



ST. JOSEPH FAMILY SOLIDARITY WORK TRIPS & GUEST ACCOMMODATIONS

Contact for work teams & guest house for St. Joseph's Home for Boys:
Michael Geilenfeld ~ sjfamilyhaiti@hotmail.com

Contact for work teams & guest house for Wings of Hope:
Renee Dietrich ~ sjgrants@hotmail.com

Contact for work teams & guest house at Trinity House.
please contact both Michael and Renee

Version 7 Update — January 2014

SOLIDARITY WORK TRIPS & GUEST ACCOMMODATIONS

**For St. Joseph's Home for Boys,
contact Michael at sjfamilyhaiti@hotmail.com**

**For Wings of Hope,
contact Renee at sjgrants@hotmail.com**

**For Trinity House, or for reservations at a combination of the homes,
include both Michael and Renee on your emails**

Because of space and work limitations, our procedure for scheduling a solidarity work trip and guest accommodations are:

- 1) Contact Michael and/or Renee to see what openings there are for individuals and groups to work or stay at each house. Please be flexible and have a few sets of dates in mind, in case we are full at one of the times.
- 2) Work with Michael and Renee to plan your in-country schedule and transportation needs.
- 3) Follow the pre-trip advice when planning your trip and the "what to bring" list when packing your bags.
- 4) Print out and complete the guest information form (one for each guest) and bring the forms with you to give to Michael or Renee during your stay.

1) ACCOMMODATIONS & FOOD:

Clean drinking water will be provided to all visitors. St. Joseph's Home for Boys and Wings of Hope each have several guest rooms and bathrooms for guests. However, depending on the number of visitors and accommodations available at any given time, shared accommodations are common and we cannot guarantee private rooms. There are no guest rooms at Trinity House, so guests there sleep on mattresses on the floor or roof and share two guest bathrooms. Wifi is available at St. Joseph's; there is a guest computer available at Wings of Hope. Electricity is sporadic. St. Joseph's Home has running water. Wings of Hope and Trinity House do not have running water, but there is water to use for bathing and flushing the toilets. Sheets and towels are provided at all the homes. All guest house accommodations include breakfast and an evening meal. Vegetarian and dietary allergy accommodations are provided with advance notice.

Guest rates (as of Jan. 1, 2013): **\$50 US per person, per night, at St. Joseph's Home for Boys**
 \$45 US per person, per night, at Wings of Hope*
 \$40 US per person, per night, at Trinity House

**For groups of four people or less, at Wings of Hope ONLY, there is a lower rate and guests provide their own meals. There is a guest kitchen at Wings of Hope with a refrigerator and stove available for guest use for the smaller groups. There are grocery stores in Port-au-Prince where visitors can purchase food and drinks.*

2) SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES & SIGHT-SEEING:

The home with the most hands-on opportunities for service is Wings of Hope, our home for children and young adults with physical and mental challenges. Guests at Wings of Hope are welcome to help with the programming for the children, manual labor, feeding and playtime. Groups are also welcome to come with planned activities for the children. There are a limited number of opportunities each year for those with teaching and education skills to provide workshops and programs at Lekòl Sen Trinite. Please contact Renee to discuss the possibility of filling one of those opportunities. There are not many opportunities for hands-on service at St. Joseph's Home for Boys or Trinity House because of the school and program schedules of the boys. Guests at St. Joseph's Home and Trinity House need to find outside service opportunities and schedules during the day while staying at those houses. Groups desiring to do manual labor should contact Michael and Renee to discuss this possibility and find appropriate service opportunities within the St. Joseph Family.

Several groups who are seeking outside service opportunities in Port-au-Prince often work at the Mother Teresa facilities — a babies hospital and a clinic. They accept volunteers in the morning every day, except Thursdays. Volunteers at those facilities are expected to dress modestly — pants or long skirts/dresses for women; pants for men; upper arms for both men and women need to be covered by short or long-sleeve shirts.

There are also several sight-seeing opportunities we suggest in the Port-au-Prince area — trip to the metal village of Croix d'Bouquet; a visit to the Boutilliers, an overlook spot where you can see the entire city; shopping for souvenirs; the national museum; lunches at local restaurants; a day at a hotel pool. For more information about sight-seeing and traveling in Haiti, we recommend the Brant Guide to Haiti by Paul Clammer.

