

Education is especially powerful when it gives people critical tools to flourish in their lives.

Fall/Winter 2012

## In this Annual Report

Pages 2, 3, 4  
Program Updates

Page 5  
Financial Update

Page 6  
Program Map  
Making a Difference

HaitiPartners.org

## Education Is Water (Education for Life)

by Kent Annan, co-director

The author David Foster Wallace began a commencement address with this fish anecdote:

“There are these two young fish swimming along and they happen to meet an older fish swimming the other way, who nods at them and says “Morning, boys. How’s the water?” And the two young fish swim on for a bit, and then eventually one of them looks over at the other and goes “What... is water?”

For each of us able to read this newsletter, education is often like the water we swim in. Which is a good thing. But which is not the case for too many people in Haiti.

Let me explain.

When reminded of our education, most of us are deeply grateful—to standout teachers, to a parent’s sacrifices, maybe to a dedicated professor who guided us toward our vocations.

But day-to-day, it’s not possible to stay constantly aware of the difference our education makes: Reading a traffic sign. Not feeling panicked vulnerability (that often precedes being exploited) on every interaction that deals with money or a contract. Reading Scripture



Mygodline Mede is learning for life at Henri Christophe Community School.

to nourish your spirit and ensure your church is pointing true. Giving you the ability to do your job.

It’s like water we swim in.

People who didn’t get a chance for education to nurture their God-given potential are aware all the time. Not that without education, there is no good life. Of course there is. I wrote in my book *After Shock* about Père, who is one of the people I most admire and hope to be a little like—with his faith,

dedication to family, graciousness, and hard work—if/when I reach my 70s.

Yet Père says life would have been better if he had received an education. He’s known how life has been harder—not just missing out on high school or college, but also on ever learning to read or write.

But Père’s eyes light up each morning when his six grandkids head off to school in their uniforms.

**Education is Water.** Continued on page 2





## Schools Program

Jeldwyn, 6 years old (see page 2), attends one of our partner schools. She's receiving an education for life through this program that helps schools become dynamic and financially independent. The schools are dedicated to lifelong learning and community transformation.

Our students receive education that nurtures their strengths: curiosity, creativity, and active learning. Schools are guided toward mutual respect, inclusiveness, accountability, and collaboration. These big ideas make a real difference for these small children. And education doesn't end with the school day. It extends to the community and local economy through social businesses that support the schools.



**Paul Paulson, one of 1,100 students in our partner schools, enjoys the hard work of learning to write.**

### In the past year we:

- ❖ Educated more than 1,100 students at 6 partner schools.
- ❖ Completed phase one of construction on the Children's Academy, which just welcomed its first class.
- ❖ Trained our 50 teachers in innovative education methods.
- ❖ Facilitated the creation of social business plans for 5 partner schools and the Children's Academy.



**Paul's classmates are learning too!**

**In the coming year,** we'll help our schools to launch social businesses. The first year of the Children's Academy will take place, as well as transformative community programming for adults. We'll provide quality training to dozens of teachers and quality education to more than 1,200 students.

## Churches Program

Evena is a dynamic young church leader in this program that works with the Haitian church to deepen faith and pursue justice. Our threefold strategy is: resourcing, training, and supporting Micah Scholars.

Since beginning with grassroots Bible studies in 2003, the program has grown into partnering with three Haitian seminaries, Compassion International, World Vision, the Canadian and Haitian Bible Societies, Bethany Christian Services, Tearfund, Micah Challenge, and others.



**Evena Germaine is one of 25 Micah Scholars – dynamic young leaders working with groups like this on LaGonave, for deeper faith and for justice.**

### In the past year we:

- ❖ Distributed 10,000 Bibles & 5,500 locally-developed group study guides.
- ❖ Published a Haitian-written study guide on protecting vulnerable children that includes Bible passages, case studies, and related Haitian and international laws.
- ❖ Trained 1,240 church leaders to use these resources.
- ❖ Launched the Micah Scholars initiative through which 15

young Haitian leaders received full scholarships to Haitian seminaries—and successfully completed their first year. They intern with us to help churches engage on behalf of children in forced servitude.

