



Still Moving Mountains by Tonya Hunt

Would the children receive their Christmas Joy Box this year? The odds were SO stacked against a carefully planned outcome, that it could be deemed a “Christmas Miracle” if it happened. I must admit, I had all but surrendered in defeat.

For 14 years, Hope for Haiti’s Children has been sending Christmas gifts to children who will likely receive no gifts at all. This project starts in July because there are MANY hurdles to jump. This year, there were MOUNTAINS to CLIMB. We knew that the children remained hopeful, but their hope was surely dim. A Haitian proverb states “**Dèyè mòn, gen mòn.**” It translates as “**Beyond every mountain, there’s another mountain.**” Yes, once they make it through one difficulty, there is another. **The mountains...**

Mountain #1: POST-COVID year...would there be enough presents? In the past, thousands answered the call to pack a small shoebox with purposeful gifts for a child in Haiti. We have **over 3,000 children** in our schools...would there be enough people in our post-COVID world to pack a “Christmas Joy Box”? The goal seemed daunting as groups struggled to reunite. **But then...** over 38 churches/organizations packed 3,452 boxes! A record-breaking year!



Joy Boxes were packed and sent to Haiti by 38 churches and organizations



Drivers wait at gas stations in hopes of filling their tanks. (Photo credit: Americas Associated Press)

Mountain #2: Fuel Crisis in Haiti... As gangs continued to grow in number and power, they seized control of the port where gas was being imported into Haiti. Gas stations shut down. Streets were empty. This meant that our staff would not be able to travel to pick up the Christmas Joy Boxes when they arrived from the States. When would this crisis end? When would the gangs release the gas? Would it happen in time for Christmas? **But then...** In November, gangs released access to the fuel reserves and gas was delivered to gas stations (although at \$30+ per gallon); our staff would be able to pick up the boxes...but then, another mountain.

Unfortunately, due to the fuel crisis, we told them the bad news. “Even if you do fly them in, we can’t pick them up right now because our vehicles have no gas.” So, they held them all in Ft. Pierce until we gave them the green light. At this point, I felt like the light was a dark shade of orange... perhaps permanently red. To make matters worse, MFI was inundated with cargo and this put our shipment FAR BACK in the queue to ship to Haiti. It might even be February before they would be able to send them! **But then...** The fuel crisis ended, and we contacted MFI. Within a week, we received a phone call to say, “If you can be ‘at the ready,’ we will fly in a plane just for Hope for Haiti’s Children with all of the Christmas Joy Boxes aboard.” I replied: “YES, we will be AT THE READY!” (cont...page 2)

Mountain #3: Shipping from the U.S. to Haiti... All of our Christmas Joy Boxes are first shipped to Ft. Pierce, FL and flown in by our partner, Missionary Flights International (MFI).



Joy Boxes being loaded on MFI plane.

Still Moving Mountains, continued

Mountain #4: Customs.... In the past, the process of routing any shipment through customs is completely unpredictable and, at times, costly. This is the main reason we start announcing this project in July because we can't predict how long the customs inspection will take. **But then...** The Joy Boxes arrived on Thursday, December 1st and on December 6th, they had cleared customs! Miraculous. I was speechless.

Mountain #5: Delivery into the hands of the children... Currently in Haiti, gangs control the main roads leading to the key cities. They block roads with large rocks, dig deep trenches so that cars cannot pass, burn tires blocking the path, and armed gunmen may demand large fees to "use" the road. The

police try to protect citizens, but they are often outnumbered. When we got word the week of Christmas that our staff would "try" to deliver the boxes, we fell silent and sat in awe of their courage, knowing that they would do that at great risk. **But then...** On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Joy Boxes were delivered to children all across Haiti! Somehow, gangs allowed our trucks which were packed full of gifts to travel restricted roads. I choose to believe that good resides in the hearts of all. I choose to believe that gang members remember what it was like when they were children hoping for a Christmas gift. I choose to believe that they still have compassion for children who live each day in dire need of HOPE.



Joy Boxes made it through customs.



Haitian boy in Thomazeau receives his Joy Box.

And then... A Christmas Joy Box is placed in the hands of a child. **At this moment in time, there are no more mountains to climb.** There is Joy. Peace. Gratitude. There is the knowledge that someone cares and remembers them at Christmas.

While I reflect on this impossible journey of a small Christmas Joy Box, I am filled with gratitude for...

