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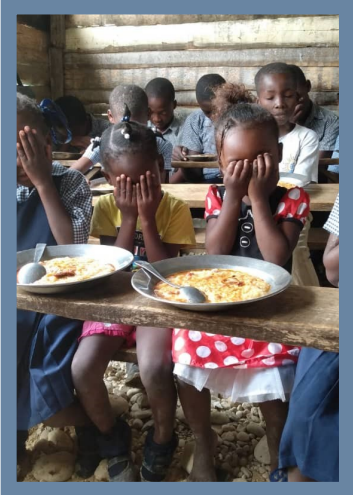
“God Hasn’t Told Us to Stop”

By Candi Cook

In Haiti, most school doors opened on September 11th. As we enter the 2023-24 school year, Trinity HOPE is celebrating another big milestone. Since 1999 we have been feeding hungry souls in Haiti, and this marks our **25th year of ministry**. During these 25 years, Trinity HOPE has provided over 68 million meals to children throughout Haiti, and currently we serve about 1.2 million meals each month.

Our founder, John Hall, set out to feed 42 children at one school. He often said, **“God told us to feed kids in Haiti in 1999, and he hasn’t told us to stop.”** For those of us who carry on this work, those words ring in our ears. We know and believe that the meals received are not just life-saving sustenance, but those meals also allow children to retain what they are learning in school.

Our core belief is that bringing the Good News of the Gospel to children surrounded by so much strife is showing the love and mercy Jesus has for them. When they are fed, the children can learn and retain scripture that will bring them comfort and direction. They are also retaining more of the lessons they learn in school which makes them employable, critical thinkers as



adults. This is ultimately what will begin to break the generations of poverty and political unrest.

In these past 25 years, Trinity HOPE has seen many crises in Haiti. By the Grace of God, we have weathered earthquakes, hurricanes, and political unrest. Yet, in that time we have also watched children come to know Jesus, have seen their physical transformation as they are provided a consistent, nutritious source of food, and we have even heard stories of children so impacted by the experience they have in school that they grow up to become teachers, or to pastor fellow believers.

Though we see the fruit of our work, it is not yet complete. With nearly 190 schools now on our waiting list, we see there is still so much more to do.

Trinity HOPE’s work in Haiti is being administered mightily by 35 Haitian Feeding Program Directors. These men and women are now serving their community as they live through one of the most challenging times Haiti has ever seen. The political unrest and gang violence continues to make life in Haiti unpredictable, dangerous, and is driving inflation throughout the nation.

God Hasn't Told Us to Stop (*Continued*)

Families are more in need now than they have ever been before, and this situation is creating drastic changes in communities.

Last year, we saw 9 schools close their doors. 7 of those schools closed because the danger of traveling to school was too great, and families were migrating to other areas of the country. In our August board meeting, our Board of Directors voted to replace the schools that closed with other schools on our waiting list, allowing us to start 8 new schools this year. Today, Trinity HOPE is providing over 60,000 meals to children in 270 Christian schools each day.

We continually see God's provision and protection over this ministry. The closing of the schools was timely because, as families migrate out of the Port-au-Prince area, we are seeing school attendance in other areas increase significantly. Some schools currently in the feeding program have doubled in size as families seek safer homes.

Coming into year 25, we are more resolute than ever that we must persevere. Romans 5 tells us that perseverance produces

character and character produces HOPE. We see this every day through our brothers and sisters in Haiti. Their resilience, perseverance, and tenacity show us their character. They continue this work in hard times, and bring HOPE to the children at the schools we serve. I'm reminded of one feeding program director who told me the children call him "the man with the food," and I know this gift, made possible through your generosity, matters more than any of us can fathom. It matters to the children, it matters to the communities, and it matters to the Kingdom. Thank you for your continued trust and support. All glory be to God!



Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us
Romans 5:3-5



You probably know them as a cellphone repair company, but the reality is that Asurion, LLC is so much more. They provide protection over all of your major technology purchases and seek to improve your life by keeping your needed technology functioning. This civic minded corporation, based in Nashville, TN, is impacting the global landscape by improving communications for all those they reach. Last month, Asurion, LLC significantly impacted the daily work of Trinity HOPE. They generously donated 25 iPhones and 25 Chromebooks to our feeding program directors (FPD's) in Haiti. In a country where technology is inconsistent and often too expensive, this donation will significantly impact the FPD's ability to communicate with staff and volunteers, will enhance the quality of the photographs sponsors receive, and will even improve their ability to communicate with their family in other countries. The Feeding Program Directors were able to choose either a phone or a Chromebook based on their greatest need. Moving forward, we hope to continue this partnership and keep our staff up to date with technology as things change. THANK YOU Asurion, LLC, for your generosity.



