



## The Marco Depestre Foundation of Ottawa

6139 Red Willow Drive  
Orleans, Ontario Canada K1C 7J7  
613-830-4714

[marcodepestrfoundationofottawa@rogers.com](mailto:marcodepestrfoundationofottawa@rogers.com)

[www.marcodepestrfoundationofottawa.org](http://www.marcodepestrfoundationofottawa.org)

Dear friends,

We are pleased to present you with Bulletin #5 of the Marco Depestre Foundation of Ottawa (MDFO). The Foundation's goal is to promote through different projects the well-being and livelihood of some of our needy sisters and brothers in Haïti, while preserving their dignity.

### We would like to share with you some of the highlights of our achievements in 2015:

#### Maro Verger School

Our priority for 2016 remains the construction of the Maro Verger Primary school, located in a rural section of Petit-Goâve. This school provides education to young children of 47 families. It will replace the one damaged by the 2010 earthquake. At the moment, some 60 students are being schooled in the adjacent church sanctuary. Last year your generous contributions and a fundraising concert provided most of the funding required to start the construction. This is a very exciting time for that community in anticipation of their new school. We trust that construction will start this spring so that the students can commence the school year in their new environment.

Photo (Right): School children outside the proposed school (Aug. 23, 2015)



#### Child Sponsorship

Presently 24 children, including orphans, are able to attend school with their sponsors' commitment of \$30 monthly to cover school fees and related costs. MDFO monitors follow the students' progress by visiting them at school and also by telephone contact with their guardians and or families. All recipients are very appreciative for the help received. We provide sponsors with school and progress reports twice a year as well as a photograph and thank you note from their sponsorees. This is the most important ongoing project of the Foundation.

Photo (Right): Sponsoree Sergeline St-Fort (Sept. 1, 2015)



#### Child Sponsorship - Nutrition Supplement

MDFO provides monthly vouchers to five families to purchase nutritious food such as cereal, eggs, milk and sardines to improve the students' health and in general, their school performance. In addition, one child enjoys a hot meal at school and another receives a double portion of nutrition supplements, due to the extra support from their sponsors.

Photo (Right): of Beauchamp orphans with supplements. (Sept. 3, 2015)





### Christmas Meal

Close to 500 people in Fond Jean-Noël and more than 200 prisoners in the Petit-Goâve Penitentiary enjoyed a generous meal. One hundred and forty children, kindergarten to grade six, from the La Saline Methodist School gathered to celebrate Christmas. Each one received toiletries. Miss May, of the clinic demonstrated proper tooth brushing and handwashing techniques. The big surprise was when Tonton Noël showed up with bags of toys, provided from a donor in Florida, for them to take home. In Laboule 12, 200 mothers each received a kit of dry goods containing rice, milk, oil, spaghetti, tomato paste and toiletries. Four hundred and two children of these mothers went home with sweets and toys.

Photo (Left): Lad eating in Fond Jean- Noël (Dec.4th, 2015)

### Distribution of School Supplies

In preparation for the new school year, welcomed by parents, guardians and students, is the distribution of school supplies in September 2015.

Photo (Below): Children with school supplies (Sept. 2, 2015)



### Humanitarian Aid

A first year medical student in need, who attended the Maro Verger Primary School, benefited from a monthly stipend of US\$40 to assist with his travel cost and food expenses for six months. The stipend will be extended for a year to help him focus of his studies.

Photo (Above): Medical student receiving stipend. (Sept. 8, 2015)

### Health Promotion & Prevention

A Session on Women's Anatomy and Puberty followed by an overview on Family Planning was presented to 150 adolescents and adults, by Dr Hubert Morquette on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, in the Laboule 12 bidonville. There was active participation during the question period.

Photo (Right): Dr H. Morquette during presentation (May 23, 2015)



*We are happy and thankful to share with you our different accomplishments in 2015 made possible with your great support and by the grace of God. «In as much as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren you did it to me». Matt. 25:40*