**In the coming year,** we'll provide resources and training to thousands of people in churches around the country. The 15 Micah Scholars continue into their second year—and 10 new Micah Scholars have been added. We'll continue alongside Haitian churches to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

**TO FOLLOW THESE STORIES ABOUT EDUCATION FOR LIFE, CONNECT WITH US**



## Organizations Program

Through the good work of colleagues like Kerline and Jasper, Haiti Partners has become known among other organizations in Haiti for our expertise in community organizing. This past year, Habitat for Humanity and USAID contracted us to help them strengthen their projects. This Organizations Program teaches effective, locally-relevant discussion practices and shared leadership techniques.

For Habitat, our facilitators are helping residents in Leogane to develop their own “self-governance plan” in a post-earthquake, 300-home housing development. With USAID, we worked in four northern towns to help leaders and elected officials, including mayors, collaborate and identify community development priorities. We welcome the opportunity to work with other organizations to address core issues for long-term success.

### In the past year we:

- ❖ Executed contracts for Habitat for Humanity and USAID.
- ❖ Awarded certificates to more than 200 grassroots leaders and elected officials who completed our Circles of Change training.
- ❖ Strengthened the program to include self-governance

and community development components.

**In the coming year,** we'll work with new clients to help them better implement their projects and to promote effective leadership and transformative educational practices. This will also create meaningful jobs for talented Haitian colleagues like Jasper and Kerline.



**Kerline Janvier and Jasper Theodore lead a Circles of Change training in Port-au-Prince for this USAID-funded civic education project.**

## Partners Program

Hannah came on a two-week trip with us to Haiti through InterVarsity Christian Fellowship to help work for long-term change. Broadmoor Baptist Church in Vancouver held creative fundraisers to help make education in Haiti possible. In New Zealand, Mt. Hobson Middle School holds community plant sales every month to raise money and awareness for our work. At Messiah College in Pennsylvania, co-director Kent Annan spoke to 3,000 students and faculty, sharing stories of challenge and change.

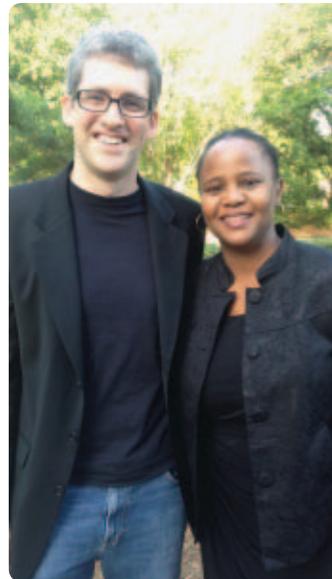


**Hannah Sanders, an InterVarsity student, teaches children English at a partner school as part of the summer program.**

Our Partners Program is focused on relationships that make change possible in Haiti—and wherever you are.

### In the past year we:

- ❖ Received more than 80 visitors in Haiti to meet with students, teachers, pastors, and community leaders.
- ❖ Partnered with schools, who learned about Haiti and contributed to the work.
- ❖ Partnered with churches that prayed and gave to make a difference in people's lives.
- ❖ Our Wozo Youth Choir sang in Michigan and Puerto Rico.
- ❖ Spoke at universities and churches, where Kent Annan shared about the work and his books.



**Co-director Kent Annan and celebrated Haitian-American author Edwidge Danticat after speaking together at an event this year.**

**In the coming year,** we'll welcome more groups in Haiti, continue to connect with more churches in North America, keep sharing compelling stories, and seek to connect with you, our partners, in meaningful, life-giving ways.



## Financial Report

**We thank each of you, our friends and partners, who have graciously made all the work in this annual report possible during this past year. We thank God too.** In our second year of operation you gave a total of \$1,234,058. Your generosity is humbling and inspiring—and makes a real difference every day. Thank you!

We hope you find the efforts of our students, teachers, church and organization leaders, and Micah Scholars inspiring too. We're grateful to be part of the growth, change, and love that has happened since Haiti Partners launched.

This page shows 2011/2012 income, capital expenditures (construction and vehicle),

and expenses. It also shows our projected 2012/2013 expenses and giving opportunities for the year ahead.

