

Maison Fortuné

orphanage news

June 2015

Hinche, Haiti

MFO Soccer Team Wins Big!

The MFO Boys soccer team won the 2015 Central Plateau School Championship Tournament!

It was not easy for the boys to go undefeated, but with a cheering squad coordinated by our girls campus the champion team had lots of encouragement! The boys received a trophy and new soccer jerseys as part of the prize. They also went on to compete in the Haiti National Tournament where they made it to the quarterfinals. Congratulations to all!!



The MFO soccer champions!



MFO soccer team getting ready for practice



MFO girls cheer for the game winning goal!!

Special Projects that need your HELP

We have the following immediate capital projects that are seeking special funding for: When deciding to give to these projects please designate your giving to “Capital Investment” so we can ensure your funds are allocated correctly.

Girls Campus – Generator Needed – Cost \$13,000

Our girls are facing some difficulties with the electricity on their campus. The girls can spend up to 2 days with no city power! When they have power, they use it to run the water pump to get water from their well. When they don't have power to get water they have to walk to the river for cooking and laundry and to water their garden. For those of who have been to Haiti, or read about it, we don't need to explain the condition of the river water and the consequences it might have on our girls' health. The girls also need power to study and do their homework at night and for lights to get up early to be ready to walk to school. In the name of all our girls, we are counting on your generosity and thanking you in advance for your willingness to help with this worthy cause.

Boys – Facility Project Expansion – Cost \$35,000

We have an immediate need to increase the lodging capacity on our boys campus. It is no longer feasible to maintain and rent a facility for our older boys. We desire to move them into better living structures on MFO owned property. We can't do this with your help! The cost includes construction, supplies and local labor. This is an investment in Haiti's future.

Campus Wide Painting – Cost \$26,000

Our buildings on the boys and the girls campuses are great need of a facelift. In Haiti applying paint to a building is more than aesthetics, it serves as a protective barrier for the building structure from the harsh elements. In addition to painting, this cost includes repairing areas of concrete block and window screening and repairs. Jean Louis has received multiple estimates and \$26,000 reflects the best value. The estimate also includes painting the primary school building, a showcase of the MFO campus to both the local community and our visitors.

If you are interested in helping us out with these projects we are grateful! Please also let us know if you need additional information – you can reach us at helpthechildren@mfofoundation.org.



Tchi Tchi and Elivenson

Questions? Ready to help! Contact us today
at helpthechildren@mfofoundation.org



Meklyn in her 5th grade class

Supplies Arrive in Haiti with help from Partners!

Men anpil chay pa lou - With many hands the load is not heavy. That was certainly true of our recent MFO supply shipment! Thanks to your generous contributions 146 boxes containing mostly clothes and shoes arrived in Haiti in early June. The effort would not have been possible without the help of several groups including Physicians for Peace, the Parish Twinning Program of the Americas and St. Mary's Catholic Church in Suffolk, VA. Jean Louis and several of the boys took two trucks to Port au Prince to collect the boxes. They are grateful that the treasurers have arrived in time for summer which include school supplies to help get things off to a great start for next year! We are looking at new ways to coordinate our supply projects – stay tuned to learn more about the new requirements as our next shipment dates are settled. Your group traveling to MFO can directly help by bringing specific needed items. Mary the Foundation's Executive Director has a list! helpthechildren@mfofoundation.org Mesi Anpil! Thank you very much to all!

Meet Some of Our Boys!

learn how to sponsor a child at www.mfofoundation.org

Meet Walno - a recent high school graduate. He looks forward to attending the University of Notre Dame Hinche next year and starting his studies in Bio-Science. He has been at the orphanage since our beginning, 15 years ago. Walno is grateful for the support and hope he receives from MFO that allows him to achieve his dream of being educated. Walno has always tutored other MFO kids in math, as that is his best subject.



