#### **ISSUE 39 | SUMMER 2025**

Sharing the Gospel with the people of Haiti through evangelism, education and medical care in partnership with the Mission Communautaire de l'Eglise Chrétienne des Citiés. (MICECC)

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Patrick and Kathy McIlroy show a photo of their new sponsor child. On multiple mission trips with First Presbyterian Church Moorestown, New Jersey, they met and brought gifts to their sponsor child.

# THE POWER OF SPONSORSHIP: CHANGING LIVES THROUGH HAITI OUTREACH MINISTRIES

by Linda Jagiela

hen Patrick and Kathy McIlroy first traveled to Haiti in 2014, they were deeply moved by the needs of the local children and felt called to make a lasting difference.

That same year, they began sponsoring a three-year-old boy through Haiti Outreach Ministries, a commitment that would span over a decade and impact more than just one young life.

Their story is one of compassion, faith, and the belief that education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty. Patrick and Kathy had the opportunity to meet their sponsored child during mission trips in 2016 and 2018—moments they recall with great joy and humility. Though circumstances led the child and his family to relocate from Port-au-Prince in 2023, the McIlroys continued their sponsorship without hesitation, eager to support another child's education and future.

Through Haiti Outreach Ministries, they've received annual updates and photographs, providing a tangible connection to the child they support and a clear picture of the impact their generosity has made. "It has been an honor and a pleasure," they say, reflecting on their experience. "We heartily endorse this effort to educate the children of Haiti. Education is the best way to improve their life."

Sponsoring a child through Haiti Outreach Ministries is more than a donation—it's an investment in a child's future and a partnership in hope. With every sponsored child comes the opportunity to uplift a family, strengthen a community, and contribute to the rebuilding of a nation through the transformative power of education.

To learn more or begin your sponsorship journey, visit Haiti Outreach Ministries. One act of kindness can change a life forever.

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#### WELCOME FROM THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BART EDWARDS



ear Friends and Partners of Haiti Outreach Ministries, It is with deep gratitude and humility that I step into the role of Executive Director

of Haiti Outreach Ministries. I am honored to join this faithful community of supporters, dedicated volunteers, and courageous leaders in Haiti who continue to shine God's light amid extraordinary challenges. Here are a few things that are on my mind as we begin this new journey together.

#### WHAT EXCITES ME MOST

What excites me most about this role is the opportunity to be part of something much bigger than myself. HOM has a rich legacy of transforming lives through education, healthcare, spiritual care, economic empowerment, and access to clean water. I'm inspired daily by the resilience of our Haitian partners at MICECC and the unwavering support from our extended family of donors and volunteers across the USA. Being a

bridge between these two communities is a privilege and an honor. It is a calling I am excited to live out.

## THE FIRST 90 DAYS: LISTENING, LEARNING, AND CONNECTING

In these first 90 days, my primary goal is to listen. I would like to hear from our board members, volunteers, MICECC partners in Haiti, and faithful supporters like you. I will spend time learning from those who have built and sustained this ministry, and I look forward to getting to know the heart behind every program. I also plan to review current initiatives and identify ways to strengthen our communications and deepen our impact in both Haiti and the United States.

#### A PROJECT WITH GREAT IMPACT

Despite the unrest in Haiti, HOM continues to grow in faith and reach. One of the most impactful projects this season is the expansion of our educational programs. With schools across Haiti struggling or shuttered, HOM's schools remain a beacon of stability and hope. By investing in quality Christian education, we are equipping the next generation of Haitian leaders to rebuild their communities with wisdom,

compassion, and courage. I believe the long-term impact of this work cannot be overstated.

#### **ENGAGING VOLUNTEERS IN NEW WAYS**

We know how much our volunteers love traveling to Haiti and building relationships firsthand. While travel is not possible at this time, our mission continues, as does the need for your involvement. In the coming months, we'll be creating more opportunities for virtual engagement: prayer partnerships, remote teaching and mentoring, exceptional project support, and advocacy efforts. Whether from your living room, your church sanctuary, or fellowship hall, your gifts and prayers can still make a powerful difference in Haiti.

