



# The Foundation for the Children of Haiti

*Changing minds, changing hearts, changing lives since 1981*

January 2024

My Dear Friends,

With the new year underway, I thought it would be good to update you on how your prayers and support are making a difference here in Haiti.

To start, I want to tell you once again how much your partnership means to us. You are all aware of the nightmare that Haiti has endured over the past several years. In the midst of this, we hope you realize what a blessing it is to know that you stand with us.

As difficult as things are, God has graciously protected us and allowed all of our ministries to continue serving those in need.

- The children at Rainbow of Love Children's Residence and the residents at Hope Home are all safe and well cared for.
- The children attending our elementary schools continue to receive a quality education.
- The young adults at C-Tech, our post-secondary training institute, carry on with their employment-focused studies to prepare them for the future.
- Hope Hospital provides the best possible healthcare for everyone who comes to its door.
- We continue to do what we can to operate more efficiently and carefully expand our capacity as opportunities arise.

We thank God for the role you have played in helping all this to happen.

Blessings to all,

*Gladys*



## Thank You for Responding!

Over the past several years the increase in prices has been catastrophic in Haiti. Annual inflation was around 19% in 2019 – 2021, increasing to 34% in 2022 and over 40% in 2023. As a result, the cost of day-to-day necessities has more than tripled over the past 5 years.

With 140 children and staff living at the Children's Village, and 260 students receiving lunch daily at the Mussotte day school, the spiraling costs have been a crushing burden for FCH.

***We thank all of you who continue to generously respond to this extremely difficult situation.***



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## ***Update on the Mussotte Elementary School Annex Expansion***

In 2009 FCH started an elementary school in a small refurbished house in a rural area of southern Haiti. In its first year the school ran with 3 classes: Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2. Each year another grade was added.

In 2011 a small annex was added and in 2013 another wing was built. The school now has grades K – 6 and the space is “maxed out” with 260 children attending. The classrooms in the annex were very small, so a project is underway to expand the size of each room and add a second floor.



Above: Original annex



Above: Expansion begins – June 2023



Above: 1<sup>st</sup> floor complete – Dec 2023



Above: 2<sup>nd</sup> floor nearly done – Jan 2024

Since our last update in early December, the second floor has almost been completed, thanks to additional donations received from CFCH supporters.

As funds are available, the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor will be completed, and furniture (desks, tables, chairs, blackboards, etc) will be purchased.

***Thank you to our generous donors who are helping to make this important project a reality.***

**If you would like to help us with this important project, donations can be made by:**

- Credit card through our website <https://cfchcanada.ca/helping-financially/>;
- e-transfer to [info@cfchcanada.ca](mailto:info@cfchcanada.ca); or
- Cheque to the address below.



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### **Christmas Party at the Children's Village**

Despite the challenges facing the FCH staff, the annual Christmas party for the residents of Hope Home and the children living at the Rainbow of Love was held as usual.

Gifts for Hope Home residents are provided by CFCH supporters, and gifts for children at Rainbow of Love are provided by supporters of USFCH. (USFCH is a US charitable organization similar to CFCH.)

Prior to 2020 volunteer teams from CFCH would take gifts down for the party. However, as the security situation in Haiti deteriorated, it is now impossible for people to safely travel to Haiti. So now gifts are purchased through Amazon and delivered to Missionary Flights International ("MFI") in Florida. MFI then flies the gifts to Port au Prince where they are picked up by FCH staff at the airport. This has allowed this important event to continue as usual.

Hope Home is blessed with sponsors for each person residing there. These faithful supporters, along with other CFCH donors, ensure that a gift is received by each Hope Home resident and each child from the community who attends the special education class at the Village school. We are grateful to all those who participated in this year's gift program.

Along with the Christmas party, each year FCH also puts on an Easter party in the spring, and a birthday party for everyone in the summer.

***Our participation in these parties is another way CFCH supporters bless the staff and residents at the Children's Village.***



### **Update on Hope Hospital Expansion**

During 2023 FCH completed a new wing at Hope Hospital in response to an acute shortage of healthcare facilities in Port au Prince. The new wing has 20 rooms and an expanded neonatal intensive care unit with room for 10 incubators.

To provide electricity for the new wing, FCH is in the process of expanding the capacity of the hospital's solar power system. ***Batteries were purchased in December and solar panels arrived in mid-January, thanks to the generosity of CFCH supporters.***

FCH has ordered installation accessories (racks, mounting structures, etc) and hopes to complete the project later this year. A charitable foundation in the US has approved funding to purchase equipment and furniture for the new wing at Hope Hospital.