- Each person who packed a box for a child
- MFI, who went the extra mile to fly our Joy Boxes to Haiti so that the children would have a Christmas gift
- Our courageous Haitian staff who risked much to drive trucks to schools to deliver gifts to the children
- Gang members who turned an invisible eye as our trucks passed

And most importantly, to a God who moved mountains to show His love to those who live in dark places. This is not a story of luck. It is a story of God's love working through people who carry the Light of the World to the weary, the poor, and those who are in need of HOPE. This is a journey of how God still moves mountains.

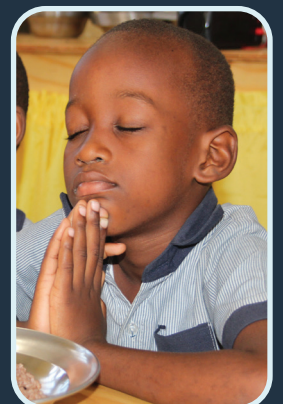
How Can You Pray for Haiti?

It's no secret that Haiti is in crisis. Gang violence, a dysfunctional government, overwhelming inflation, and hunger are part of Haiti's everyday reality. It's heartbreaking to read story after story reporting more bad news. However, despite the challenges, we believe God is present in Haiti, shining His light in the darkness. Therefore, it is not all bad news; the good news of Jesus continues to bring hope, life, and peace to Haiti.

Here are specific things to pray for...

- Pray for God to protect the children of Haiti and HFHC's Haiti staff.
- Pray for God to restore peace to Haiti and for the gangs to stop the violence.
- Pray for God to provide every Haitian with their daily bread.
- Pray for the international community's response to Haiti.
- Pray for God to protect the Christians in Haiti and to use them to show the way of Jesus even amidst the challenges.

There is no problem in this world that is too big for God. God is greater than even the worst of challenges facing Haiti right now. He has the power to change Haiti. **Together,** let's call on His Name to restore peace to this country we love so much.

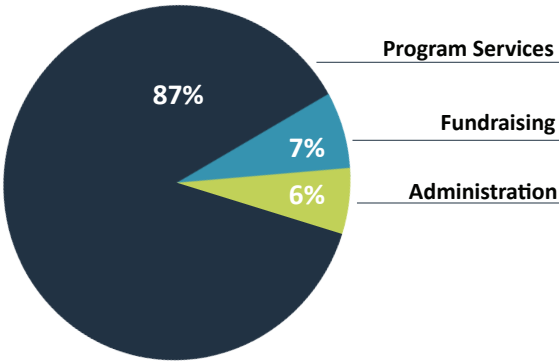
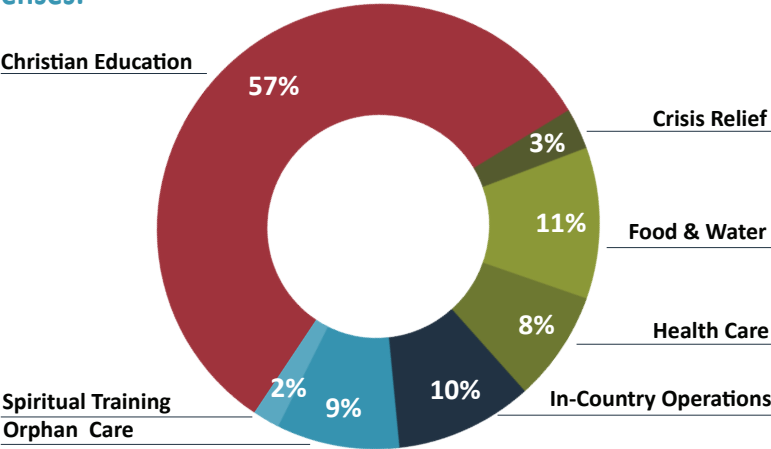


Impact Numbers

2022 FISCAL YEAR IN REVIEW

Total Revenue: \$4,457,427

Expenses:



Christian Education

2,366 children sponsored in 10 Christian schools
245 children added to the sponsorship program
8 new classrooms built to improve classroom learning environments



Food & Water

Over 3,000 children fed in the school lunch program
Installed an electric pump for well



Orphan Care

60 children lovingly cared for at two Christian orphanages
17 orphans enrolled in professional training classes



