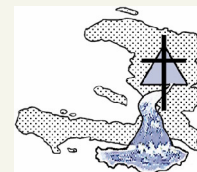


Sous Espwa (Hope)

C R C N A M I N I S T R I E S I N H A I T I



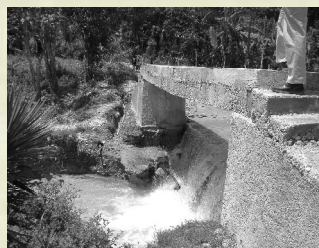
Greetings from the Haiti field of Sous Espwa (Source of Hope), the combined ministries of the Christian Reformed Church of North America! We thank you friends, family, Ministry-share givers, and former Sous Espwa staff for your prayers, support, and encouragement of God's work in Haiti. We are thrilled that you are a part of this and know you are appreciated! God bless!

W o r k i n g f o r t h e L o r d

This year we see Caspar and Leanne Geisterfer taking on a new role within the CRC ministries, as they leave the Haiti field after 13 years. Their new home will be Honduras where Caspar has accepted a position with CRWM. Leanne continues her work. Though we miss them, we are looking forward to how God will use them in Honduras. Keep them in your prayers as they move.

As hurricanes and tropical storms tore across Haiti recently, we were able to see God at work. Even through all the storms, neighbors were helping out neighbors. Meyer community members had already been working together even before the storms rolled through. Ministry for Christian Development (MCD), under the leadership of Pastor Lemete, has been working in Meyer for over 4 years. During the storms many homes and crops were destroyed.

money, they worked all the harder in order to complete the bridge they had promised the community. Six churches from the com-



Foot bridge built by community members in Meyer with MCD

the project, despite the obstacles. It is said by those in development that "development is something we can't do for the people but they have to do it themselves."

MCD continues its work of developing school, church, and neighborhood leaders in Pignon, Meyer, and Kenskof. Their diaconal ministries pave the way for other projects that benefit communities, in honoring God with their abilities.

Picture and article by Jenny LeMahieu

The praise the community shared was that the recently completed foot bridge had not been destroyed! After the disappointment of the engineer quitting and stealing

munity were involved with the work. They sacrificed much for the benefit of others. This was accomplished 100% by the motivation of MCD and the community members themselves! They made the decision to continue

"Development is something we can't do for the people, but they have to do it themselves."

A D D R E S S E S :



CANADA

3475 Mainway PO BOX 5070
Burlington ON L7R 3Y8
1-800-730-3490

USA

2850 Kalamazoo Ave
Grand Rapids, MI 49560
1-877-279-9994

Email:
sousespwa@fastmail.fm

Q u i s q u e y a S t u d e n t s S h a r e

The parents just attended their first parent - teacher conferences. The staff can easily report on academic growth since it can be measured by tests, quizzes, and the Stanford Achievement Test. But how do we measure the spiritual growth, since we teach the whole child? What are evidences their journey of learning shows they are continuing their growth in the Lord?

It is exciting to see students involved in chapel each week with

songs of praise, prayers, and petitions to our God. Leading others in worship give evidence of the students' priorities in their lives. Standing up for Jesus in front of their peers is not easy. But it shows they are being a witness, a living letter read by all to see.

I always appreciate it when students come back to school after graduation and describe what is happening in their lives. Though many continue

their education in North America, their hearts' desire is to make a difference in Haiti. Some have set up foundations to help Haitian children attend school, others are operating businesses on Christian principles. They have been taught that the whole world belongs to God and they see they can make a difference. They are followers of Jesus wherever the Lord has planted them.

Article by Tony De Koter

The People Bridger

Sous Espwa took an active step toward meeting the Christian Reformed Church's goal of "transcending boundaries" by hiring Henry Alexis. He was hired to assist Sous Espwa in orientating, engaging, and supporting all service and learning teams, visitors, volunteers and interns coming to Haiti. This is to bridge the gap between Sous Espwa's partner organizations and visitors from outside Haiti.

Alexis spent most of his life in

Port-au-Prince. After completing his high school education, he studied to be an Archivist and Accountant at Quisqueya University. He worked with USAID in many different capacities. He is married to Obedla, and has three boys, ages 2-12.

He brings a fresh new perspective to the work at Sous Espwa. He especially enjoys the teamwork and structure found at Sous Espwa. He visits the work of the partners, and translates for

teams and visitors. Relationships excite and encourage him at work. As he learns more about the partners, he will be able to match a visiting group's need, working along-side them to serve the Haitian partner. Ultimately, he wants to see God's transforming work take place within communities and individuals where Sous Espwa is active. He hopes that as a Bridger he will be a vehicle and tool for such change.

Article by Ruth Van Dam



Alexis checking out SKDE's neighborhood of Molione

A new Initiative



Lesley Millar in Canada fundraising to return to Haiti in Dec 2008.

When Lesley Millar decided to quit her accounting job for a year to volunteer with CRWM, she did not really know what she was getting herself into. As a new Christian, eager to see how God could use her in a different environment, she came timidly to Haiti.

She was soon challenged by learning Creole, culture, and work within a Christian environment. All of these she embraced with open arms,

trusting that God would provide for all her needs.

Several months after she arrived, a visit from Rev. Paul Mpindi challenged her even more, as Back to God Ministries International and Christian Reformed World Missions wanted to start a follow-up center for those who respond to the radio ministry. She was asked to help set up the administrative aspect of this center where materials and

discipleship will be available.

After much prayer, Lesley decided to accept the two year position, working to set up a follow-up center, working with both BTGMI and CRWM in a collaborated effort. Her position will be crucial in allowing materials and ministries be closer to the Haitian population. Lift up Lesley and the BTGMI as they start on this new venture.

Article by Jenny LeMahieu

Taking a stand

In recent years, young people have been very focused on sex. The result has been that many youth in Haiti have contracted HIV/AIDS. Faced with this moral and health issue, CRWRC, along with Haitian partner organizations, are committed to help young people and married couples gain access to more

information about the transmission of the virus, symptoms and prevention. For the past four years, the message has been strong in promoting sexual abstinence until marriage and faithfulness to one's spouse. The message has shown its fruit by a recent public gathering of more than 1,000 young people

promising to stay pure until marriage. "I'm making my decision, my method of protection is sexual abstinence until marriage" "The only method that guarantees protection against STD, HIV/AIDS and pregnancy is abstinence." Praise God for these personal commitments!

Article by Jackson Gabelus

"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God makes it grow."
1 Corinthians 3:6

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.