Hope for the Children of Haiti (HFC), a Massachusetts-based 501 (C) 3 non-profit organization, owns and operates a Christian school and orphanage located in Bolosse, an impoverished section of Port-Au-Prince, Haiti. The Marion G. Austin Christian School currently provides education for the 60 children living at the orphanage and for more than 200 children from the community.

HFC is called by God to give Haitian children, particularly orphans, the opportunity to experience the hope and the future God has planned for them.

Walking for Hope on Saturday, June 2, 2007

Hours before the sun rises to fill Haiti’s sky, the streets of Port-au-Prince are full of children and women walking. Their long journey leads them downhill before they fill their buckets with as much water as possible and return back uphill with their heavy loads to face the long day of work ahead of them.

The generous support of HFC donors and volunteers throughout the years has provided the necessary water for the children so they do not have to make this walk. They are able to expend their energy on their studies, their faith, their friends and the development that every child should experience. They continue to be incredibly grateful for your help!

On Saturday, June 2nd you can join others in the HFC community by participating in the Third Annual Walkathon at the Minute Man National Park. As you consider walking with us, we encourage you to think of the children and the number of journeys to the well that you protect them from.

The women and children in Haiti walk to meet their needs for each day. By committing to walk for one morning, you and your family and friends can raise hope in our precious children that will last for their lifetime.

Visit www.hfc-haiti.org to register or donate online. We look forward to seeing you there!

Leadership is the Name of the Game

Responsibility opens the door for maturity. That is what HFC missions intern Keziah Furth found when she had the idea to create the “Soccer/Basketball Camp for the Little Boys.” Through this program, eight of the older HFC boys coach four of the younger New Life Link (NLL) boys. These boys (ages 5 – 9) along with other younger NLL children, await adoption while living in space that NLL rents from HFC.

The older boys have shown great skill on the basketball court and the soccer field. This coaching program has provided a great venue for them to demonstrate their passion for sports and readiness for responsibility.

Donval, Mathurin, Duc Klein, and Bénadin coach soccer on Wednesdays and Vandomme, Drisk, Emmanuel, and Jacques coach basketball on Saturday mornings. Although Keziah is there to supervise and to give out high fives, the older boys direct everything. They create the drills, decide when to play a scrimmage, teach, correct, encourage and congratulate. A significant amount of the coaching is on one-on-one given the small number of players.

It is powerful to see how the younger children look up to their teenage coaches, and how the teenagers respond to that attention with growing maturity. We look forward to continuing this program and creating others that develop the leadership qualities in our older children.

Prayer Requests

Please join us as we continue to pray for:

- The health of the children as they go through many growth transitions.
- The boys’ purity retreat that Dr. Bernard is leading to share a biblical perspective on dating relationships, marriage and love.
- Missions teams’ who are serving with HFC this summer (see page 2 for more information).
- The adoption process and the preparation of the families and children.
- The time the children have this summer to grow emotionally and spiritually.

Inside this issue:

- Girls Attend New Creation Retreat
- What’s New at HFC
- One Such Child
- How You Can Help
- Photo Album
New Creation Retreat Encourages Girls in Purity

This April the girls were encouraged towards a holy perspective on love, dating and marriage at their New Creation retreat. The two missions interns who have worked with HFC this year, Kim Hargrove and Keziah Furt, led their team with the support of Beverly and Rachel, two married Christian women who are Haitian nationals and family friends of the Bernard family.

The weekend started with Keziah using her nursing experience and talking through the physiology and anatomical aspects of relationships. They discussed how to protect the boys and themselves by the way they dress, talk, touch, and dance. The girls then filled out question cards and the adult women shared wisdom about things such as “What is the difference between a Man’s love and God’s love?” and “How do you tell a boy that he likes you to leave you alone?”

Scriptural understanding of these topics is the less that we often hear from the world, when verses such as 2 Cor. 5:17, Phil. 2:3-7, 1 Cor. 6:19-20, and Col. 3:25. At the end of the retreat, the girls created butterfly necklaces to wear as symbols of their promise to stay pure. In line with the theme “New Creation” the leaders shared that the girls are like caterpillars who are becoming butterflies as they grow into holy and set apart women.

