

Haiti
Partners

ANNUAL REPORT

2019/20



SOME OF
**WHAT YOU
MADE
POSSIBLE
THIS YEAR**

1,347 students
in school



**821 people in Community
Change Groups**



61,032 hours
volunteered in Haiti,
US and elsewhere



**“[Despite COVID-19], we
feel more connected to
each other than before
because of how we have
to protect one another.”**



This quote is from Children's Academy 6th grader, Loudechica, when asked by Haiti Partners Haitian-American board member, Medjy Pierre Louis, if students feel disconnected from each other because of current social distancing and mask policies.

A NOTE FROM **OUR CO-DIRECTORS**

We're delighted to report that 2019-20 has been an extremely productive year for Haiti Partners, despite COVID and the ongoing political instability and insecurity in Haiti. This great progress is thanks to the multitude of people in Haiti, the US and elsewhere who are deeply engaged with us in working to realize the vision of creating a new school-based community development model. We are humbled and profoundly grateful for everyone's contributions, which come in a multitude of forms.

As we reflect on Haiti Partners' successes and progress this past fiscal year in the face of serious challenges, there's a theme that emerges that we think is captured in Loudechica's statement: Growing Together. This is a phrase that's frequently spoken at the Children's Academy in Haitian Creole, "N ap Grandi Ansanm," which succinctly captures the philosophy that it's about "we," not just "me."

Haitians are no strangers to adversity. We draw inspiration from Loudechica and other students, and from our colleagues and family in Haiti as we face worldwide uncertainties. Like them, let's choose to be courageous with hope and love, and to engage together in creating a brighter tomorrow.

We commit ourselves to this approach to life and invite you to continue to join with us. Let's keep Growing Together as we strive to live out our values and accomplish our mission of *Helping Haitians change Haiti through education.*

With love and gratitude,

Merline and John
Co-Directors, Haiti Partners

SCHOOLS PROGRAM

227 pre-K through 5th grade students received a high-quality, student-centered, joyful education at the Children's Academy

and Learning Center. While the school closed from March to September due to COVID-19, learning continued thanks to weekly home visits by teachers and staff. Thanks to the excellent staff and leadership team, since reopening strict safety protocols have been in place and, thankfully, there has been no extraordinary illness at the school to date.

57,382 service hours were provided by parents at the Children's Academy. Service hours are a reflection of parent engagement at the school and accomplish a variety of important tasks like maintaining permaculture gardens, assisting teachers in class, working in the hand papermaking/greeting card social business, tending to school grounds, serving as community health agents, and more.

Community Change Groups grew 55% to 821 participants. With the goal of strengthening families and protecting the vulnerable, these groups do Village Savings and Loan programming and ongoing training in Child Protection and Gender Equality. They provide parents the skills they need to be more loving to their kids and each other, while achieving greater financial independence. A major focus in 2020 has been on COVID-19 Prevention: creating and distributing educational materials, masks and hygiene kits, supporting the Wellness Program in performing health checks on local



families, as well as helping families stave off hunger by improving and maintaining their gardens.

Technology Education: All 3rd to 6th grade Children's Academy students work in the on-site computer lab two times each week. Students learn both the basics about how to operate a computer, but also, with help from their teachers, do things like English, French and Spanish language learning and digital art.

1050 Partner School students received student-centered education thanks to your partnership. During the COVID-19 shutdowns, the six Partner Schools all supported their school communities in a variety of ways including distributing masks and hygiene kits, creating hand-washing stations in public places, distributing educational materials about the virus and even distributing cash to the most vulnerable to protect them from hunger.

Welcome Merline as Co-Director

Dear Friends,

It is an honor and a privilege to share with each of you that Merline Engle has accepted the call to serve as a Co-Director of Haiti Partners. Merline has played an enormous and critical role in the work of Haiti Partners from the outset, working tirelessly to develop an intricate network of relationships with community members, donors and friends of the organization. She has profound respect and is loved by the parents, children, and staff at the Children's Academy.

The Board of Directors of Haiti Partners recognizes the importance of the female voice - in particular Merline's unique voice as a Haitian-American woman wholeheartedly invested in the mission of HP - and we enthusiastically and unanimously invited her to become a Co-Director. Please join us in celebrating this milestone in the ongoing work of Haiti Partners!

With gratitude,

Margaret Bell, Board Chair



Merline with 6th grader, Marvens. Fall 2019



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

With generous support from a foundation donor, last spring we were able to complete the second building at the Children's Academy. The three-story earthquake and hurricane resistant building houses hand papermaking/greeting card activities on the ground floor, classroom space for 90 students on the 2nd floor, and now can accept another 90 students on the 3rd floor. We are proud to say that despite ongoing political unrest the work was completed on time and under budget by a team of local tradespeople - including 5 parents of students at the school - and was overseen by Co-Director, Merline Engle.

Join us for our first ever virtual benefit:



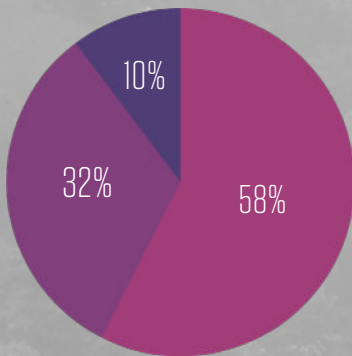
Saturday, February 20
at 5pm PT / 8pm ET



Looking for unique gifts this holiday season?

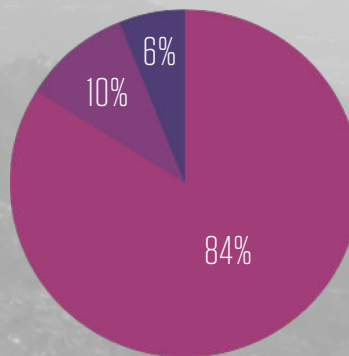
haitipartners.org/gift-shop

FINANCIAL REPORT



REVENUE: \$1,195,318

- Individuals: **\$686,195**
- Foundations: **\$383,850**
- Businesses, Schools & Churches: **\$125,273**



EXPENSES: \$972,408

- Programs: **\$816,906**
- Administration: **\$94,306**
- Fundraising: **\$61,196**

Haiti Partners is committed to the highest standards of accountability. Total net assets (cash, deposits, school buildings, vehicles, computers, equipment, etc) at fiscal year end were \$1,496,123. Incurred costs of \$204,164 in construction at FYE 2020 increased net assets. In-kind services amounted to \$8400. Thanks to Circle Fund donors, 100% of Admin and Fundraising expenses were covered, allowing 100% of gifts from all others to go directly to programs. Numbers reported here are based on a preliminary draft of our 2019-20 audited financials and may be subject to change.

Haiti Partners' Board of Directors: Margaret Bell (Chair), Houston Kraft (Vice-Chair), Ben Blair (Treasurer), Deanna Slamans (Secretary), Lisa Victor, Linda Crouse, Christa Brelsford, Medjy Pierre-Louis, Patrick Collins, Andrea Rupp, Frank Alerte, Thomas Crowley, Miranda Ash (Ex-officio), Christina Baxter Vernace (Ex-officio).



To give or to learn more about our staff and board, our financials, our strategy, and more, please visit our website
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