3) PRECAUTIONS:

Because of the working and living conditions, we suggest that every guest have an updated tetanus vaccine. We also strongly suggest all guests to purchase travelers medical insurance, including emergency medical evacuation coverage. We recommend that all guests take prophylactic malaria medication. Every guest or group should also travel with their own first aid kit. Up-to-date diphtheria, hepatitis and typhoid vaccines are recommended. Pack all prescription medications in your carry-on. Please bring copies of the front page of your passport with your photo and bio information and carry it in a different bag from your actual passport.

4) TRAVEL:

We recommend traveling on American Airlines. American Airlines has the most planes coming to Haiti. American Airlines charges for the second checked bag to Haiti. There are times when there are baggage embargoes through American when they do not allow plastic bins or overweight bags. Contact American Airlines before you fly to see if a baggage embargo is in effect. Delta, Spirit, JetBue, AirFrance and Air Canada are all also flying into Haiti, but their schedules and baggage allowances are more limited. If you need help making travel plans, we recommend Holly Kelly at Cedar Valley World Travel: holly@cedarvalleyworldtravel.com Please tell her you are traveling to Haiti to work with the St. Joseph Family and we will receive credit from American Airlines on the SJF frequent flyer account (you will also receive credit on your personal frequent flyer account). For your immigration forms, the address of St. Joseph's Home for Boys is Delmas 91, #26, Petionville. Use this address, no matter which house is your destination.

5) GROUND TRANSPORTATION:

We can help you arrange for ground transportation while you are in the areas we serve (Port-au-Prince, Fermathe, Jacmel). We contract with local drivers and they determined the fees. There are flat fees from/to the airport and between the homes for direct trips; and an hourly rate for all other trips. Contact us for the current price list. The vehicles that we use are passenger vans that seat 13 people (without luggage). All vans are driven by Haitian drivers.

6) ON THE DAY OF YOUR ARRIVAL:

You will fill out an immigration form on the plane. It is green. The address to put on form is: Delmas 91, #26, Petionville. That is the address of St. Joseph's Home for Boys and is the one to use no matter what home you are going to. At immigration the officer will stamp your passport and give you a green card (the bottom of the form you filled out). Keep that card with your passport. You will need it when you leave Haiti.

At baggage claim you can rent carts for \$2 US each. It will be crazy trying to find your bags. There are baggage carousels, but they will also just randomly pull bags off and put them off to the side, so make sure you look all around if you can't find all the bags. It helps to identify the bags if every bag that your group checks has something distinctive tied to it (colored string, yarn, bandana, duct tape, etc.). There will be porters at baggage claim asking for your baggage tags and telling you they will get your bags for you. You do not need their help, and if you have them help you, you will have to pay them. If you don't want their help, just tell them "No". After you have all your bags and head to the customs line, there will be an official there wanting all of your baggage claim tickets and they will check those against the bags you have. You can give them your baggage claim tickets. You do not tip this person. At customs you have to give them the white customs form you filled out on the plane. Hopefully they won't stop you. If they do, they'll pull you off to the side and make you open some of the bags. Tell them you have donations for an orphanage. They may want to charge you or take some items. It is all about negotiation. Just keep telling them the items are donations for an orphanage. They will ask you if you have medicine. Tell them "No".

(Stop reading if you are arranging your own airport transportation; the following only pertains to groups we are arranging the airport transportation for)

After you clear customs you will go outside where there will be porters who want to push your carts and help you. Look for a porter with one arm named Jackson. If you don't see him ask the other porters to find him. He might also have a sign with your name on it. He speaks some English and knows our drivers. He will organize the other porters to go with your group to our vehicles parking lot. Clearly identify ONE PERSON as the leader of the group. If anyone else in the group is approached by someone wanting to help them or wanting money, they need to point to that person and tell them they are the "Boss". The porters will take over pushing the carts, but you should stay with each cart and walk with them. Keep your personal bags with computers, cameras, money, passports, etc. ON YOU.

