
Volume 30, No. 1



Spring 2022

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
Jeremiah 29:11

Because You Care...



We have a Hope and a Future!

“Continue supporting the work of HEF, and continue to educate the brothers and sisters in Haiti. That is the work that will outlive you and me.” -Ancy Fils Aime, HEF Liaison to Haiti



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Dear Supporters of Haiti's Children,

The generous gifts you sent in the Fall for our Matching Campaign are being put to work. Thank you! We are again blessed to receive Matching Funds this Spring through June 30, 2022. Details can be found on pages 4-5.

HEF friend and ambassador, John Reed of Virginia, passed on to the Kingdom recently. We would like to honor his lengthy partnership with HEF and the passion he exhibited for Haiti's most vulnerable.

Remember, Haiti has always been difficult, but we rise to the challenge, with God's help. Twelve months per year, regardless of what's going on in Haiti, we pay salaries to 580 teachers and staff. During the school year, we educate and feed nearly 7,000 rural students across 34 primary schools, a rising number of middle schools, several high schools and for our top performers, universities in Haiti. Thank you for all you do that makes this possible!

Onward,

Rob Crittenden, President, HEF



Mission: The mission of the Haiti Education Foundation is to provide educational opportunities to children in the mountains of southern Haiti.

Goal: To establish an avenue for giving where 100% of contributions go to the need designated by the donor.

Objective: To help Haitians to help themselves.

Operating Budget 2021/2022 School Year

\$42,426.00 per month\$509,112
(Amount wired to Haiti for operation of schools)

\$150.00 per month\$1,800
(Cost of sending and receiving wire transfer)

Annual Budget.....\$510,912



*HEF is building our email database.
Please submit your email address to Susan
at haitiedfnd@gmail.com*

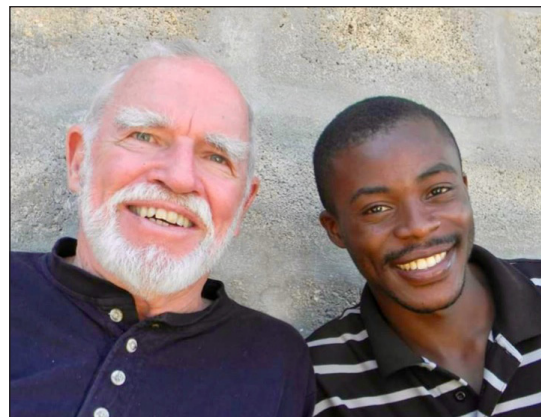
Celebrating the Life of John Reed

On January 22, 2022, we lost a great ambassador for the Haiti Education Foundation and friend to many in Haiti, John Chilton Reed of Fishersville, VA. He had a true passion for Haiti.

John's love for Haiti began in the early 1980s as he mentored young Haitian men in Florida. These refugees impressed John by their hard work and diligence. John resolved to make a difference in young Haitian lives and began traveling to the island nation. He retained this commitment when he moved to Virginia, happily joining a group of HEF supporters at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church and spending time regularly in Haiti where he met Pere Wilfrid Albert.

In the mountains, "Papa John" was beloved. He spearheaded construction of a three-story vocational school in Cherident. Thousands of young people learned practical skills—and got to know John—until the 2010 earthquake destroyed the building. Undeterred, John continued mentoring many young students, including Girbson Bijou who became John's "chosen son."

This past January, John's life was celebrated in parallel services: one in Tinkling Spring, Virginia, and one in Cherident, Haiti. Both overflowed with messages of hope, laughter, music, stories, and some tears. On the front page of this newsletter, Ancy Fils-Aime comments, "What we do for others lives on." John Chilton Reed exemplified this. Across both the United States and Haiti, we will miss him.



John Reed, left, and Girbson Bijou

We Believe . . .

We believe in the power of Jesus Christ in the lives of Haitian families.

We believe in the importance of education in helping Haitian students reach their greatest potential.

We believe in helping Haitians help themselves.

All of these are being supported when you give a gift to the Haiti Education Foundation.

100% of all gifts are used as designated by the donor.

Together, we are making a difference!



***Would you like to double your
contribution this Spring?***



We Are

Our Spring 2022 Matching Funds Challenge

Following our Fall 2021 Matching Funds Challenge, we were able to fully fund our unsponsored schools for the 2021-2022 school year, add four new 7th – 9th grade programs, add to our university scholarship fund and secure the cost to rebuild Notre Dame School.

Below is a list of our new goals totaling \$200,000. Our donor was very pleased with the response in 2021 and has offered to Match Dollar for Dollar up to \$100,000.00 for the Spring!

