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When we lost everything due to gang violence in my neighborhood, I didn't know what I would do with my children. We were all traumatized. Finding The Children's Academy felt like finding light after darkness. Here, excellence is not just a word. It's a way of life. School leaders are caring and wise, discipline is guided by kindness, and learning grows from love and respect. The spirit of Konbit makes us family. In this school, we found not just education, but hope.

~ A parent of four Children's Academy students

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#### A NOTE FROM OUR CO-DIRECTORS

Dear Friends - This past year tested Haiti beyond measure. An estimated 1.4 million people—half of them children—have been displaced, and more than 1,000 schools have closed their doors, many taken over by armed gangs. Yet, despite these dark times, **Haiti Partners schools remain open**, standing strong as beacons of hope and resilience, serving more than 1700 students each school day.

Our flagship school, **The Children's Academy, continues to provide quality education to over 500 students.**Against all odds, our dedicated team has continued teaching, nurturing, and protecting children who deserve stability and a brighter future. As a result, **for the 2nd year in a row, 100% of our 9th graders passed the National Exams, an extraordinary accomplishment anywhere in Haiti today.** 

Now's the time to lean in more than ever. The impact is profound. Life in Haiti is growing harder—

safety isn't guaranteed, and electricity, gas, and healthcare are increasingly scarce—yet our teachers remain steadfast, educating and caring for every child who walks through our doors. Because each student carries the hope of a nation on their shoulders, we cannot, and must not, stop now.

We invite you to lean in and give generously to sustain this mission of *helping Haitians change Haiti through education*. We are growing something powerful, rooted in faith, courage, and community. Thank you for supporting students, families, and communities in Haiti.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Make of the

Merline and John Engle Co-Directors, Haiti Partners





WHAT YOU MADE POSSIBLE THIS YEAR

students in school

ANNUAL REPORT ● 2024 / 25 HAITI PARTNERS

## **SCHOOLS** PROGRAM

503 pre-K through 10thgrade students benefitted from an inspiring, student-

centered, changemaker education at
The Children's Academy as the school
launched its 10th grade, Haiti's first year
of high school. Cooperating together in
konbit, students, parents, teachers and
community members worked throughout
the year planting hundreds of trees in the
school community, organizing community
meetings to discuss school safety and other
vital issues, and doing wellness visits for
over 300 students. Additionally, for the 2nd
year running, 100% of Children's Academy
9th graders passed Haiti's National Exam.
This is an extraordinary achievement in Haiti
where a typical passing rate is around 70%.

119,743 service hours were provided by parents and secondary students at The Children's Academy. Parents engage at the school doing a variety of important tasks through service hours: working the permaculture gardens, tending school grounds, helping in the social businesses, assisting teachers, serving as community health agents, and more.

**45 parents graduated from Community Change Groups in July.** Community Change Groups strengthen families and protect the vulnerable through ongoing training for parents in Child Protection and Gender Equality. Parents learn the skills they need to be more loving to their kids and each other. This year's module focused on the protection of children through positive discipline and "love in action."



For the 2nd year in a row, 100% of Children's Academy 9th graders passed the National Exam. In a country where the average passing rate is about 70%, this is a truly extraordinary achievement.

276 students received technology education twice a week at The Children's Academy, representing all students 3rd grade and up. Students work in the on-site computer lab and learn both the basics for how to operate a computer, but also how to do things like digital art, and English, French and Spanish language learning.

1198 students at our six Partner Schools received student-centered education thanks to training and support made possible through your partnership. In addition to learning Haiti's National Curriculum - which includes traditional subjects like math, science, and history - Partner Schools also engaged students in arts education (including learning to play instruments), gardening, creative writing, meal programs, Village Savings and Loan groups, and more.



# WHY I THINK SUPPORTING HAITI PARTNERS IS MORE IMPORTANT NOW THAN EVER

In the midst of extremely difficult circumstances, Haiti Partners continues to be a beacon of light for students and families. As I consider the massive challenges facing our world, I believe it is more important than ever to practice hope by supporting organizations that have not wavered from their commitment to people, communities and long-term change. Haiti Partners is that. When I consider the success of the students and the commitment of the team, I am profoundly inspired. I consider it an honor and privilege to participate in the work through the flow of gift.

~ Rose Feerick. Trustee, Judy Ann Bork Charitable Trust, and Wisdom & Money Founder

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#### For 2nd year in a row: 100% of Children's Academy 9th graders pass National Exam!

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What makes me so happy is that we all passed—no one left behind. We feel so blessed that our school can work with us and send us with confidence. We are eternally grateful to our parents, teachers, and Haiti Partners, and know how lucky we are. We are also grieved and saddened for all the students of other communities ravaged by gang violence. While we celebrate, we keep all kids like us who were not able to take the exam in our hearts.

~ Ninth grader, Valentina



### **HOT SAUCE, SOUP JOUMOU, AND PIKLIZ!**





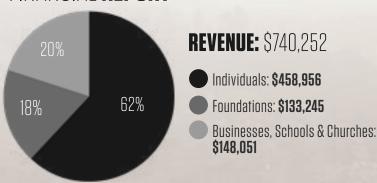


Seeking unique Holiday gifts with purpose? Order Merline's Caribbean Hot Sauce, Soup Journou, and Pikliz today. All purchases support this work.

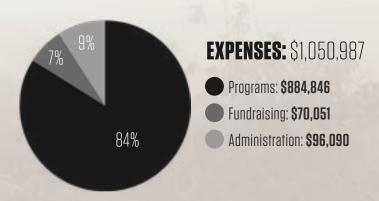
haitipartners.org/gift-shop



#### FINANCIAL **REPORT**



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 \$1,205,947. Fortunately, we had enough reserves to cover this deficit and we carry no debt. Earnings Before Depreciation was (\$255,805). Thanks to Circle Fund donors, Admin and Fundraising expenses were covered allowing 100% of gifts from all others to go directly to programs. Audited financials available at haitipartners.org/financials.



Haiti Partners' Board of Directors: Nancy Magloire (Chair), Tawana Guillaume (Vice-Chair), Don Steele (Treasurer), Andrea Rupp (Secretary), Frank Alerte, Linda Crouse, Lisa Victor, Robin Merwin, Laurie Poll, Teresa Ehlert, and Ex-officio: Miranda Ash, Thomas Crowley, and Jesse Engle.