If there are no porters when you exit the building, proceed on your own to the parking lot and look for the driver holding a sign with your name on it.

When you find the vehicles, put all the luggage and the people (with their backpacks) in the vehicles. If you have a large group there may be a large truck for just the checked luggage and vans for the people. Some of the group need to watch the loading of the luggage into the vehicles to make sure everything gets in there and doesn't walk away. Lots of people will be asking for money. After all the luggage and the people are in the vehicles THE DESIGNATED LEADER pays Jackson (or whoever the main porter is if it is not Jackson), and ONLY that porter, and he pays everyone else. No one else in your group should pay anyone, again they need to point to you and say the person designated and say they are the "Boss". The tip is \$2 US per bag, so calculate that (checked bags and rolling carry-ons). If you calculate that before hand and have it in \$1 bills in an envelope you can just hand him, that makes it easier. If anyone else asks you for money, tell them to talk to Jackson (or the main porter). If Jackson (or the main porter) tells you that it isn't enough (you could give him a million dollars and he would tell you it isn't enough) tell him it is what Renee told you to pay and leave.

Be very careful with their personal bags in the van as you drive through PAP. Don't put them near the windows and keep a hand on them. We've had people lose their backpacks and cameras when people reached in and grabbed things.

7) MONEY:

Most people have a lot of questions about how much money they need to bring. Largely that depends on what you are doing while you are here. In terms of the guest house charges, those can be paid by US cash or a US check (please contact us before writing the check so we can give you the appropriate information to make the check easier for us to cash in Haiti). We do not accept credit cards or travelers checks. All transportation charges need to be paid in US cash. Many grocery stores and restaurants accept credit cards (call your credit card company before you travel and tell them you are going to Haiti to your charges aren't blocked). The merchants selling souvenirs on the street will take either US or Haitian cash (smaller bills are better for this — \$1s, \$5s, \$10s). Money can be exchanged at the supermarkets in Petionville. ATMs are available in Port-au-Prince for debit and credit card advances. Most people underestimate the amount of cash they need, both in terms of what it costs for transportation and purchasing items in Haiti, and in terms of the amount of souvenirs they want to take home. Having emergency cash and a couple of blank checks can be helpful.

The exchange rate is usually approximately 40 Haitian Gourdes per \$1 US. The Haitian currency is the Haitian Gourde and all Haitian bills and coins are in monetary values of the Gourde. Sometimes prices are also quoted in "Haitian dollars". Haitian dollars don't actually exist, but it is simply a way of thinking about the money. There are 5 Haitian Gourdes in a Haitian dollar. So, to determine how many Haitian dollars make up each of the forms of Haitian Gourdes currency, you divide by five — i.e. a 1,000 Gourde bill also can be seen as \$200 Haitian; a 500 Gourde bill also can be seen as \$100 Haitian; a 250 Gourde bill can also be seen as \$50 Haitian; a 100 Gourde bill can also be seen as \$20 Haitian; a 50 Gourde bill can also be seen as \$10 Haitian.

8) DONATIONS:

The St. Joseph Family is appreciative of donations that visitors bring in their suitcases. Because of the problems with mailing items to Haiti, the only reliable and the least expensive way to get donations to Haiti is by visitors bringing them with them in their suitcases. Included in this packet is a list of items requested as donations by the St. Joseph Family. Please use this list when gathering and packing donations. If you want to bring something that is not on the list, please contact Renee before gath-

ering and packing the items to determine if they would be helpful to the St. Joseph Family. Please note, we cannot accept out-of-date medicine (either over-the-counter or prescription) and please do not bring donated prescription drugs without the prior approval of the St. Joseph Family. Also, we ask that any clothing or shoes be either new or gently used (clean and no holes or tears) and no larger than adult large.

9) RELATING TO THE ST. JOSEPH FAMILY:

The St. Joseph Family willingly and openly welcomes guests into our homes. We value the visits of guests and want to help you make your experience in Haiti one that is transformational and meaningful. Because we serve the disadvantaged children of Haiti on a daily basis and because we operate as a family, we have schedules, rules and traditions we ask all guests respect while they are at our homes. Doing so will ensure the health and safety of the children; as well allow us to maintain consistency and discipline in the homes.