Thank you for your ongoing support and trust. I look forward to this journey together, united in faith, service, and love for our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

In Christ,

Bart W. Edwards Executive Director Haiti Outreach Ministries

### THOUGHTS FROM HOM BOARD CHAIR CAROL VASSEY



s I write this I am into the 4th week of an RV adventure across the country. Plus Bart Edwards is joining the HOM team as Executive Director. It's an exciting time in so many ways. Bart is not a newbie – he served on the HOM Board of Directors until he became E.D. This is a new role for him; however, his commitment and passion for Haiti Outreach Ministries

(and indeed, for Haiti herself) is well-known to many of us. Certainly (and one cannot use that word too often these days,) this is a time of change. New challenges and new opportunities abound. Bart is ready for them!

Traveling to places I've not before, I am thrust out of my comfort zone most every day. Imagine that feeling multiple times a day, every day, for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. I may not be certain of a turn in the road but many of our Haitian friends are uncertain about everything. Will there be

enough food today, will my family be secure tonight, will my children be safe outside tomorrow? Uncertainty looms large in Haiti.

Yet, I carry a certainty in my heart every moment of every day. God is in control. I know that truth with every fiber of my being. As I witness the majesty of God's great Creation in my travels, I am reminded that God doesn't make mistakes. Ever. We do - and unfortunately, we will probably continue to do so - but God has a plan. Each of us can be a part of that plan. There are times when I ask God, 'what next?' Today I know that God wants me to pray for Haiti, to pray for our friends in Haiti, to pray for Bart, to pray for Leon, and to pray for all the people trying to make the world a better place. At times it feels like chaos. However, there are times - like today as I walked in The Grove of Titans in the Redwoods National Park - when I know with unshakable faith, that God indeed is in control. We just need to do our part. Let us be challenged to listen, every moment of every day, to The Spirit who will guide us with hope and love.

# **HOM HEROES: LARRY BEAN**

eet Larry Bean, an accountant from Casper, Wyoming, with a heart deeply connected to Haiti. His journey began in 1994 when his son Joshua traveled to Haiti with Youth for Christ. Joshua later served in the Peace Corps in Haiti, married Fedia, a Haitian woman, and introduced Larry to a country that would become close to his heart.

Years later, after the 2010 Haitian earthquake, Larry was serving as Treasurer of the Martin Family Foundation when discussions began about how best to help. While some suggested donating to the Red Cross, Larry had a different idea: "Let's fund someone already working on the ground in Haiti." That idea led him to Pastor Leon Dorleans and Haiti Outreach Ministries after an introduction by Rob Weingartner, President of the Presbyterian Outreach Foundation.

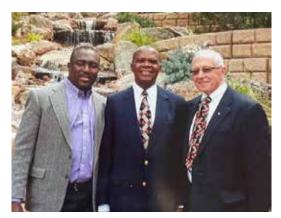
On his first visit to the HOM Repatriote campus a few months after the earthquake, Larry stood under a temporary tent-church and heard Pastor Léon ask, "Can anyone see my vision for this campus?" Larry responded, "Yes, I can see a church, a school, and more!" That moment marked the beginning of a lasting friendship—and a powerful partnership. Later in the trip, Larry met Madame Jacky over dinner and she of course spoke about "education, education, education" and "education is the key to unlocking doors of opportunity for young Haitians."

Since then, Larry, his wife Margo, their friends, church family, and the Martin Family Foundation have supported HOM in big ways. The Foundation after hearing Pastor Leon's vision for the Repatriote campus funded the school

and the admin building. Larry and Margo have funded a full classroom of students and friends and family are funding four additional classrooms and multiple individual students. Also, members of their church, Boyd Avenue Baptist, sponsor six high school students and one of Larry's clients sponsored a class after selling his business (Larry's advice, of course!). In total, the Bean's network helps sponsor dozens of students, and their support has extended to HOM's clinic as well.

