



The Foundation for the Children of Haiti

Changing minds, changing hearts, changing lives since 1981

March 2025

My Dear Friends,

In early February I had a brief but joyful visit to Vancouver and Victoria. As I think about my time there, I thank God for the friends I was able to be with.

I thank all of you for your encouragement and support. You reminded me of how much I have to be grateful for.

The cruelty in Haiti continues to worsen, leaving people suffering and in terror. As most of you know, I had to leave the country in November (on a US military flight) because the gangs were fighting for control of the neighbourhood where I live.

The Port au Prince airport remains closed, so I am now living with my sister in Florida. I am in touch with the Foundation's staff on a daily basis and continue to be involved as if I was there, although it is very hard to be away from my country and the people I love.

Despite what is going on, we do not let discouragement overtake us. We continue to focus on doing all we can to support those who look to the Foundation for care and comfort. I am praying for better days in Haiti so I can return.

We thank God for keeping the staff, children, and patients safe in the midst of the danger. Through His grace, and your support, all activities continue to operate. Even with the challenges of the past 5 years we have been able to take advantage of opportunities to expand and strengthen our work.

Thank you for your prayers and generosity. We hope you know how important you are to us.

With love, *Gladys*





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Key Challenge – Extreme Cost of Living

FCH's main challenge continues to be dealing with the incredibly high and increasing cost of day-to-day necessities, created by ongoing supply disruptions.

The gangs that control Port au Prince steal goods, force delivery drivers to pay exorbitant "passing fees", and interrupt travel in the city directly through roadblocks, and indirectly by the constant threat of violence.

In the face of shortages of food supplies, it has been a huge advantage for FCH to have funds on hand as items become available.

We can't thank you enough for your faithful support which has allowed FCH to continue providing for the children under its care during these very difficult times.



Moving Forward in the Face of Adversity

Despite the chaos, violence, and out of control increase in the cost of daily necessities, thanks to your generous support FCH has been able to undertake a number of important projects to enhance its activities and make operations more sustainable

Projects since 2020

- Hope Hospital solar power: phase 1 (2020-21), phase 2 (2022-23), phase 3 (new wing 2024).
- New wing at Hope Hospital 2023-24; finishing & furnishing of 18 new rooms is now underway.
- Mussotte elementary annex expansion (2024) which made room for 30 new students.
- 3 new dialysis machines for Hope Hospital (2024).
- C-Tech new dorms (2022, 2025).
- C-Tech new classrooms and medical clinic (2023-2024).
- Middle school at Village (2022).
- High school at Village (starting with grade 10 in 2024/2025).

Thank you for helping FCH continue its legacy of making a difference in Haiti.



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Update on the Children's Village

Despite the turmoil all around, the Children's Village continues to thrive

- ✓ Rainbow of Love residence is home to 73 children (toddlers to 17 years old).
- ✓ Twenty-three children and adults live at Hope Home: 18 permanent residents and 5 neighbourhood children with special needs who are at Hope Home part time to attend the elementary school and provide respite for their parents.
- ✓ The Village school has 290 students attending Kindergarten to grade 10. Enrollment includes children living at Rainbow of Love, several Hope Home residents attending the special education program, and about 180 children from the neighbourhood.
- ✓ Enrollment of neighbourhood children has increased by 15-20 children this year.
- ✓ In 2022 the Village school added grades 7-9 (middle school). Due to the very high cost of attending a local high school, for the 2024/2025 school year the Village school added grade 10, with 14 RoL children in this class. The school will add grade 11 next year, and grade 12 in 2026/2027 to accommodate the students as they progress.
- ✓ FCH is reaching out to the community around the Children's Village by starting a food supplement program for families in need.
- ✓ FCH has started a program to assist RoL grads in their transition from life at the Village to independent living.



Above: Mom from the neighborhood picks up food supplements.

Above right: Lunch time at the Village.

Below right: Special Ed class at the Village school.



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Update on the Mussotte School

Mussotte Elementary continues to serve a rural area with few schools

- With the completion of the annex expansion last fall, enrollment at Mussotte elementary is now 290 students, up from 260 last year.
- Due to a lack of schools in the area, FCH is considering adding middle school grades. Since the school is already at maximum capacity, middle school grades could be accommodated by having two sessions each day, for instance, K-6 in the morning and grades 6-9 in the afternoon.



Above: Some of the staff and students at Mussotte elementary school.

Below: Mussotte School buildings. (Recently expanded annex on the left.)





