



A Commitment to Serve the Nations

Dear Friends, Family & Church Congregations,

December 2016

It is with great joy and some sadness but with much reflection that I write HELPS International's year end newsletter as another year has come to a close. HELPS was able to fulfill most of what we set out to accomplish at the beginning of 2016. As some of you may know, the HELPS team did not go to Haiti in 2016. We decided not to travel after the loss of Fenold, our beloved Haitian translator, manager and friend last year May 2015, leaving his wife Yvanne, son Nelson and his daughter Bethsheba, who was born just weeks before her daddy past away. Please keep Fenold's family in your prayers and if you would like to support them you can give to the widows & orphans fund. HELPS decided that we would not go to Haiti but continue to support the work / ministry there from Canada. The HELPS team has spent time over this past year reflecting on what HELPS has done in Haiti over the past 5 years since the earthquake and in what capacity HELPS will serve in Haiti in the coming years.



Here are some of the ministry areas that HELPS was able to contribute help in Haiti in 2016:

HELPS gave to Mission Haiti - Children's Home in Saintard \$1,000 USD which will help Phyllis Newby care for the 53 children in the Children's Home. It is such a blessing to be able to give to the children's home. We have been able to watch many of the kids grow up from infancy to fine young adults over the 15 plus years we have been in Haiti. It is amazing how God has provided for them over these years.

HELPS also gave \$500 USD to our girl's home in Saintard where five young ladies (18-22) live and are learning life skills. They also go to high school with several of them graduating this spring 2017.

HELPS created a Widows & Orphan Fund in 2015 to help support families that lose one or both adults in the family. This year we helped Fenold's family by providing \$400 USD to help his son with school fees and to supply food for mom and the kids.



HELPS has been raising \$8,200 USD over the last several years to help a church in LaRoche, which is in the south of Haiti in the mountains, to replace their roof on their church structure which had collapsed in a hurricane in 2011. HELPS released the \$8,200 USD to the church leaders in January of this year to put their



new steel roof on the church structure (which needed to be reinforced to hold the steel roof based on the engineers reports we received). It took an extra year for the congregation to raise the funds and get the work done. The new steel roof was put on the Church several weeks after receiving the funds.

HELPS would like to thank the Church of God in Veron, BC and those individuals that gave for this new steel roof to be put on the church in LaRoche, Haiti. It took awhile to complete this project, but it was done in Haiti time. The Church in LaRoche is very thankful to all who gave. Praise the Lord the new roof survived Hurricane Matthew!

HELPS would like to update all of you in regards to the recent Hurricane Matthew that ravaged the southern part of Haiti in October. The hurricane did devastating damage to large portions of the population in the south. Over 34 churches and their communities which HELPS has worked with over the last four years have had their church structures and homes collapse and blown away, and many homes and business have lost their roofs. This area of Haiti is very lush with trees. Many of the trees have fallen and a large number of livestock were killed. The Haitian government reported that over 1,000 people were killed in this hurricane. HELPS was able to raise over \$13,500 CAD which was taken to Haiti to Phyllis Newby / Mission Haiti in mid November to help with the relief of the 34 churches and their communities in the south. HELPS and Mission Haiti would like to thank the many generous individuals and churches for their outpouring of love to the very desperate needs of the Haitian people in the last few months. HELPS thanks you and the people of Haiti thank you.

I am always amazed by how much is accomplished when people come together and give a little. If you would like to help HELPS carry on its work in Haiti we need your on going support with our 2017 CARE Projects:

1. Mission Haiti Childrens's Home in Saintard \$2,000 CAD
2. Girls Home in Saintard \$700 CAD
3. Widows & Orphans Fund \$1,350
4. Pastoral Care Fund \$950 CAD
5. Haiti Natural Disaster Relief Fund

To help HELPS carry on its work in Haiti you can send your donations to HELPS International - 49 Masterson Dr. St.Catharines, Ontario L2T 3P2



Brothers & Sisters, please continue to pray for the ministry work in Haiti, for the churches and the other ministries working there. Friends, we are a blessed people. God has blessed us with so much and in doing so He has given us the ability to bless others. I am so thankful for this gift that He has given us and so thankful for all of you, your families and the churches that have generously given of their time, resources and prayers for the people in Haiti in 2016. Let us continue to partner together in 2017 to serve Him and all His people.

Have a wonderful Christmas and an awesome New Year!

Blessings to you and your families!

Your friend & brother in Christ,

Chuck Kerr
Director
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