Larry often says, "It is more costeffective to build a child than fix a teenager or remodel an adult." His life is a testament to that belief.

WE'RE PROUD TO CALL LARRY BEAN—AND THOSE WHO GIVE AND SERVE ALONGSIDE HIM—HOM HEROES.



Fabien Emile, a young Haitian man Larry and his family assisted in moving to the US, Pastor Leon and Larry Bean.



Larry and students from his sponsored class with books authored by Larry's wife, Margo.



More students with Larry and Margo's books.



Students from the Bean Family class.

#### PASTOR LEON AVAILABLE FOR VISITS

Pastor Leon Dorleans is in the U.S. and would love to visit your church or organization. Contact him at 540-840-0855 or leondorleans@yahoo.com. Also you may contact Bart Edwards at 252-646-5696 or bedwards@haitiom.org.

#### MICECC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Our MICECC Spotlight highlights two individuals who each play a key role in the MICECC schools. Fritzon is a product of our schools and today helps keep the Terre Noire school operating during challenging times. Louis is a veteran teacher whose own children are outstanding examples of the importance of education in Haiti. Meet Fritzon and Louis in their own words.

#### FRITZSON ISMAEL TRANQUILLE



Hello.

My name is Fritzson Ismaël Tranquille. I was born and raised in Cité Soleil, a poor community in Port-au-Prince. I am the second of five children on my father's side, and the eldest on my mother's side. I was raised in a Jehovah's Witness family. However, I chose to join the City Christian Church. There, I gained a lot of experiences, first as children mentor, then as a member of the Children Department Committee, and finally as Vice President of the Youth Department.

I joined Ecole Chrétienne des Frères Unis at the age of four, where I attended preschool and primary school, the HOM school at Cité Soleil. I attended various schools in down town for my secondary education. After that, I studied law and education. I then taught French for four years in three different schools.

I also worked as the coordinator of the MICECC clinic for one year. Following my experience at the clinic, I worked at the Cité Soleil school as a receptionist for four years. In 2020, I was promoted to be the Assistant Director of the Cité Soleil campus. After Mme Nadège's departure in 2022, Mrs. Jacky appointed me as the manager of the Terre Noire campus, a role I still hold today.

I realize that educating children is a mission entrusted to me by God. That's why I dedicate myself to it fully, striving to be more successful every day. I believe that education is the most powerful tool to help prepare our students in the community as useful citizens for our country Haïti, and for the Kingdom of God.

Respectfully, Fritzson Ismaël Tranquille

#### MR. WITHNY LOUIS

Hello,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to share with you a summary of my journey as a teacher, my family's progress, and to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support.

I began my career as a teacher at École Chrétienne des Frères-Unis in 1997, in Cité Soleil. Due to the growing presence of thugs and worsening insecurity in that area, I respectfully requested a transfer and I was thankfully moved to the Terre Noire campus, where I am still working with dedication and peace of mind.

I got married in the year 2000. My wife, Josette, and I have been blessed with three children. All three of them are part of École Chrétienne des Frères-Unis, which has played a significant role in shaping their education, Their spiritual lives, and their bright future.

Today, I am proud to share that my eldest son, Schamgar Louis, is currently in his fifth year of Medical School, and he is beginning his pre-internship at La Providence Hospital in Gonaïves, on June 8th. My second child, a daughter, Asca Louis, is in her first year of Law School after she had learned English for two years at the Haitian American Institute. My youngest son, Paultre Elisheba Louis, is in his first year in Computer Science.

I want to take this opportunity to thank every sponsor who has supported the family along the way. Their generosity has made a tremendous difference in our lives and in the education of my children.

Despite the many challenges and the insecurity that continues to affect Portau-Prince, God has been our protector,



and we remain deeply grateful for His grace and for your kindness.

With heartfelt thanks, Mr. Withny Louis

# HONORING THE LIFE OF DAVID ARMISTEAD, CO-FOUNDER OF HOM



David Armistead, a cofounder of Haiti Outreach Ministries (HOM), passed away at age 91 on May 20, 2025 in Richmond, Virginia. HOM's board is grateful for David's vision, support and perseverance in co-founding

HOM with Leon Dorleans and it expresses its sympathies to the Armistead family.