The girls received the teaching incredibly well. Praise God that He used the strong relationships that Kim and Keziah have built with the girls and insights from married Christian women in this powerful way!

What’s New at HFC

We are incredibly grateful to the Lowell Catholic School who raised over $5,400 for HFC this spring! We would like to thank Sister Prescille Mayo of the Ste. Jeanne D’Arc School and the Jussaume family who helped make this happen during Lowell Catholic School week. Thanks for your support!

Studio Luz, the architect firm who created the plans for the campus D’Espoir building project, has received many awards recently, including the Interior Architecture Award from the Boston Society of Architecture. Studio Luz has been featured in many magazines including Architectural Record, Azure, City, Hospitality Design and the Improper Bostonian. Congratulation to all the boys who have done design work that you have done for HFC!

Please join us in supporting each summer missions team with prayer and gratitude for their service:

(May 3-May 8) Valley Fourth Memorial Church
June 23-June 30 (Susan/Soory)
June 30-July 5 (Schnieder/Davis)
July 21-July 28 (Grace/Capel)
July 30-August 10 Faith Evangelical Free Church of Acton, MA

It’s not too late to plan a trip for this fall or winter! Contact us for more information about joining or leading a team.

Stability and safety in Port-au-Prince continue to increase as the UN forces arrest gang leaders, but the poverty remains. Please continue to pray for the people in Haiti.

We are thankful for our significant donors and church partners in 2006!

Throughout the year we had many families, churches and corporations give at significant levels.

Kingdom Builders ($10,000-$25,000)
2 Families, 1 Church Partner
Samaritans ($5,000-$9,999)
5 Families, 1 Church
Good Shepherds ($2,500-$4,999)
8 Families, 5 Churches, 2 Corps.
Vineyard Harvesters ($1,000-$2,999)
40 Families, 12 Churches, 3 Corps.
Providers of Hope ($500-$999)
66 Total

As you are planning your giving for 2007, remember that you can also give through bequests, real estate and other non-financial venues.

One Such Child

Keziah Furt shares about Bernadin Guy Junior

Bernadin is an example of the amazing individuals that the HFC children have become. After 5 months at HFC, I love all 60 kids very much, but there is one in particular who stands out when I think about my time in Haiti. His name is Bernadin Guy Junior. He has shared the teaching incredibly well.

Bernadin has shared with me some stories about his family. He told me how his mother used to sing him a Haitian lullaby every night before he went to bed, a lullaby that promised a parent’s love and presence forever. Bernadin remembers, “My mother brought me to the orphanage, she laid me down in a bed and she sang my lullaby to me. Then she kissed me and said she would come back. But she didn’t come back.”

Bernadin is an example of the amazing individuals that the HFC children have become...

How You Can Help

Here are some ways that you can make a difference for Bernadin and his brothers and sisters:

• Help increase the success of the Annual Walkathon by asking corporations and restaurants near you to donate prizes.
• Shop online through IGive.com.
• Encourage a friend or group to sign up for sponsorship through our website.
• Donate food, church clothing (for warm weather, children sizes 9 – 18, women’s sizes 5 – L, men’s sizes M – XL), church shoes and sneakers (sneakers (sizes on our website), school materials or other supplies.
• Share your story with churches or other organizations.
• Have a garage sale to benefit HFC or Contact Meg Nam at meg@hfchaiti.org for more details.

About Bernadin, however, is the white woman in Haiti, I get a lot of unwanted attention from men. All day and time again, Bernadin has applied the annoyance. It’s like magic – the presence of this tall 14 year old and no one dares bother me.

Like most of the HFC boys, Bernadin loves playing soccer. At his age, I would expect him to be fighting with all the other boys for a position as a forward so that he could score goals and be the team’s hero, but Bernadin humbly accepts the role of defender. He rarely scores, but if that disappoints him, he doesn’t let it show. Instead, he plays enthusiastically and whole-heartedly, helping his team on the defensive side. His selflessness also shows in his sneakers contest – the boys do not have enough sneakers to go around, but instead of demanding a pair for himself, Bernadin always lets the attackers wear the sneakers while he plays with a sneaker on his left foot and a sandal on his right.

Bernadin is an example of the amazing individuals that the HFC children have become.