

SionFonds

Helping Haitians to help themselves through educational and community sponsorships.



Beginning our third year, we at SionFonds are very proud of our accomplishments of the last two years; Sending hundreds of children to school and involving communities and people all over the world in helping rural Haitians. Sionfonds has been an incredible gift to everyone involved. The communities we serve are given hope for a better future. Our donors and volunteers are given opportunities to make a tangible difference in Haiti and the world. For me, Sionfonds, has been a life changing, heart opening, affirmation of human nature and our desire to help each other. Thanks to everyone involved in SionFonds in America, Europe and Haiti. With your support we will continue to grow in the support we give to rural Haitians to help themselves, we cannot do it without your support.

sincerely, Annie Blackstone, U.S. Director of SionFonds

Accomplishments

2006/2007

- Again last school year, we provided scholarships to 800 children in the rural Haitian villages of Maisson, Cavillon and Belle Anse
- SionFonds administers schools in Maisson and Cavillon where children attend for free. We also maintain an office in Belle Anse.
- Devon Sedrick age 14 of Idaho completed his requirements for becoming an Eagle scout by bringing 450 pounds of school supplies and shoes, to our school in Cavillon
- Kaiser elementary school in Oakland Ca. Held a shoe drive for the children of Haiti.
- We formed relationships with Fonkoze and USAID in order to further serve Belle Anse.

• WITH YOUR SUPPORT, SIONFONDS GOALS FOR THE 2007 2008 SCHOOL YEAR ARE;



- Continue to provide educational sponsorships to the children already in our program. Assist families we cannot help to find other sources of funding for their children's tuition through our relationships with micro lending groups operating in Haiti, such as USAID and Fonkoze .
- Begin construction on a new school to replace the one pictured here in Maisson. 150 children attend this school each year.
- Bring job training and industry to Belle Anse. We are implementing a (cont)

GOALS, CONTINUED

program to train young women to operate pedal powered sewing machines. Creating sewing circles that then take on industrial sewing projects, generating much needed income to the region.

- April 10th to the 17th we will take our first medical crew consisting of Doctors, Dentists and chiropractors to Haiti. setting up a clinic in Belle Anse. Throughout the year we will be seeking donations of medical supplies and equipment.
- Morganstar communication will be making a short documentary about SionFonds, Foyer De Sion Orphanage and Guesno and Majorie Mardy.



The new school year starts in September. Hundreds of Haitian Children are hoping to attend school. With your help they can. Please sponsor a child (\$130) or make a donation of any amount to SionFonds today.

HAITI AT A GLANCE:

The country of Haiti has a population of just over 8 million people.

The unemployment rate is a staggering 80 percent.

The majority of the Haitian population lives on less than \$1 a day, with the median income being only about \$60 a year. Only 25 percent of the population has access to safe drinking water, and less than 30 percent of the population has access to adequate sanitation.

Just under half of the population is literate. In addition, the average life expectancy for Haitians is less than 50 years.

All of this makes Haiti the most impoverished country in the Western hemisphere, and children are hit especially hard by the widespread poverty:

- Of the just over **8.2 million** people who live in Haiti, children under the age of 18 make up almost half of the population.
- There are **1.2 million** children under the age of 5. Over half of these children suffer from malnutrition.
- Only **25 percent** of Haitian children have the vaccines they need to survive, making Haiti the country with the lowest vaccination rate in the world.
- The country of Haiti spends **\$21** per child for public and private health care, compared to **\$38** per child in sub-Saharan Africa and **\$202** per child in Latin America.
- The infant mortality rate in Haiti is **76** of every **1,000** live births, more than twice that of any other country in the Western Hemisphere.
- Only **53 percent** of Haitian children ages 6 to 12 are enrolled in school.
- Only **14 percent** of Haitian children ages 13 to 18 are enrolled in school.
- Only **43 percent** of students entering first grade ever reach the fifth grade, and only **29 percent** ever make it to sixth grade.
- Only **38** out of **1,000** children who enter the first year of primary school finish secondary school.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DONATIONS, SPONSORSHIPS, VOLUNTEERING, AND TRIPS TO HAITI CONTACT

Annie Blackstone at ablackstone@earthlink.net or phone 510-301-0705

Donations can be made by paypal at our webpage foyerdesion.org (sionfonds tab) or

Send checks to SionFonds c/o Annie Blackstone P.O. box 79 Canyon Ca. 94516

SionFonds is a non-profit organization with 501 c 3 tax exempt status