We require that all guests conform to the health and safety policies of the St. Joseph Family. We also require that guests follow the rules of the homes and follow the direction of the leadership of the homes and the St. Joseph Family. Any concerns or suggestions about the homes or children can be brought to the leadership of the homes and the St. Joseph Family where they will be heard with respect and an open dialogue.

We allow the children in residence at our homes to maintain social media accounts and have personal cell phones. They are welcome to communicate with visitors to develop friendships and share information. However, none of the children, or employees, are allowed to ask visitors for cash or gifts. If visitors are asked for cash, gifts or special favors, we ask that the visitor refuse those requests and also let the leadership of the St. Joseph Family know about those requests so we can maintain order with the children in the homes and with our employees.

10) GUEST FORMS:

We request that all guests print out and complete the guest information form — one for each guest; families may complete one form. Please bring the completed forms with you to give to Michael or Renee during your stay. The form is available on the page 7 of this booklet.

11) LONG-TERM VOLUNTEERING:

We have a special program for people who want to come for a month or more to work with the children. Volunteers are placed at Wings of Hope. Free room and board is offered to such volunteers in exchange for full-time work with the children and in the homes. Applications are required for this program. For more information about the long-term volunteer program and an application, please contact Renee at sjgrants@hotmail.com



ST. JOSEPH FAMILY

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME FOR BOYS ~ WINGS OF HOPE ~ TRINITY HOUSE
RESURRECTION DANCE THEATER OF HAITI ~ LEKÒL SEN TRINITE ~ NOUVO VI BAKERY

GUEST INFORMATION

*Please fill out one form for each guest, families may fill out one form
Please give forms to Michael or Renee during your stay*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dates of Stay: _____

Name of Church, School or Organization You Traveled With:

Name of Group Leader: _____

Homes visited: St. Joseph's Home Wings of Hope Trinity House

I currently receive communication about the St. Joseph Family from:

Hearts with Haiti SJF HAITI Haitian Timoun Foundation Broken Wings Missions

Comments: _____

WHAT TO BRING, PERSONAL:

Light clothing — i.e. long shorts; cargo pants, t-shirts, casual shirts
(short shorts, miniskirts, spaghetti strap shirts, etc., are discouraged)

Sweatshirt (for people staying at Wings)

Tennis shoes

Sandals

Swimsuit (if planning a trip to Jacmel or to the beach or pool)

Hat

Rain jacket

Sunglasses

Sunscreen

Bug spray

Latex gloves

Ear plugs

First aid kit

Pain relievers

Anti-diarrheal medication

Flashlight (headlamps are good)

Extra batteries

Reusable water bottle

Baby wipes

Energy bars

Camera (with charger)

Cash, checks, credit card

Please consider leaving some of these items in Haiti at the end of your trip so we may use them for our children and workers.

WHAT TO BRING, DONATIONS:

Health & Hygiene Supplies:

- Latex gloves
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Hand sanitizer
- Soap (bar)
- Shampoo (please pack in Ziplock bags to avoid messes)
- Lotion (please pack in Ziplock bags to avoid messes)
- Baby powder
- Children's cough/cold syrup (please pack in Ziplock bags to avoid messes)
- Pain relievers (child and adult)

School & Program Supplies:

- Ballpoint pens (more blue than black)
- Pencils
- Notebook paper
- Permanent markers (i.e. Sharpies, all colors)
- Dry erase markers
- Staplers and staples
- White-out
- Children's computer games for Macs (educational and fun)
- White cardstock (letter and 11x17)
- Photo paper, glossy — 4x6; 5x7
- Pla-Doh
- Laminating sheets/carrier sheet
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks
- Wood blocks of various sizes
- Acrylic paints
- Glitter
- Tissue paper
- Stamps and stamp pads

Therapy Supplies:

- Various grades of therapy putty
- Party blowers
- Sensory brushes
- Upholstery vinyl
- Various nuts, bolts, straps, belting, etc. for wheelchair repairs
- Duct tape (various colors)

Art supplies:

- Watercolor paints
- Watercolor paper
- Acrylic paints
- Artist brushes
- Sketch books
- Drawing pencils
- Gum erasers

Toys:

- Toy telephones
- Small flashlights
- Cars (large and Matchbox-size)
- Small radios (with batteries and headphones)
- Sunglasses
- Necklaces
- Ball caps
- Small Happy Meal-like toys (no weapons)
- Candy (no gum)
- Backpacks
- Water bottles

Printer Ink:

- Epson 127 (Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow)
- Canon CLI226 (Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow) and PGI225
- HP Laser cartridge CE285A

Office Supplies:

- US Forever stamps
- Peel-and-seal business-size envelopes
- 8.5 x 11 white printer paper
- Packing tape (clear)
- Cable ties, 8 inch
- Batteries — AA, AAA, C, D, 9 volt

Housewares:

- Silverware (extra teaspoons and tablespoons)
- Bath towels
- Wash cloths
- Compact fluorescent lightbulbs
- Clorox wipes
- Ziplock bags — gallon and quart

Clothes — child small, medium, large and adult small and medium (NEW OR GENTLY USED)

Tennis shoes/sandals/Croc-like sandals — youth 1 to men's 10 (NEW OR GENTLY USED)

We also have several single item special needs. Please contact Renee for the list of special items you can collect to bring down.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING OUTDATED MEDICINE (OVER-THE-COUNTER OR PRESCRIPTION)

PLEASE DO NOT BRING PRESCRIPTION MEDICINE AS DONATIONS WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF RENEE (*personal prescription medicine is fine*)

BACKGROUND OF THE ST. JOSEPH FAMILY

St. Joseph's Home for Boys is a haven within the grueling chaos of Port-au-Prince. Its founder, Michael Geilenfeld, was formerly a Missionary of Charity Brother, an order founded by Mother Teresa. His work was with abandoned children in Vietnam, Cambodia, Calcutta, Los Angeles, Haiti and El Salvador. After 11 years of service, Michael felt called to provide a place for street boys that would be a family instead of the night shelter system he had followed with the MC Brothers. In January of 1985, Michael left the MC Brothers and returned to Haiti with \$1,000 and began with five boys and a prayer. This new family paid for six months rent on a four room house. After paying the rent, they were left with \$400 to live on. Their prayers were heard, for journalists showed up that first day to tell this "new life" story to the world. Financial support soon began to flow, visitors began to come and Michael's work grew into the success it is today.

St. Joseph's Home for Boys currently home for disadvantaged youth, former street children and former child slaves; and provides them with an education, a family and an abundance of love. Through programs at St. Joseph's Home for Boys, the children learn life skills and also have the opportunity to participate in dance and art classes. Both leadership development and religious formation are at the heart of the St. Joseph's mission. Since it's creation, more than 400 street children have been a part of this family.

As the children who have been helped by St. Joseph's Home for Boys have grown into adulthood, they often have a strong desire to give back. In November 1994, their strong sense of family and service led Michael and the boys to take on a large challenge — to care for 14 severely mentally and physically challenged children. The children, abandoned by their families because of their handicaps, were previously being cared for by a group from France. That group wanted to leave Haiti, but had found no one to take the children. Michael and the children at St. Joseph's heard about this dilemma and decided they would take in one of the children. When Michael and some of the boys visited the home, they saw children who spent their entire day in bed with minimal care and no compassion. What they saw shocked them and how the children were described by the woman who ran the house as "living pieces of furniture" cemented in them the desire to give the disabled children the sense of family they enjoyed. Because St. Joseph's Home for Boys exists purely on donations that come in every week, taking on the responsibility for so many severely handicapped children was an enormous challenge. But, the boys were committed to the idea. After much prayer and discussion the family took a leap of faith and took over responsibility for all of the handicapped children and Wings of Hope was born. Wings of Hope is now home to more than 30 children and young adults with physical and mental challenges, both boys and girls. Several graduates of the St. Joseph's program are part of the staff at Wings of Hope. Unlike the children of St. Joseph's Home for Boys and Trinity House, the children of Wings of Hope will never "graduate" from the program and will be cared for by the family for their rest of their lives.