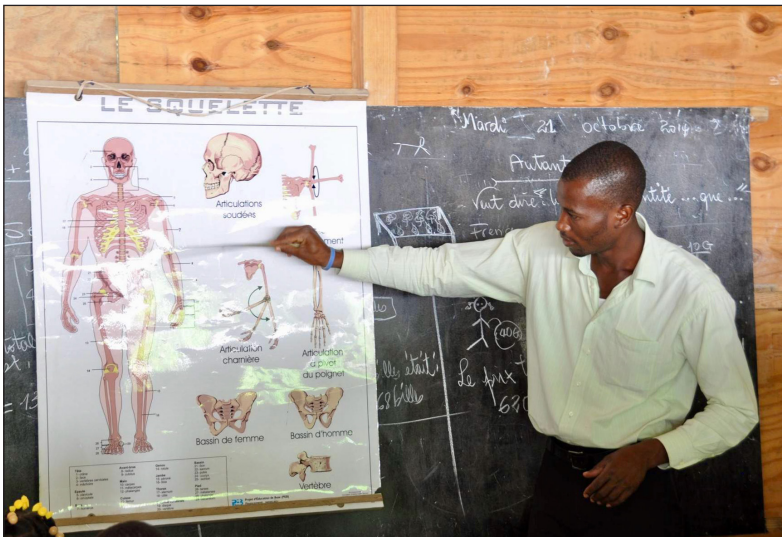
Please give so that we can fully fund these programs for our precious students and staff.

The final date for the Matching Funds Challenge is June 30, 2022.

Ensure Teacher Pay

Our General Scholarship Fund is used to provide a good living wage for teachers whose schools are not yet sponsored. This is always our number 1 priority! This year, we will also add teachers in schools where there is crowding, so the student/teacher ratio can be reduced.

Goal: \$70,000



Expand 7th-9th Grade Programs

In addition to the four programs added in the fall of this year, we would like to add three to five more 7th – 9th grade classes in strategically chosen villages. This will dramatically increase the education we offer the children in these communities.

Goal: \$40,000

Extend University Scholarships

Many students want and deserve to go to college. Our Pere Jean Wilfrid Albert University Scholarship Program helps worthy graduates of HEF schools continue their education. A four-year university degree in Haiti costs about \$8,000 per student. We continue to grow our scholarship fund.

Goal: \$20,000



Growing!

will allow HEF to grow along with our kids!

Energize Teachers Through Training

We have seen the effectiveness of periodic summer training sessions organized by parish priests. Our goal is to make this possible for all our 580 teachers and staff, each summer, coming together to improve teaching skills with the aid of a certified teacher training organization.

Goal: \$20,000/year



Establish a Solar Maintenance Schedule

A trusted ministry partner, Solar Under the Sun, has installed systems to give several schools solar electricity for lighting and fans. To fulfill our maintenance responsibility, we will hire a trained technician to keep these systems running well, and to make any necessary repairs.

Goal: \$10,000/year



Equip Students and Schools

Purchasing, in Haiti, backpacks, notebooks, and pens readies students for a productive school year. Teachers need a classroom set of textbooks and an ample supply of chalk. We set aside a little money for shoes and uniforms, too; without these, parents in need don't feel comfortable sending their children to school.

Goal: \$40,000/year

A Teacher's Perspective

We thank Garry Rock, a long-term math teacher at St. Matthias High School, for taking time from his busy day to share this letter with us.

It is common knowledge that education is the key to success, or in other words, the threshold of success. One cannot become a doctor, an engineer, a priest, a nurse, an accountant, an agronomist, a manager and so on...without it. Thus, Jesus Christ has performed many miracles through HEF for school children in the mountains of southern Haiti, especially our community. If we start enumerating the benefits, we will not be able to finish telling the story.

Generally, peasants who live in the rural mountains, in the countryside are poor and cannot afford to send their children to school in the city. This is not an easy matter. That is why many people did not attend school long ago. Our great grandparents did not know how to read and write. But these days, thanks to HEF's support, many of our children attend school from kindergarten to final year. Some of the peasants sacrifice all they have to send their children to school. Many of our former students become Agronomists like Youma Marseille and Cantave Fils-Aime; Doctors, like Dr. Wilfood Marseille who was formerly in charge of the Pere Jean Wilfrid Albert Clinic, Dr. Fabienne and Dr. Rousse-Derbe, as well as others. There are also a number of priests like Father Chery Jn Fils, Father Michaud Fruito, Father Paul Hugues and Father Michaud Levelt.

To put it in a nutshell, we can say plainly, unambiguously, and without doubt that the Haiti Education Foundation has positively impacted our community and neighboring areas instrumentally in the education of thousands of students; enabling them to make their dreams come true for a better future. That is why we...teachers, school children, and parents, always pray for God to keep an eye on you, to protect and to watch over all of HEF's donors. We pray that you will continue to support our schools, our children in the rural mountains of southern Haiti.