Health Care

2,010 children treated at Annual Child Care Clinic
866 sponsored children treated by school nurses



Spiritual Training

200+ teenagers attended Camp Hope during the summer
19 Camp Hope campers committed their lives to the Lord and were baptized

Access
Full Annual
Report Online



hopeforhaitischildren.org/annual-report

Planned Giving: Leave a Legacy of Lasting Hope

For professional assistance with your will and estate plan from a Biblical perspective, scan the QR code or call Susan Wylie at PhilanthroCorp at 719-955-2125

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Kent & Jennifer Blake



www.philanthrocorp.com/forms/hfhc/



Haiti's Heros by Tonya Hunt

When the United Nations announced that Haiti was the most dangerous country in the world a few months ago, I sat down at my desk feeling despair. With gang wars, kidnappings, murder, and starvation being reported daily, we feared these challenges were getting closer to the children's doorsteps.

Many have asked some BIG questions... "Why even try to make a difference? How can you possibly serve the children in these conditions? Will it ever change?"

As we constantly wrestle with the suffering we encounter, the answers to these questions are being revealed. Here is what we know.

Our Haitian team is strong and courageous. In 1995, Hope for Haiti's Children (HFHC) was founded as a grass-roots organization with an all-Haitian team carrying out the daily operations on the ground in Haiti. Today, we have over 150 Haitians who work for HFHC to serve the 3,000+ children enrolled in our 10 Christian schools. These employees wake up each morning committed to investing their time and talent to build Haiti's next generation of leaders. Whether they teach a class, drive a bus, cook rice and beans for lunch, care for a sick child, or keep our children safe, they each contribute to making a difference.

They are our heroes... principals, teachers, cooks, nurses, orphanage staff, security teams, bus drivers, etc. They are effective, hardworking, wise, and resilient! In all things, they rely on the strength and protection of God.

The results are in the transformed lives of the children. For the past 28 years, we have seen remarkable results! Many children are now serving as principals, teachers, preachers, electricians, plumber, cosmetologists, etc.

From Kindergarten through graduation, children are reminded constantly they are valued, loved, and capable of reaching their goals. While they reside in a country where opportunities are few, children are still filled with HOPE that with God's help, they can contribute to making Haiti a better place for their families and the next generation.

Walking hand in hand can bring about lasting change. While talking with our Haitian leadership team last week, they said "Please tell the donors that we pray for them and are so grateful for their compassion, support, and prayers. Without them, we could do nothing."

I have been working with HFHC for 17 years and there is no doubt this is the most difficult season that I've seen them walk through. But what I know is the children are in good hands with these heroic leaders who remain resolute. So thank you supporters, for helping to empower these capable leaders and for your investment in the children, who are Haiti's future! **There is HOPE** for Haiti's Children!



*Walking hand in hand...
Jennifer Anthony (US finance) and
Ducalie Thomas (Haiti finance)*

Let's Make A Million Dollar Impact in 2023!



Project Hope is our plan to strengthen the programs and services provided to all our sponsored children. A generous foundation is matching dollar for dollar 17 Project Hope efforts totaling \$1 million through December 31, 2023! Donations can be applied toward all matching gift projects, or you can specify a specific project to be matched. To donate online as well as view a complete list of projects, go to www.milliondollarimpact.org. Four of the efforts are highlighted below.



Mirebalais Kindergarten

The Mirebalais Christian School needs a separate preschool/ kindergarten building with three classrooms and bathrooms so as not to distract other classes, since learning through singing and movement is a big part of their school day.

Total Cost: \$150,000
Matched Amount: \$75,000



Agriculture

At our orphanage, we are training the children to care for animals and how to garden. These projects are established but need ongoing funds to feed and properly care for the animals and gardens. It is our goal that one day, our children will be able to use these skills as they provide for their own families.

Total Cost: \$12,000
Matched Amount: \$6,000



Skills Training

As our children become teens in our orphanages, we want to provide classes to teach them useful skills. This project will fund instructors and supplies so they can continue to learn sewing/tailoring, English, cooking, and basic computer skills.

Total Cost: \$10,000
Matched Amount: \$5,000



Computer Labs

Laptops were purchased last year, but now we need to build tables and install outlets for the computer lab at four schools.

Total Cost: \$16,000
Matched Amount: \$8,000

Together We Can Do So Much by Rob Long

Helen Keller said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Brent, Celia, Victor, and Matilda Lightsey are making an impact on Haitian lives.