With St. Joseph's Home for Boys and Wings of Hope firmly in place, the St. Joseph

Family expanded again in 2000 with the creation of Trinity House, in Jacmel. Friends of the St. Joseph Family who lived in Jacmel saw the positive impact that St. Joseph's Home for Boys had on the children it had taken off the streets and saw the need for that kind of love, opportunity and family for the street boys of Jacmel and invited Michael and the children to start a home there. Trinity House serves the same population of boys as St. Joseph's Home does — former street boys and former child slaves. The boys attend school and have a wide variety of extra-curricular activities — dance classes, art classes, sports, religious formation, tutoring, and many more. Trinity House also includes Nouvo Vi Bakery and a coffee project, both which were created to provide job training for the children of the St. Joseph Family and to generate income to support the St. Joseph Family.

The staff and mission of Trinity House is centered on outreach to the community. Because of that, Lekòl Sen Trinite, a tuition-free school for the poorest children in the community, was created. Lekòl Sen Trinite operates within the Trinity House building and serves more than 140 students, with both morning and afternoon sessions, including a Montessori preschool. Besides receiving an education, the students also receive two meals a day. Also a part of Lekòl Sen Trinite is the Rejoice Program, a project that allows children who are still trapped in the system of child slavery in Haiti the opportunity to participate in educational classes, have access to hygiene and medical care, increase their self-esteem and create a support system.

Because children on the street rarely see beauty in their lives, it makes it almost impossible for them to see the beauty in themselves, their country, their history or their culture. Once they find themselves in a place where their souls are nourished, the beauty is easier to see and live. It was out of this desire for the children to appreciate the beauty of their country and themselves that the Resurrection Dance Theater of Haiti was formed and the arts program was begun. From the earliest days of St. Joseph's Home for Boys theater played an important role. It gave the boys a sense of accomplishment. It nourished their creativity. It lifted up their self-esteem and self-confidence. It taught them about their history and culture. It became a part of their prayer. The mission of the Resurrection Dance Theater of Haiti is to teach the children of the St. Joseph Family that they have a special gift to offer. The Resurrection Dance Theater of Haiti allows the children to build their self-esteem and self-confidence as they practice and perform their theater for the public. The creation of the Resurrection Dance Theater of Haiti has allowed the children to share their stories with others. The Resurrection Dance Theater of Haiti performances feature several stories written and choreographed by the children. Many of the dances performed by the Resurrection Dance Theater of Haiti have themes relating to various experiences the boys had when they were living on the streets. Some dances highlight Haitian culture, while others reflect the boys' faith, dreams and hope for the future. The dances performed by the Resurrection Dance Theater of Haiti are based on traditional Haitian and African movements and feature traditional Haitian drumming. Resurrection Dance Theater of Haiti performances are innovative because they incorporate traditional movements into modern settings. The theater features brightly colored costumes and audience participation. This unique theatrical experience takes audiences on a journey of excitement, hope and rhythm where

long-lasting memories are created. Because of their talent and desire to share their stories with others, the Resurrection Dance Theater of Haiti has gone beyond simply teaching the children about the beauty of their country and the beauty inside themselves. The children share their stories and their dances with groups visiting them, from all around the world, and they tour annually in the United States and Canada as cultural ambassadors of their country. Trinity House also has a dance program as part of its mission to lift up disadvantaged children.

Art also plays an important part in the lives of the members of the St. Joseph Family. The three homes are filled with art, as well as being works of art themselves. The abundance of Haitian art reflects back to the children that they, like the art surrounding them, are beautiful, valuable and treasured. Because of this influence several of the children have begun working with a well-known Haitian artist. Their work has received rave reviews from all who have seen it. Their paintings are featured in the books "A Gathering of Angels" and "Shine" and a promise of an exhibition at a Haitian gallery has been extended to these budding artists. To give the children of the St. Joseph Family, and as an outreach to the community, the St. Joseph's Community Arts Center was created. The arts center operates in conjunction with St. Joseph's Home for Boys and is the home for art classes taught by Haitian artists and special workshops by visiting artists.