Your help is needed more than ever as we hope to continue to make it possible for more people to receive life-giving education.

## Gifts Received and Expenses

Gifts Received	2010/2011	2011/2012
	\$1,235,000	\$1,234,058
Expenses	2010/2011	2011/2012
	\$1,018,000	\$1,257,546

This comes from generous gifts by individuals, churches, schools, businesses, and foundations.

**You are one of 813 people who gave last year.**

### To Give:

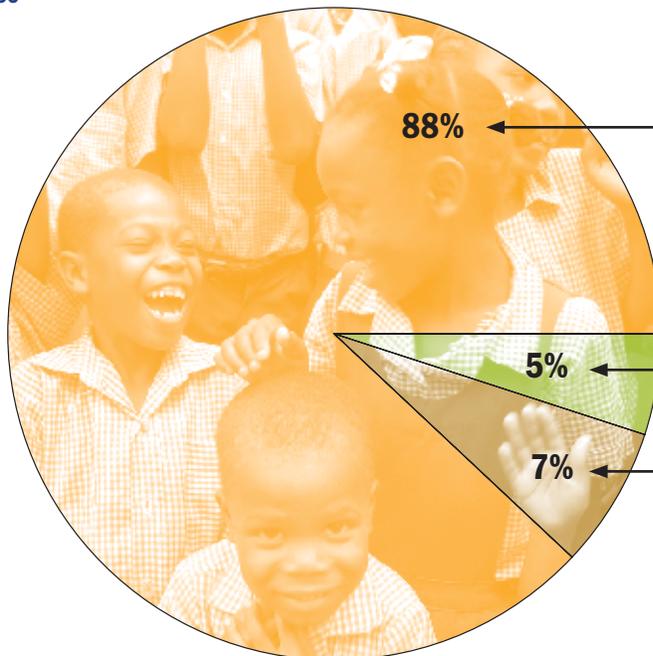
**PO Box 2865, Vero Beach, FL 32961  
772-539-8521  
[www.HaitiPartners.org](http://www.HaitiPartners.org)**

**Audited financials available at [HaitiPartners.org](http://HaitiPartners.org) or by request.**

## 2012/2013 Haiti Partners Projected Budget

Giving Opportunities: \$1,340,360

**Your support is making a difference in the lives of people in Haiti. Thank you!**



<b>Program 88%</b>	<b>\$1,182,460</b>
Schools Program:	\$668,160
Churches Program:	\$315,050
Organizations Program:	\$84,950
Partners Program:	\$114,300
<b>Fundraising 5%</b>	<b>\$70,720</b>
<b>Management 7%</b>	<b>\$87,180</b>
<b>Giving Opportunities for 2012/2013:</b>	<b>\$1,340,360</b>



## Five Ways to Make a Difference Now

1. Become a \$1-a-day **Change for Haiti Partner**. This level of support can send a child to school or pay for training for church leaders. You can also double your impact at \$2-a-day.
2. Strengthen your **church or small group** community and help in Haiti by hosting a Haiti Partners speaker, connecting with a Haitian school, sponsoring a pastor's seminary education, and/or reading co-director Kent Annan's books together.
3. Visit Haiti on a **Partner's Trip**. You'll cultivate new relationships, experience the culture, and connect with Haiti Partners' work to help long-term.
4. Inspire the colleagues and customers of your **business** by partnering to make a difference.
5. Spread the word by liking us on **Facebook**, following us on **Twitter**, and reading our **blog**.



Students Johanna, Mygodline, and Wifnie at Henri Christophe Community School are learning for life and taking a healthy lunch break between classes.

## COMING SOON: "Day in the Life" Video Series

*"Attention is the highest and purest form of generosity."* – Simone Weil

You'll get to know people we work with... and what their lives are like.

Join our email list at [HaitiPartners.org](http://HaitiPartners.org)



**Haiti Partners' mission** is to help Haitians change Haiti through education. We work with schools, churches, and organizations to transform communities.

For details about our staff in the U.S. and Haiti, our board, our audited financial statements, strategy, and much more, please visit [HaitiPartners.org/who-we-are/](http://HaitiPartners.org/who-we-are/)

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