Walno (left), with friend Robensly



Gilbersson (left), playing cards with Oday

We are pleased to introduce you to Gilbersson – a 12 year old 5th grader who is first in his computer class and loves to solve puzzles of all kinds! Gilbersson loves electronics and he enjoys playing cards with his good buddy Oday and typical of a 12 year old tries to act older than he is! He studies hard but is looking forward to the summer break where he will help with everyday chores and continue his quest to be the master of all card games!

1500 is our Magic Number

Rick Martin, Treasurer, Maison Fortuné Orphanage Foundation

The Maison Fortuné Orphanage Foundation Board of Directors recently approved the Fiscal Year 2015 - 2016 budget. We will start our new fiscal year on July 1, 2015 and it will run through June 30, 2016. The Board of Directors approved a budget of \$437,350 that provides for basic operating funds to feed, clothe, and educate the 216 children at Maison Fortuné. It does not cover special projects or emergency requirements that occur during the year, some of which are mentioned in this newsletter in other articles. Most of our donated funds come from individuals or through various organizations in lump sums. The challenge for the MFO Foundation is to have consistent cash flow coming in so we can pay our monthly bills. The bills range from about \$22,000 to \$32,000 depending on what is due during any given month. We certainly appreciate all funding from all sources. It would take 1500 donors providing \$25 per month (\$450,000) throughout the year to cover all our costs, plus a little extra for emergencies. If you are already giving \$25 a month or more, thank you for your generous donation. We count on you to continue

supporting the children of Maison Fortuné. If you would like to start donating you can do it through our website using PayPal, or through the Combined Federal Campaign (#12234), or with a check directly to our Foundation address in this newsletter. The Foundation reaches out across Virginia as well many locations including Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York, and California, so we know that 1500 supporters is achievable! The Foundation has set a goal of this year to reach out to more donors but at a minimum, bringing in at least 1500 donors providing \$25 a month. We ask you to consider donating at this level (or more if you can do it) and then reaching out to at least one friend and ask them to donate \$25 per month. If your place of work accepts donation matching, we would encourage you to ask your business to also donate. The Foundation truly appreciates those who are already donating, and we ask all other readers to join us in the challenge to bring in new donors and meet our goal of monthly donation commitments of \$25 from 1500 people!

Save the Date for the Tap! Tap! Festival

Join us for the inaugural
TAP! TAP! Craft Beer Festival

August 29th from 2:00pm - 7:00pm
Greenbrier Farms | 225 Sign Pine Road in Chesapeake, VA.

TAP! TAP! will have unlimited tastings of over 20 craft and traditional beers.
Bring your growler or buy one at TAP! TAP! and fill it for \$10.

Food will be provided by specialty food trucks and TAP! TAP! your feet to the sounds
of Jesse Chong / Ju Ju Drums / Seth Stainback & Roosterfoot.

TAP! TAP! may get hot, so you may want to consider buying a table and 10 tickets under our tent.
Beer isn't your beverage of choice? Try a complimentary sample of our signature Caribbean Rum
Punch that we will have available to purchase by the glass. Greenbrier Farms has plenty of shaded
areas so bring a chair and enjoy.

TAP! TAP! Tickets and more information can be found online at www.taptapfest.org.
Event sponsorships are also available, contact taptap@mfofoundation.org for more information.
All proceeds will benefit the children of Maison Fortune Orphanage.

A tap-tap is a
taxi-bus in Haiti!

Connect with us on Social Media!

That's right, friends - Maison Fortuné Orphanage is on social media!

Stay up to date on the latest MFO news, photos and announcements via our Facebook,
Instagram and Twitter pages.

We would love to see your favorite MFO memories. Post your pictures on social media
and be sure to use #maisonfortune to share them with the MFO community!

Here's how to find us:

Facebook - Maison Fortuné Orphanage Foundation

Instagram - Maison Fortuné Orphanage / @MaisonFortune

Twitter - Maison Fortuné / @MaisonFortune



Published quarterly by the Maison
Fortuné Orphanage Foundation, Inc.,
a registered 501(c)(3) organization, to
report progress of the orphanage in
Hinche, Haiti.

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