Episcopalians Conference and the Association of Episcopal Haitian Clergy Living Abroad Conference.

In Seattle, I had the privilege of officiating at the wedding of Kathleen Marshall and Michael Kimmel. As a former HMP volunteer, Kathleen devoted many hours to furthering the mission of HMP. While in Seattle, I also visited one of our partner churches, Epiphany Parish of Seattle, a vibrant congregation that has been providing strong support to HMP. In September, I look forward to visiting another vibrant HMP partner congregation, St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Sun Valley, Idaho.

We are grateful to our partner congregations and their dedicated members for their continued support.

Be Part of the Solution—Sponsor a Child

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 filthy facility where the poorest of the poor reside in Mirebalais. When others say that charity has not done much for Haiti, we know that Haiti Micah Project and the sponsorship program is a recovery program for each of the children. The Sponsorship program is a personal commitment that offers safety, security, and hope for each child's future. Join the other 250 sponsors so that you, too, can make a difference in a child's life. Please go to our website and click "How You Can Help."



Essaie Simeus

HAITI MICAH PROJECT

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

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

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