David was a member of Fairmount Christian Church in Richmond and went to Haiti in August 1989 with that church's first trip. On the return flight from Haiti, David was inspired to ask Leon about forming a non-profit to support the work in Haiti. Subsequently David helped Leon form HOM as a non-profit in 1990 and David served as the first President for 16 years. He went on to found Heart Ministries which supported missionaries and church planting around the world. But his love of and enthusiasm for Haiti were always present especially when it came to HOM. David was always willing to help HOM and the Haitian ministry in any way he could.

#### Leon shared the following thoughts about David:

David was a visionary and a man full of love, compassion, and empathy for everyone no matter of their background, color, race, or beliefs. He was a natural born missionary serving in his own community (the church he was affiliated with), his neighborhood, and internationally through his two sons.

As a visionary (after he had listened to my vision to serve my people in Haiti), he encouraged me to start a nonprofit organization in Virginia in 1989. His wife Shirley consulted with a law firm in Richmond, VA in order to bring into existence Haiti Outreach Ministries. The whole family, including his two sons who served as missionaries in Afghanistan and Tanzania, made a lasting impact in my life by the way they lived their Christian life. HOM wouldn't have come into existence without the boldness, the dedication, and the vision of the Armistead family.

David was not only a natural born missionary but also a man of faith in action. Two of his best slogans became my driving force to live from day to day. The first is "Today is a golden day of opportunity, let's seize the moment." The second is "This is the day that the Lord has made. We had never seen it before and we'll never see it again, let's make the best of it." These were the mottos that David lived by daily until the end of his life. I'm proud to say that he was my mentor and I want to do the best that I can do to be a faithful student of David.

# HOM ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: SCHAMGAR LOUIS EMBARKS ON A REMARKABLE MEDICAL JOURNEY

t Haiti Outreach Ministries, we believe in planting seeds of hope through education, faith, and opportunity—and sometimes, we get the joy of watching those seeds bloom in the most inspiring ways. Today, we celebrate one of our own: Schamgar Louis, a proud HOM alumnus, who is taking a bold step forward on his path to becoming a doctor.

Starting June 8, 2025, Schamgar will began his pre-internship in medicine, a significant milestone that will run through September 19, 2025—a date that also marks his birthday. But this journey is more than just professional growth; it's a symbol of faith, resilience, and purpose.



Originally scheduled to serve at Hôpital Saint Boniface in Fondsdes-Blancs due to his outstanding academic performance, Schamgar faced a change in placement due to an unexpected shift in internship assignment criteria-from meritbased to payment-based. Although this meant his group missed out on their initial destination due to delayed payment,

Schamgar accepted the news with grace and spiritual conviction.

Instead, he will now serve at La Providence Hospital in Gonaïves—a name he sees not as coincidence, but as confirmation that God is leading him exactly where he is meant to be.

"Providence had other plans. I embrace this decision with humility and trust, convinced that God's will always prevails over our own," Schamgar shared.

His pre-internship will be followed by a one-month preparation period before he officially begins a year-long medical internship at Hôpital Saint Nicolas in Saint-Marc—a testament to his unwavering commitment to serve and grow.

Schamgar's journey reflects the heart of HOM's mission: to nurture young lives through education, empower them with faith, and witness them become leaders of hope and healing in their communities. We could not be prouder of his achievements and the humble spirit with which he embraces each new challenge.

To Schamgar—your HOM family is cheering you on every step of the way. May Providence continue to guide your hands and your heart.

## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

by Bob O'Brien

#### **OVERVIEW**

There have been no major construction projects underway on the five campuses, however, the construction team has been working on several projects and the team in Haiti is continuing their maintenance responsibilities.

#### **BARYÉ FÉ CAMPUS**

 As reported previously the architectural floor plans for the cafeteria/chapel are complete and structural drawings will follow.