THE IMPACT OF THE JANUARY 12, 2010 EARTHQUAKE

While the St. Joseph Family was blessed that none of the children in our homes were killed or seriously injured in the January 12, 2010 earthquake that devastated Haiti, two of our homes were destroyed. St. Joseph's Home for Boys partially collapsed and had to be demolished. Wings of Hope was made structurally unstable and also had to be demolished. We were able to find temporary facilities very shortly after the earthquake for all the children and their lives have continued as best as they can as we rebuild our mission centers. Many of the boys from St. Joseph's Home for Boys were relocated to Trinity House, with a smaller population of boys living at St. Joseph's. The rebuilding of St. Joseph's Home for Boys took two years to complete. The new building was dedicated in January 2012. In September 2012, the majority of the boys returned to live at St. Joseph's Home, leaving only a few children to live at Trinity House.

All of the children of Wings of Hope are living in two rented homes near the location of the former Wings of Hope facility in Fermathe. These homes are not handicap-accessible, but temporary systems have been created to allow the children to continue their education and therapy programs and live happy and healthy lives. In February 2013, the construction of the new Wings of Hope, which will be located next to Trinity House in Jacmel, began. This will be a multi-year construction project, with a projected completion in late 2015.

SIMPLE KREYÒL LESSONS

While there are two official language of Haiti — Kreyòl and French — Kreyòl is the language most commonly spoken. It is the language that all Haitians speak at home, on the street and with friends. French is only spoken by the elite and within formal businesses. Kreyòl is the language of the people. Kreyòl is based in French, but is a mixture of French, African languages and even a little English. It is basically how the slaves heard and understood the French that was spoken by their owners hundreds of years ago. Kreyòl is a very phonetic language. For most of its existence, Kreyòl was a completely oral language. Written Kreyòl is a fairly recent development. Because written Kreyòl is still evolving, different dictionaries often give different spellings to some words. To hear a Haitian speak Kreyòl is like hearing a beautiful, melodic song. Here are some simple Kreyòl words and phrases to practice before you come to Haiti.

PHRASES/QUESTIONS/RESPONSES

Good morning — Bon jou
Good afternoon — Bon swa
Good night — Bon nwit
For how long? — Pou konben tan?
Just a moment please — Yon ti moman, souple

How are you? — Kòman nou ye? or Kijan ou ye?
What's happening? — Sak pase?
I am well — Mwen byen
I'm not too bad — Pa pi mal
I'm on fire (I'm great) — M-ap boule
And yourself? — E ou menm?

What is your name? — Kijan ou rele?
My name is... — Mwen rele...
Where do you live? — Ki kote ou rete?
How old are you? — Ki laj ou?
I am happy to know you — Mwen kontan konnen ou
Do you have children? — Èske ou gen pitit?
May I take your photo? — Èske mwen mèt pran foto ou?

Please — Souple
Thank you — Mèsi
You're welcome — Ou merite sa
No problem — Pa gen pwoblèm
Excuse me — Eskize
I am sorry — Mwen regrèt sa

Me too — Mwen menm tou
Help me, please — Ede mwen, souple
I need... — Mwen bezwen...
We would like... — Nou ta vle...
Please give me... — Souple, ban mwen...
I (do not) know — Mwen (pa) konnen
I (do not) think so — Mwen (pa) kwè sa
I (do not) like that — Mwen (pa) renmen sa
That is (not) good — Sa (pa) bon
We are (not) happy — Nou (pa) konton
I am hot / cold / tired — Mwen cho / frèt / fatigue
Let's go! — Ann ale!
I (do not) understand — Mwen (pa) konprann
I don't have any small change — Mwen pa gen ti monnen
I (do not) like that — Mwen (pa) renmen sa
I am surprised — Mwen sezi
I hope so — Mwen swete sa

How much? / How many? — Konben?
Are you ready? — Ou pwe?
Is / Are there...? — Eske gen...?
Do you have...? — Eske ou gen...?
What do you want? — Kisa ou vle?
What is that? — Kisa sa a ye?
Do you understand? — Ou konprann?
What do you want? — Kisa ou vle?

