

My Dear Friends,

I write this letter to you from Florida, where I have been since mid-March when the situation in Port au Prince became too dangerous for me to remain in Haiti. It's hard to explain how painful it is to be away from my home, unable to be with the children and staff at FCH.

Being in Florida does not change my work routine because – for the last 2 years – I mainly worked from home as it has been too dangerous to travel within Port au Prince. I am grateful for the technology which allows me to keep in close contact with our staff at the Children's Village, Hope Hospital, and our schools.

I am praying that something will happen soon to contain the gangs and restore some order to Port au Prince, allowing me to return home.

Through God's mercy, the staff and children in Haiti remain safe. We are so grateful to the Lord for keeping a door open for us to get food despite the ongoing scarcity. ***And we thank you for your generosity in providing the funds that allow us to purchase food as it becomes available.***

With your help we have been able to keep our work going: educating and caring for children, providing healthcare to Haitians in need, and equipping young adults for a productive life at C-Tech.

***Despite the heavy burden we carry, we are comforted knowing that you stand with us. I feel blessed, in spite of the stress, when I witness what God is doing through FCH.***

With Love,

*Gladys*

### Update on Conditions in Haiti

Gangs still control most of Port au Prince, kidnapping, looting, taking over and destroying businesses, schools, hospitals. Violence in many areas of Port au Prince is a daily occurrence.

The Haitian government is not functioning, even with the recently appointed interim "Governing Council". In early May, the coalition of gangs that control the city demanded a position on the Council. When refused, they attacked several neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince, burning homes and exchanging gunfire with police for hours as hundreds of residents were forced to flee the violence.

The port and airport are still closed, causing a shortage of all daily requirements such as food, medicine, fuel, and cleaning products. FCH keeps in constant contact with its suppliers, and purchases items as they become available. However, due to the chronic shortages, supplies are very limited and prices are exorbitant.

Thankfully, the neighborhood where the Children's Village and Hope Hospital are located has remained relatively calm.

There is still talk of an international police force intervening in Haiti, but to date this deployment has not started.



***Foundation for the Children of Haiti (“FCH”) Overview***

Despite the turmoil plaguing Haiti, by the grace of God, all FCH’s ministries continue to operate.

Project	Description	Staff	Location
Hope Hospital	70 bed general hospital Over 34,000 patient visits annually	180	Port-au-Prince
C-TECH – Post-secondary technical institute	100 Students	22	Mussothe
Hope Home* – Residence for people with special needs	25 Residents – Children and adults	12	Port-au-Prince
Rainbow of Love – Residence for Children*	90 children, from toddlers to 17 years old	20	Port-au-Prince
Village Elementary & Middle School*	165 Students	16	Port-au-Prince
Mussothe Elementary School	260 Students	13	Mussothe

\* Located on the Children’s Village Site

**Hope Hospital Update**

Hope Hospital is the only fully functioning hospital in Port au Prince. As a result, demands on the staff are often overwhelming.

Hope Hospital employees are extremely dedicated and make every effort to be at work despite the turmoil in the city. Through God’s grace, Hope Hospital has not been directly targeted by gangs. However, given the pervasive lawlessness in Port au Prince, the staff are constantly concerned about their safety, which adds greatly to the stress they work under.

Medications and hospital supplies are in very short supply due to the gangs’ disruption of supply lines. Hospital admin staff are constantly in touch with suppliers, and as items become available the hospital purchases as much as possible, although this is usually less than what is needed. The scarcity is a huge problem given the increased number of patients the hospital is now treating due to the closure of many other hospitals and clinics.

A new wing was completed at the hospital last year to accommodate a 20-bed ward and an expanded neonatal intensive care unit for 10 incubators. A container of equipment and furniture for this wing arrived before the port was closed. We are pleased to report that, in a recent brief opening of the port storage area, our container was released. Work is also underway to install new solar power equipment purchased late last year to provide electricity for the new wing.



## Update on FCH Activities in Mussotte – Elementary School & C-Tech

Unlike Port au Prince, the situation in the Mussotte area of southern Haiti has been much calmer. The main impact of the gang control in Port au Prince has been the disruption of transportation of goods to Mussotte. This has created significant shortages and excessive increases in the prices of day-to-day necessities.

### ***Mussotte Elementary Update***

This school year is going well for the 260 neighbourhood students who attend.

In the summer of 2023, FCH began a long overdue expansion of an annex at the school, increasing the size of the rooms and adding a second floor.

Work has proceeded steadily. The larger rooms on the ground floor are complete and being used, and finishing work is being done on the second floor: installing railings, doors and windows; painting.

***Thanks to your generosity, CFCH was able to send down funds to complete this work.***



Expansion of the annex nears completion



### ***C-Tech Update***

Over 100 students – enrolled in the nursing, electronics and computer technology programs – continue their studies. Fifty-one students from outside the Mussotte area attend the college, so the existing dorms are now full.

C-Tech does not have adequate electrical power, and FCH has been planning an upgrade to the solar power system for some time. Prior to the port closure in late February, a container arrived with components for the new system at C-Tech. In early May FCH was able to get the solar power components released from the port storage area. On the way to Mussotte, the truck was stopped 3 times by gangs who required payments to pass, and during one stop the gangs damaged 10 solar panels. However, we thank God that the driver was not hurt and the truck made it safely to C-Tech.

***Thanks to the generosity of our donors, CFCH was able to provide funding to purchase accessories for the system, replacement panels (for the ones broken by the gangs), and cover the cost of installation.***

### Update on The Children's Village

The Children's Village is on a 2-acre site surrounded by a secure wall and gate, in a quiet neighbourhood. The children living at Rainbow of Love, the residents at Hope Home, and the Village staff are safe and healthy. Every effort is made to keep life for the children as normal as possible.

The Village elementary and middle school is one of the few schools still operating in PaP. The school is attended by children at Rainbow of Love, Hope Home residents who are able attend the special education program, and neighborhood children.

Food scarcity and extremely high prices are an ongoing problem. A lot of foods that were normally a basic part of the children's diet are now impossible to find. For instance, oatmeal which was a daily breakfast food is no longer available, rice has been scarce for months requiring a switch to pasta, milk and meat are hard to find and extremely expensive. Fortunately, FCH has been able to find enough vegetables. FCH maintains close contact with food suppliers, and so far they have been able to purchase enough to feed the children and staff.



House  
Moms with  
residents of  
Hope Home



### Thank you for your faithful support

Over the past 3 – 4 years, the tragic situation in Haiti has forced many other social service and healthcare organizations to cut back or cease operations. **However, during this time, through God's grace and your generosity, FCH has been able to maintain all its activities while taking focused steps to enhance its operations.** Solar power has been installed at Hope Hospital and the Children's Village. A new wing has been added to the hospital. Mussotte elementary school has added much-needed classroom space. C-Tech has added classrooms, a medical clinic, dorms, expanded its enrollment, and is upgrading its solar power. We have been able to purchase food and daily necessities as they become available. **We couldn't do it without you !**

### Please continue to pray for Haiti

- For continued safety and health for the children and patients cared for by FCH, and for the staff.
- That the power of the gangs would be broken, and order restored to the country.
- That FCH would be able to access the food, medicines, and other necessities required to care for the children at the Village, students in its schools, and patients at Hope Hospital.
- That normal distribution of necessary goods would be restored, ending the shortages and reducing prices from the current extremely high levels.