Brent and Celia Lightsey began sponsoring a child about 14 years ago. They learned about Hope for Haiti's Children through their church, the Britton Road Church of Christ in Oklahoma City. Today, they sponsor Wood-Kelly, age nineteen, and Neitza, age seven. Wood-kelly has transitioned out of the orphanage and has begun professional training to drive a back-hoe. Brent and Celia feel fortunate to continue supporting Wood-kelly through this transition. They also help prepare Joy Boxes for the children to receive at Christmas.



Brent, Celia, Victor & Matilda Lightsey

When asked about the impact sponsorship has had on their family, Celia said, "We love the opportunity to talk about Haiti and the needs with our children and pray for the very real faces and names from HFHC as a family." She continued, "We pray for the children of Haiti to be loved, to be fed and clothed and safe, and for them to see and know God's love through that care." Brent and Celia's seven-year-old daughter, Matilda, keeps Haiti close to her heart. Matilda plans to be a doctor and wants to help the children in Haiti.

Brent and Celia mentioned that they view HFHC as the hands and feet of Jesus in Haiti. They said of HFHC: "It is such a gift to have a trustworthy, hands-on team who wants to fulfill exactly what Jesus taught us to do in Matthew 25." The Lightseys want to see all Haitian children have opportunities to live peaceful, fruitful lives.



Wood-Kelly

Child sponsorship makes an impact – on the child in Haiti and on the sponsors!

Now is a great time begin sponsoring a child! A very generous supporter will match every new sponsorship for the first year! In other words, for every new child sponsorship, \$432 (the annual cost for sponsorship) will be given to the new sponsored child's school. Think about it: If we get 100 new sponsors this year, that equates to an additional \$43,200 given to HFHC schools!



Neitza

As you likely know, sponsorship is vital to the work we do in Haiti. Sponsorship provides tuition, books and supplies, a school uniform, health care, and transportation for the children. Through sponsorship, you are helping to lift a child out of poverty and provide them hope for a better life. Your sponsorship benefits the children, their families, and their schools...all for the glory of God!

Change A Life... Sponsor A Child

☐ Yes, I/we would like to sponsor a child for \$36/month

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Phone Number (____) _____ Email Address _____

(For groups) Organization/Group Name _____

Payment Frequency (choose one): ☐ monthly (\$36) ☐ quarterly (\$108) ☐ annual (\$432)

Contribution Method (Choose one):

☐ **Mailed check**

Send first payment to Hope for Haiti's Children.

You will receive a reminder in the mail when the next payment is due.

Hope for Haiti's Children

Attn: Child Sponsorship

PO Box 62328

Cincinnati, OH 45262

☐ **Automatic credit card payment** (Visa, MC, Discover, AMEX)

Please charge my credit card on the 1st of the month:

Credit Card Number

Exp. Date

Cardholder Name

CVC

Authorized Signature

Date

Boy/Girl Preference: _____

Preferred Age Range: _____

We will mail you information and a photo of your sponsored child.

Thank You!

**Apply
Online:**



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Brian Allinson

Mariko Amioka

Eric & Linda Amioka

Alexandra

Vlad Prutsky

Aaron, Austin & Andrea Bever

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Marcia Blalack

Cheryl Ober

Doris Bever

Brent & Celia Lightsey

Father of Anne Caney

Anne Caney

Keith & Robin Carmichael

Paula Fulford

Dinu Dan Cristea

Gabriel Cristea

Durward & Sharon Davis

Eric Dahl

James & Jodie Dean

Mike & Lynn Paden

Jean Demothenes

Kevin Kleiner

Bridget Fishco

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Peter Chow

Gifts in Memoriam

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Carol Ayers
Deborah Barker
Aaron & Jami Bever
Gil & Renee Bever
Thomas & Lisa Bever
Doris Bever
Natalie & John Beyer
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Financial health including
measures of stability,
efficiency and
sustainability

CONSISTENCY

4 Star Rating
10 Years in a Row

100% SCORE

Accountability &
Transparency
Metrics
5 years in a row

Sponsor A Child = Support A School



YOUR gift will be matched for the first year to help the school with needs and repairs!

[Learn more on page 6](#)

*Annual Total: Sponsorship is \$36 a month. It can be paid monthly, quarterly or annually.



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