

Hearts with Haiti



Fall 2023 Newsletter



www.heartswithhaiti.org

A fresh school year for Lekòl Sen Trinite students and staff

The students and staff returned to Lekòl Sen Trinite the second week of September. All are happy to be back in the classroom and to see their friends again.

This year, LST will educate 241 students in preschool through ninth grade. There are 192 returning students and 49 students who are attending LST for the first time. The student population is made up of 134 girls and 107 boys. The youngest preschool student is 3 years old. The oldest student is 20.

LST is a tuition-free school that serves a wide range of students and gives them opportunities not only to flourish academically, but also to participate in extra-curricular activities that include, dance, drumming, music, art, cooking classes, and karate. Many of these students would not be able to attend school if it were not for LST. LST also provides all books and supplies needed by the students. Each student also receives a hot meal each day.

We are immensely proud to report that the first class of ninth graders graduated from LST in July. A week after graduation, the eight LST graduates had to take a multi-day government exam. The result of this exam determines whether or not they are allowed continue their education. All eight students from LST passed their exams! The national average for passing these rigorous exams was 80%. The LST students' 100% pass rate is something to celebrate and be proud of. Their accomplishment shows the quality of education at LST and what a first-rate education can do for students.



2009



2023

This year there is a familiar face at Lekòl Sen Trinite in a different role. A former student is now on staff and bringing a quality education to the next generation.

René Louis started at LST as a first grader in 2009. He graduated from sixth grade in 2015. After completing further education, he is returning to LST as an English teacher for the primary grades.



BY THE NUMBERS:

Teachers/staff employed:

- 22 Classroom teachers
- 2 Classroom teachers who are also administrators
- 1 Administrator
- 1 Librarian
- 4 Arts education teachers
- 2 After-school teachers (cooking and karate)
- 8 Support Staff (1 classroom helper, 3 cooks, 2 cleaners, 2 Security guards)



Students educated:

(2022-2023 school year) **227**

Keeping bodies moving at Wings of Hope

Keeping bodies moving at Wings of Hope is a core mission for the home. Physical therapy helps to build muscles and skills for residents with physical disabilities. Movement helps channel energy for residents with mental and behavioral challenges. Fun and play make everyone's lives better.

Physical therapy sessions happen daily Monday to Friday, with each resident receiving individualized



programming to meet their



needs, goals, and abilities. Wings of Hope has a two-person physical therapy department to ensure all Wings residents can receive the therapy sessions they need.

With a limited amount of equipment, the staff at Wings of Hope get creative by using everything as an opportunity for physical therapy. In Haiti there is a word — "degaje" — which means "do the best with what you have." That is something the physical therapy staff practices every day as they get bodies moving, improve skills, and have fun with the Wings of Hope residents.



Be a Sponsor, Change a Life (maybe even yours!)

Sponsorships for the Wings of Hope residents provide a regular source of support for all the critical programs. They also allow sponsors to follow the progress of Wings residents and are a way to remind the Wings residents they have friends who care about them.

Sponsorships are available for a yearly donation of \$420 per resident. Sponsorships also may be paid on a monthly basis with a donation of \$35 per month. Since the average annual cost to provide for all a resident's needs is actually \$6,690, the residents have multiple sponsors whenever possible. All residents receive the care, services, and items they need, regardless of the number of sponsors they have.

Sponsors are provided with a biography and a photo of the resident they support, along with multiple mailings throughout the year, enabling them to track progress and deepen their connection.

Please consider becoming a sponsor!

BY THE NUMBERS:

- Capacity for up to **40 residents**
- Each resident receives care based solely on individual needs
- **6 staff members** live at the home
- Nights of shelter provided (2022): **12,045**
- Meals for residents & live-in staff: **42,705**
- Comprehensive medical check-ups & medicine (needed as a result of exams) **\$4,800**
- Current sponsorship rate (to cover annual cost per resident)= **34.4%**



Per resident annual cost (33 residents in 2022): \$6,690

Meet Ismael

Ismael is the happiest kid in the world! He always has a huge smile on his face, and he is living his best life at Wings of Hope. He joined the Wings of hope family in January.

He has cerebral palsy and does not walk, but he can independently move his wheelchair. He likes to wheel himself around, so he is always in the middle of the action at Wings. Ismael is very smart and loves the classes at Wings. It is the first time he's ever been able to go to school. He loves all the activities at Wings of Hope and he loves to interact with people.



WAYS TO GIVE!

Donate by credit card
or PayPal online at:
heartswithhaiti.org/donate

Donate by check to our office

Donate stock by calling or
emailing us for instructions:
919-758-8085
info@heartswithhaiti.org

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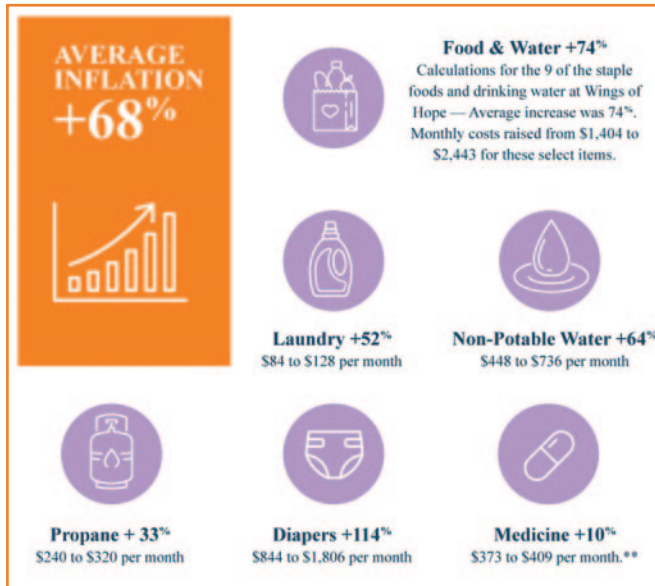
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more sustainable future
for the young people
of Haiti since 2001*

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Continued chaos creates challenges

Two of the biggest impacts of the continued unrest and chaos in Haiti are the economic collapse and the supply-chain issues in the country. This has led to supply shortages and skyrocketing inflation. These combine to create on-going and increasing challenges for the SJF.

Diapers and medicine, both important needs for Wings of Hope, are not only subject to ever-increasing prices, but are hard and dangerous to obtain because they must be purchased in Port-au-Prince. Food and supplies purchased in Jacmel are scarce and expensive.



HEARTS WITH HAITI

MISSION STATEMENT:
Together with our Haitian partners, we create opportunities for Haitians affected by poverty, instability, and disability to build a sustainable future.

VISION STATEMENT:
Hearts with Haiti transforms lives by investing in and empowering Haitians to create a more sustainable future.

CORE VALUES:
Compassion
Empowerment
Collaboration
Respect for all
Transparency

Save the Date — Giving Tuesday is Nov. 28

Giving Tuesday is an opportunity for people around the world to stand together in unity—to use their individual power of generosity to remain connected and heal.

Your gift will help the St.

Joseph Family as they serve those facing the challenges of poverty and disability in Haiti.

All online donors to Hearts with Haiti on Nov. 28 are eligible for a drawing to win an original

Christmas painting by a SJF art student.

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

Thanks to a very generous Secret Santa, all donations through the end of the year will be matched, up to \$50,000.