Transparency - Even in Hard Times

By Keith Logan

Trinity HOPE is 100% committed to full transparency in everything we do. That's an easy statement to make when everything is going well. However, the real test is how one acts when things are not going as planned and a serious problem occurs. That is why this is one of the most difficult articles I've ever had to write. I am extremely saddened to share that during this last school year ('22-'23), we discovered in one of our districts a Feeding Program Director, who is also an ordained senior pastor, orchestrated a plan of collusion and theft. This individual worked in conjunction with the school administrator to intentionally overstate the school's attendance. Their efforts led to additional money for food being sent to Haiti, which they stole and used for personal gain. They further falsified other reports and receipts to bypass our controls and reconciliation processes.

As soon as I became aware of the situation, our Haitian supervisor and I started an immediate investigation, which led me to make an urgent trip to Haiti to have multiple face-to-face meetings. The end result was that I immediately terminated the individual from Trinity HOPE's employment and met with the leadership of the associated church body to make them aware of the scheme in which one of their senior pastors was involved. Once I terminated the individual, we further investigated the depth of the scheme and determined more than one school was involved. Fortunately, our investigation led me to confidently believe that this serious violation was limited to this one district (out of 14 total districts). We have taken appropriate disciplinary action against those school directors that participated in the scheme, and have had very strong conversations with all the school administrators in the affected district to reinforce the fact that any type of unethical behavior will never be tolerated. We have also instituted changes to our reconciliation protocols, and have trained every team member on those expectations.

As maddening and disappointing as this is for me personally, I am reminded that Satan is alive, and the sin of temptation can occur at any time with anyone. That is especially true in a country like Haiti, where corruption is the norm and people are often encouraged to benefit themselves at the expense of others. That certainly does not warrant or justify unethical actions, and as a ministry, we will *never* tolerate such behavior. We will continue to build more rigorous controls and proactively investigate any suspicions immediately upon awareness. We know God hates sin, but it is part of this fallen world. We trust God to lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. Our commitment is that we will continue to glorify God with every dollar He entrusts with us and will remain 100% transparent in everything we do. Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Feeding Program Director Spotlight

Sem Dieuedonne started with Trinity HOPE during the 2021-22 school year. Sem is a native Haitian now living in Port-au-Prince. He has four brothers and two sisters and he is the youngest boy in the family. Sem has a university degree in accounting which translates to diligence in his work and strong communication skills! He is a true blessing to Trinity HOPE.

Sem is not yet married, so he lives alone. He grew up in a Christian family, which is something we do not hear a lot in Haiti. He plays guitar and sings in several church choirs. He has done so since age 10!

Sem's future goals include ministry. He is currently studying theology and is preaching the word of God. He not only serves as a singer in his church, but is putting his accounting

degree to use to serve as their finance officer.

With all of the possible directions Sem could go in his career, he chose to work for Trinity HOPE. In his words, "I like this ministry, I like to work with children and share the food with them. The most interesting thing about the work is the sharing of the love of God and to see their joy." He lives his life by his favorite scripture, 2 Corinthians 5:7 "For we walk by faith, not by sight." He says his faith never waivers, and he shares that through his service to others.



August Workshop in Haiti

Since 2020, our mission trips to Haiti have been paused. This started during the pandemic and continues because of the danger Haiti now experiences, with up to 80% of the capital city, Port au Prince, being totally controlled by gangs. However, by the grace of God, three members of the Trinity HOPE United States team were able to safely travel to Haiti in late August to administer a training workshop to all the Haitian Feeding Program Directors. To avoid any security concerns, the team avoided Port au Prince and split the workshop into two sessions: one in the city of Cap Haitian for everyone on the north side of the country, and one in the city of Jacmel for everyone on the south side of the country.

The training workshop is an incredibly valuable time for the 35 Haitian employees to come together to understand the changes we made for the upcoming school year, receive additional training on how to do their jobs more efficiently, and have an opportunity to interact with their peers. It's a time of intense learning, team building, and laughter. It's also a time to worship God together in prayer and song.

It is a time when we are reminded that we are one team, serving one Kingdom. In addition to the procedural training and fellowship, our team always returns home humbled by the blessings we receive in worship with our Haitian brothers and sisters. Listening to them praise God each day, singing familiar hymns in their native tongue, and experiencing the deep and reverent prayer during the daily worship is a gift we will never take for granted. We are so grateful God made the way for us to be together. Please add these amazing saints to your daily prayers.