LEGEND

- 1 7-8-9 GRADE
- 2 7-8-9 GRADE
- 3 ADMINISTRATION/TE 4 HIGH SCHOOL
- 4 HIGH SCHOOL
- 6 HIGH SCHOOL
- 7 CHAPEL 8 KITCHEN/STORAGE
- BB1 MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL
- BB2 HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL FB FOOTBALL (SOCCER)
- GH GATEKEEPER'S HOUSE RR REST ROOMS GN GENERATOR
- WTR WELL BUILDING

  P PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE

V VEHICULAR ENTRANCE BOLD-FACED SPACES EXIST.

Master Plan Baryé Fé showing building #'s & soccer field.

- The school would like to provide more picnic tables. Funds would be appreciated for providing more either wooden, steel or concrete tables.
- During the rainy season a portion of the campus floods. The solution for containing water inside the campus would be to raise the elevation of the future building 3, building 6 and the cafeteria by 3' and add a topping of 6" of gravel. The soccer field would be used as a retention pond. While significant funding will be needed to purchase the fill and gravel the cost would not be lost since all future buildings will require that material.
- A bigger concern is the flooding of Rue Hubert outside our campus gate. Rue Hubert, floods to the extent many students can not make it to school. While this is officially a government problem, the current state of affairs in the Baryé Fé and Terre Noire areas have prevented any work on the storm drain outfall close to our campus. MICECC is in discussions with local government officials on a resolution.

#### REPATRIOTE CAMPUS

- The solar project is still on hold until it is deemed safe to transport the solar panels from the company's factory to the site. Funding is available for this project.
- The Youth Building is complete but furniture is needed for the Youth library.

- On the first floor of the Youth Building, the church will be changing the future church kitchen space to additional church office space. It is exciting to see the church growing that it needs more office space.
- A new generator will be ordered to replace the original 20 kw generator installed 11 years ago.

#### CITÉ SOLEIL CAMPUS

Church is being held on Sundays and water distribution is ongoing. Transportation to and from the campus is a challenge due to the problem of the drainage canal adjacent to our campus. Again, this is a governmental issue but no work has been done on cleaning the canal for 6-9



Entrance to the Cité Soleil Campus w/ trash and water in foreground.

years. MICECC is studying the problem.

#### **ESPWA CAMPUS**

- The campus is not open yet. The gatekeeper is onsite with his family and he is maintaining the future Bible College space, water room space and generator room.
- The Bible College will begin temporary operations in the House of Hope building this fall. Work will be done at HOH by MICECC to facilitate the Bible College opening. Again, this is an exciting time as a long anticipated project gets a start in the community.

#### TERRE NOIRE CAMPUS

- The solar panels from the House of Hope were removed and reinstalled at TN increasing the campus's capacity.
- The group is studying the feasibility to construct the 2nd floor of the church offices to provide



Current church Office, Terre Noire.

additional meeting room for weekly MICECC staff meetings.

• It was reported there has been no standing water in the front of the campus as in previous years. This is good news for all.

#### **CLEAN WATER REPORT**

Clean water continues to be produced at our 4 campus locations and distributed to the communities we serve. The past 6 months, over 320,000 gallons were distributed to over 21,400 beneficiaries in our communities. The treatment plants are each manned full time by a MICECC employee and maintained by Poudy Wisly. This past November a large shipment of replacement supplies was shipped from Florida by Don Boothe, our Clean Water guru and received by the ministry in January, 2025. Another shipment of clean water supplies was delivered to Orlando in June and is in transit to Haiti. We are thankful and blessed that our supplies of filters, ozonation bulbs, piping, valves and connectors continue to be received by our Haitian staff.

# CLINIC CORNER by Janet Horton, FNP

The MICECC clinic will celebrate its 10th anniversary in August of this year. From the beginning we've seen many changes but what hasn't changed is the dedication of the staff and quality of care provided. Despite the challenges due to the continued violence, the clinic continues to serve those in our communities Monday through Friday - not just proving basic care but continuing to strive to expand and improve the services offered. Kudos to a job well done!

