

Helping Haitians
Change Haiti
Through Education

HAITI PARTNERS

Winter 2011, Issue 4

Lespwa fè viv.

Hope makes
life possible.

—Haitian proverb

Hope has two
beautiful daugh-
ters. Their names
are anger and
courage; anger
at the way things
are, and courage
to see that they
do not remain
the way they are.

—Saint Augustine

www.haitipartners.org

Sustaining Hope

{ We sustain hope one day at a time,
with long-term vision. }

“Keep Hope Alive” is a great slogan, but hard to do.

There are real challenges to sustaining hope right now, both in Haiti and in North America.

In Haiti we work with people who want to change their lives and communities, but don't have the money or educational resources to do so. And with the U.S. economy struggling, for many people it's a sacrifice to give to help those in another country. We've recently had to trim our budget because it's hard for people to give.

Haiti Partners depends on hundreds of individuals and families like you giving regularly. Thank you. You should be encouraged about the real difference we are making together.

In Haiti now, there are many challenges. We know of nonprofits on the verge of leaving Haiti, or whose projects are breaking down. Some are finding it difficult to work with people who do not trust them (or each other) and are critical of their processes. Foreign organizations often work under pressure to get things done quickly, but sometimes without putting into place systems, infrastructure, and relationships that will last.

Haiti Partners is in it for the long-term.



Left, Lordz 18 months ago, with a new laptop. Above, Lordz today, studying with hopes to become a nurse.

We have experience working on core issues with communities. Sometimes building these relationships and taking the time to communicate effectively feels slow moving. But it's the necessary foundation to build change on, to sustain hope on.

Lordz Decilus is a twelve-year old student at one of our partner schools. We introduced you to her last year. Lordz is of course still sad about the death of her mother in 2009. But just as her school is enabling her to have hope for the

Sustaining Hope continues on reverse.



Program Updates

Students Program: School got off to a good start of the new academic year. We are developing social business plans at all seven partner schools. And we broke ground on the Children's Academy.

Teachers Program: Training continues for teachers in our partner schools and for teachers from other schools and international organizations.

Leaders Program: Completing a three-year cycle with the 35 leaders in this program, who are now working on social business plans. Partnered again with USAID to take 100 community leaders, including elected officials, through a 6-month training to build skills in collaboration and communication.

Disciples Program: Enrolled 15 full-scholarship students in three Haitian seminaries with the launch of the Micah Scholars initiative in September. We've also distributed 5,000 Creole Bibles in recent months.

Regular blog updates, videos, and more details about all our programs online at www.HaitiPartners.org.

Financial Update

Haiti Partners has made reductions in our budget to reflect the fact that some of our regular donors have had to cut back or cease giving due to personal financial pressures. However, most Haiti Partners supporters continue their generous support - **and in fact, your giving is needed now more than ever!**

In the next couple of weeks, we will send you an end of year Christmas appeal letter. We hope you will respond generously with a special Christmas gift for students like Lordz and all the people in Haiti Partners' schools and education programs. **Thank you for your prayers and support toward sustaining hope in Haiti.**

Two Gifts for You!



On both Christmas Eve and New Years Eve, you will be sent a link to a performance of a holiday song the Haiti Partners Youth Choir is singing especially for you. If you are not on our email list, please sign up or go to our blog at www.haitipartners.org, so you can hear the beautiful singing of choir members like Fania Neptune and Ronaldo Telusca, pictured here. Thank you, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

Sustaining Hope continued from reverse

future, Lordz sustains our hope for and commitment to the work Haiti Partners is called to do for hundreds of children just like her.

She still wants to become a nurse, "So I can take care of people when

they are sick or injured. I want to be there when someone needs help."

Lordz needs our help, as do the other 1,100 children in our schools, so they can finish the school year.

This is the profound privilege of the Christmas season: to reflect on the

sustaining hope of Christ in our lives, and thus to share that hope with others.

The current economic travails are real. But so is the hope. Thank you for your continued generosity in difficult times.

We sustain hope one day at a time, with long-term vision. We sustain hope with hard work and with grace. We sustain hope by participating in God's love, especially for those who are most vulnerable, especially for children like Lordz.

Haiti Partners' mission is to help Haitians change Haiti through education for students, teachers, leaders, and disciples.

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

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