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C-Tech Update

Enrollment up as C-Tech continues to prepare young adults for the future

- ✓ 230 students are enrolled at C-Tech this year, up from 185 last year. 64 students live in the on-campus residence.
- ✓ 84 students are in the nursing program, 63 in IT / computer networking, 33 in electronics (electricians, solar power), 40 studying to be lab techs, and 10 in the admin assistant program.
- ✓ In February, a graduation ceremony was held for 16 Nursing students and 16 in the electronics program who completed their studies last December.
- ✓ C-Tech electronics students are working on installing an upgraded solar power system on the campus.
- ✓ C-Tech is in the process of building a new residence to house an additional 18 students.
- ✓ A workshop for the electronics and lab tech programs is also underway.
- ✓ FCH has equipment for the lab tech workshop, but these items are in Port au Prince and can't be transported to C-Tech due to gang control of the road to Mussotte.



Above left: C-Tech nurses in training.

Above right: Electronics students installing solar panels at C-Tech.

Below right: New building at C-Tech under construction.





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Update on Hope Hospital

- Hope Hospital continues to operate despite the turmoil and violence in Port au Prince.
- Thankfully, the hospital is located in one of the few relatively calm areas in the city.
- The closure of most hospitals and clinics in the city has placed an increased demand on Hope Hospital. Last year the hospital treated over 35,000 patients.
- Finishing work is underway on a new 18 bed wing at the hospital. Rooms are being completed and opened gradually and will provide much needed additional capacity.
- When it is finished, the new wing will include a neonatal intensive care unit with 10 incubators.



Picture of Hope Hospital (left).

New wing is under the solar panel canopy on the right.

The hospital will have a total of 82 beds after the new wing is fully completed.

The solar power system – installed between 2021 and 2024 – has allowed the hospital to maintain full operations despite the absence of electricity from the city grid.

Update on the Security Situation in Port au Prince

- Gangs control 85% of Port-au-Prince and in recent months have launched attacks on previously peaceful communities in a bid to seize more territory.
- Over 5,600 people were killed in Port au Prince last year (that's over 15 people every day).
- The U.N. migration agency says internal displacement in Haiti, caused by gang violence, has tripled over the last year and now surpasses 1 million people.
- Port au Prince airport remains closed after an incident in early November where gangs shot at a commercial flight as it landed. The operation of the main seaport has also been seriously disrupted by gang violence.
- Gangs control the major highways in and out of Port au Prince: Route 2, the only access to the south, and Routes 1 & 3 to the north.
- Gangs control the movement of goods throughout the country, frequently charging trucks "passing fees" or stealing their cargo. This has driven constant shortages of daily necessities and a massive increase in prices.
- 750 Kenyan police officers are in Haiti to bolster the Haitian police, however the force is badly outgunned and outmanned by the gangs.
- Through God's grace, the neighborhood where the Children's Village and Hope Hospital are located has remained relatively calm to this point.



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Updates: New Dialysis Machines and Students to C-Tech

In our 2024 year-end newsletter we reported two difficult situations created by the gang violence in Haiti:

Delivery of Dialysis Machines

In the fall of 2024 three new dialysis machines were purchased to replace machines that had broken down, leaving Hope Hospital with only 1 working machine.

However, due to the closure of the Port au Prince airport, the new machines were stuck in Florida.

We are pleased to report that the machines are now at Hope Hospital.

In January, FCH was able to arrange for Missionary Flights International to fly the machines to Cap Hatien on the north coast of Haiti. FCH then found a trucker who was able to make the dangerous 250 km trip to Hope Hospital in Port au Prince through gang-controlled territory.

In normal times, the manufacturer would send techs to Haiti to set up the machines and train staff. However, due to the closure of the airport and violence in Port au Prince this is not possible. FCH is trying to find local technicians to assist in getting the new machines operational.

Getting high school grads from Rainbow of Love to C-Tech

Six Rainbow of Love teens who graduated from high school in June 2024 enrolled at C-Tech in the fall but were unable to travel from Port au Prince to Mussotte due to extreme danger on gang-controlled highways.

Fortunately, in January the students made their way to C-Tech by taking a local bus to the southwestern corner of Port au Prince. Just before reaching the very dangerous gang area of Carrefour, they hired 6 motorcycles to take each of the students on a harrowing trip along dirt roads in the mountains to a small community west of Carrefour, then getting a bus to Mussotte.

A dangerous and expensive way to get to college, but through God's grace they all arrived safely.



New Dialysis Machines at Hope Hospital



Six grads: Now safely at C-Tech