May God keep on blessing you increasingly!

Garry Rock

Wideline Celestin



Wideline Celestin smiled broadly when asked to talk about HEF. From 2006-2011, Wideline attended St. Matthias School in Cherident. She got a good education and dreamed of helping others.

HEF supporters Pete and Fran Hobbs became friends

of the Celestin family. "When I was very little, Mr. Pete called me Baby. Then my mother started calling me Baby, and now everyone does. I will never forget Mr. Pete," says Wideline.

Today, thanks to Pete and Fran's university sponsorship, Wideline has her nursing license, is a valued nurse coordinator in Haiti, and is finishing her master's degree to become a Family Nurse Practitioner and Midwife. Through hard work, Wideline says, "HEF has helped me achieve my goals in each step of my life."

"You have my sincere thanks for your support of our community and me personally."

Jean Robert Felizier



Jean Robert Felizier knows about big jobs. A graduate of St. Matthias school (1996-2002), he is a licensed engineer, employed by the Swiss Embassy in Haiti to oversee construction projects associated with disaster relief.

Following his general education in hometown Cherident, Jean Robert completed his engineering studies at Quisqueya University in Port-au-Prince. Married with a daughter, the hard-working young man is applying for a masters program in co-production and human development.

"Today, because of my education, I am self-sufficient, and I can serve and help others." Jean Robert speaks highly of HEF's George Brandon and Susan Turbeville, and he asks us to "please continue to do this important work!"

"Thank you so much for the big job that HEF is doing!"

Haiti's Future



Students lining up for morning prayer and pledge at St. Innocents School, Bellevue.



Kindergarten through 7th graders pose in front of their school, St. Barthelemy, Bahot.



Elementary students lined up for photos at St. Etienne, La Mothe.



Transfiguration School is new to our sponsorship. They currently educate children in K – 3rd grade.

With Grateful Hearts

We are thankful for the partnership we have with Trinity Hope Haitian Feeding Program.

For several years, HEF has had the blessing of working with Trinity Hope Feeding Programs. This ministry is present in most of our schools to provide a nourishing meal each day for the students and their teachers. In the difficulty of all that Haiti has endured over the past years, Trinity Hope has continued to feed our children. We are grateful to all of the partners who have stepped up to feed their schools' children and staff and we are thankful for the donors who just desire to feed our children. We have a few more opportunities to feed children in our schools. Please reach out to us if you are interested in feeding.



Are You Wondering?

How recent donations to the Disaster Fund for the earthquake were used?

HEF was blessed with a generous outpouring of support. Thank you! We are fortunate to have many relationships with priests who work throughout Haiti. Your contributions were able to get into the most hard-hit areas. Pere Frederick Menelas was able to feed, clothe, and get medical aid to his parishioners. Additionally, he provided shelter and was able to eventually get the students of the school that he oversees back to class. Pere Pierre Auguste was able to do the same for the people of his parish. Fortunately, there was little damage felt in the communities that HEF serves. We do have one school that has been compromised and we are working to have those repairs made. Please continue to pray for our friends in the most westward part of south Haiti. There is still much more to do to be fully recovered.

If Haiti is getting any safer?

Sadly, not in Port-au-Prince, where few places can be safely traveled due to kidnapping and violence. The mountains, where HEF schools are located, continue to be safe, and our schools are in session regularly. Teachers who commute are being very careful and need your prayers.

What else you can pray for?

For relief from rising costs and shortages, and for the safety of all Haitians. If you have a heart for prayer, consider joining our email prayer chain. Martha Miller welcomes your email address. You can contact her at marthaabbeymiller5@gmail.com.

About the latest update on school repairs and rebuilding?

This remains high priority, and we have the funds for prioritized projects. But construction supplies are limited. Transporting materials is not safe. Fuel and supplies cost four times the normal level. We look forward to beginning new projects as conditions permit.

How many students we support?

Across five Episcopal parishes and 34 villages, HEF supports 34 primary schools (five now have 7th – 9th grade programs) and four high schools. Student enrollment is 6,524, faithfully served by 580 teachers and administrators. As you'll read in this issue, expanding our 7th-9th grade programs and our university scholarships are important goals.

The Haiti Education Foundation P.O. Box 10775 El Dorado, AR 71730 870-866-8618 www.haitifoundation.org



Current Resident or

"Your generosity brings God's people from darkness to light. Light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. Thank You for being His light in Haiti."

- Pere Albert



MATCHING DONATION OPPORTUNITY
for all donations received by 6/30/22
up to \$100,000.

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