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The clinic continues to serve as the primary care provider for the community as other health care facilities and providers no longer provide care in the area. We welcome new patients daily as people move to escape the expanding areas of violence.
- To meet the growing need for mental health care, we are adding a psychologist to our staff so that we can help our patients develop strategies to deal with stressrelated issues.
- We are also exploring the possibility of adding a cervical screening program.
- Staff retention has stabilized; we now have a staff of 20.
   Two of our employees, Anilus Jean, clinic administrator, and nurse Mireille Toussaint, were part of our original staff and will soon celebrate their 10th year with us!

#### **CHALLENGES:**

- By prioritizing what is needed most, the staff provides medication for only the chronic, most critical and lifethreatening illnesses.
- The challenges remain the same for the clinic and our staff - the increased cost of medications and supplies as well as the lack of availability of those supplies make providing quality care for our patients more difficult.
   By prioritizing what is needed most, the staff provides medication for
- The rising cost of living also makes it difficult for our staff to make ends meet. Food prices have more than doubled and many basic items are not available or are at prices most cannot afford.
- Safety is still an issue for the staff and patients, with gang activity preventing people from getting to and from the clinic or to get medications and supplies.

The clinic staff is involved in several continuing education classes offered by Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP). The staff also participates in

MICECC's "Employee competency assessment plan" that encourages teamwork and other tools to enhance job performance and satisfaction.



MICECC Staff August 2015 (with HOM Medical BOD members)

#### **PARTNERSHIPS**

• The MASTAS program (Manman An Sante, Timoun An Sante)\* is a community based program that utilizes small groups of women with an elected lead Mother who is trained in a variety of key health topics. These lead Mothers then pass these lessons on through the group to help promote healthy behaviors and prevent illness among mothers and families. As of March 2025, we have 26 lead Mothers, 26 care groups and 2,500 residents have been served.

\*Translation - Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies

#### **CLINIC STATS JAN - MAY:**



247

# of days open



1.019

Total # of vaccinations (OB & peds)



2,026

**New medical patients** 



6,463

Total # of medical patients seen



1,017

New dental patients



2,687

Total # of dental patients seen

#### **QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CLINIC?**

Contact Janet Horton, FNP at medtrips@haitiom.org. Clinic donations are always appreciated at haitiom.org/donate.

#### **DONATIONS**

Contributions may be made securely at haitiom.org or by mailing a check to:

Dawn Walker, HOM Financial Secretary PO Box 942

Matthews, NC 28106

Designate your funds on the check memo line. Undesignated funds will be added to our general fund.



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Haiti Outreach Ministries is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

# SPONSOR A CHILD. CHANGE A LIFE.



As Haiti continues to face growing unrest and economic hardship, Haiti Outreach Ministries (HOM) remains a beacon of hope for hundreds of children in some of Port-au-Prince's most vulnerable neighborhoods.

But right now, over 500 students in our schools are still waiting for a sponsor—someone to say, "I believe in your future." And in September, 300 new children will walk through our doors for the very first time, eager to learn, but in need of your help.

Sponsoring a child through HOM does more than provide books, uniforms, meals, and school supplies— it offers stability, encouragement, and opportunity in a world filled with uncertainty. With the current crisis in Haiti, costs for food, building materials, and classroom essentials have skyrocketed, putting more strain than ever on our ministry.

Yet, we believe that every child who wants to learn should have that chance.

THIS SUMMER, OUR GOAL IS CLEAR — ENSURE EVERY STUDENT AT HOM IS FULLY SPONSORED BEFORE SCHOOL BEGINS.

Whether you've sponsored before, or this is your first time, your \$40/ month commitment can make a life-changing difference.

- Your gift means a seat in the classroom.
- Your support means a meal on the table.
- Your belief means hope in a child's heart.

PLEASE HELP US WRITE A
NEW STORY FOR HAITI —
ONE CHILD AT A TIME.

Sponsor a child today at haitiom.denarionline.com/ SponsoraChild.

Together, we can ensure every child at HOM starts this school year with confidence and care.