DAYS / JOU

Monday — Lendi
Tuesday — Madi
Wednesday — Mèkredi
Thursday — Jedi
Friday — Vandredi
Saturday — Samdi
Sunday — Dimanche

MONTHS / MWA

January — Janvyè
February — Fevriye
March — Mas
April — Avril
May — Me
June — Jen
July — Jiyè

August — Dawou
September — Septanm
October — Oktòb
November — Novanm
December — Desanm

Note: When saying a specific date, the date comes before the month (i.e. May 4 is Kat Me)

WORDS

Yes — Wi
No — Non

I / Me — Mwen
He / She / It — Li
Us / We / Our — Nou
Here — Isit
There — La
Other — Lòt

Soon — Talè
Yesterday — Yè
Today — Jodi a
Tomorrow — Demen
Morning — Maten
Afternoon — Apremidi
Evening — Aswè
Night — Nwit

Why? — Poukisa?
Where? — Ki kote?
What? — Kisa?
When? — Kilè?
Who? — Ki moun?
How? — Kijan?
Which? — Kilès?
Because — Paske

Repeat — Repete
Slowly — Dousman
Again — Ankò
Front — Devan
Back — Dèyè
Over — Anlè
Under — Anba

Happy — Kontan
Sad — Tris

Smile — Souri
Cry — Kriye
Sit — Chita
Stand — Kanpe
Walk — Mache
Run — Kouri
Stop — Arete
Start — Kòmanse
Wait — Tann
Right — Dwat
Left — Gòch

Brother — Frè
Sister — Sè
Mother — Manman
Father — Papa
Grandmother — Granmè
Grandfather — Granpè
Aunt — Matant
Uncle — Tonton
Friend — Zanmi
Student — Etidyan
Teacher — Profesè
Boy — Ti gason
Girl — Tifi
Man — Gason
Woman — Fanm
Baby — Bebe
Child — Timoun
Adult — Granmoun

Pencil — Kreyon
Pen — Plim
Paper — Papye
Book — Liv
Table — Tab
Chair — Chèz
Cat — Chat
Dog — Chen
Fish — Pwason

Remember — Sonje
Forget — Bliye
Listen — Koute
Hear — Tande
Talk — Pale
Look — Gade
Taste — Gou
Smell — Sant
Touch — Touche

Tired — Fatige
Hungry — Grangou
Thirsty — Swaf
Hot — Cho
Cold — Frèt
Wet — Mouye
Dry — Seche

Love — Lamou
Like — Renmen
Share — Pataje
Hope — Espwa
Beautiful — Bèl
Need — Bezwen
Want — Vle

Play — Jwe
Toy — Jwèt
Window — Vit
Door — Pòt
Wall — Mi
House — Kay
Car — Machin

Sun — Solèy
Rain — Lapli
Cloud — Nwaj
Wind — Van

Colors — Koulè
Black — Nwa
Blue — Ble
Brown — Mawon
Gray — Gri
Green — Vèt
Orange — Oranj
Pink — Wòz
Purple — Vyolèt
Red — Wouj
White — Blan
Yellow — Jòn

Eyes — Je
Nose — Nen
Mouth — Bouch
Ears — Zòrèy
Head — Tèt
Arm — Bra
Leg — Janm
Hand — Men
Finger — Dwèt
Foot — Pye
Toe — Zòtèy
Hair — Cheve
Heart — Kè

Food / Eat — Manje
Drink — Bwason (n); Bwè (v)
Water — Dlo
Milk — Lèt
Juice — Ji
Bread — Pen
Peanut butter — Manba
Rice — Diri
Candy — Surèt
Cookie — Bonbon
Cake — Gato

NUMBERS / CHIF

0 — Zewo
1 — Youn
2 — De
3 — Twa
4 — Kat
5 — Senk
6 — Sis
7 — Sèt
8 — Wit
9 — Nèf
10 — Dis

11 — Onz
12 — Douz
13 — Trèz
14 — Katòz
15 — Kenz
16 — Sèz
17 — Disèt
18 — Dizwit
19 — Diznèf
20 — Ven

30 — Trant
40 — Karant
50 — Sinkan

100 — San
1,000 — Mil