



## *The Marco Depestre Foundation of Ottawa*

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As we begin 2022, the Directors of the Marco Depestre Foundation of Ottawa (MDFO) wish you a Happy, Healthy and Blessed New Year. Haiti bore many challenges in 2021, however your generosity provided the means for us to assist many of our less fortunate brethren.

### The following are highlights of our achievements in 2021

#### Child Sponsorship

Through the generosity of sponsors who provide \$30 monthly to cover school fees, MDFO is able to sponsor 50 children. Sponsors receive regular progress reports. In general, the children are healthy and had a successful school year. We are thankful for Julia Depestre, the MDFH monitor, who intervenes quickly when required to assist sponsorees and guardians. In addition, one student is beginning a two-year course in auto mechanics training with our financial assistance.



The group of sponsorees at Frères 2  
on September 4, 2021



The group of sponsorees at Laboule 12,  
on August 28, 2021

#### Distribution of School Supplies

More than 1,600 students from schools at Laboule 12, Duplan, Savannah, Fondoux and École Communale de Pétionville received school supplies. The students are most grateful to the donors who ensure these essential tools are provided as they make a tremendous difference in their lives.



Left: Julia at St-François Xavier  
School on October 6, 2021

Below: Students at École M. de  
Duplan, September 22, 2021



#### Nutrition Supplement

There are 7 malnourished students' families who receive a nutrition supplement, 6 mostly through the generosity of the Friends of Servian and one through another donor. There is a marked improvement in the well-being and school grades of the students who benefit from this program and the recipients are very grateful.



Above: The Beauchamp  
family on January 16, 2021



Above: Mrs. Charles with  
monthly food provision:  
Dec. 17, 2021 at Furcy

## Agroforestry

In spite of security issues, the nurseries in Vialet and Furcy continued to function as much as possible. Distribution to small scale farmers totalled over 45, 000 seedlings such as avocado, coffee, breadfruit, mango, oak, mahogany and tamarind.



Far left: Beneficiary Mr. Jean with coffee seedlings at the Vialet nursery, Sept. 2021  
 Left: Lady with her seedlings in Vialet, May 2021  
 Below: Coffee seedlings at the Furcy Nursery, April 2021



## Humanitarian Aid

Much was accomplished in 2021 in Humanitarian Aid. Essential items were provided to rural residents who lost most everything in the devastating August earthquake. Repairs were made to some homes and a school. Medical help and psychological support were provided to 2 sponsored children and 1 adult. Covid-19 masks were distributed in several areas. In response to food shortages, dry goods were distributed in Laboule 12. An oven provided to Les Messagers thanks to a donation by the late Rob Robertson, offered these youngsters an opportunity to learn simple recipes. Through a micro-loan initiative, a sponsoree's mom started a small business and has now begun reimbursing MDFH.



Above: Claudette Louis in front of her repaired home, July 7, 2021

Above right: Meeting to dedicate the oven, April 7

Right: Distribution of aid at Latibolière, Sept. 16



## Christmas Meals 2021

Despite the challenges posed by Covid-19, the August 2021 earthquake, political instability and gang activities the delivery of Christmas meals was successfully carried out in 10 schools and churches between December 11 and December 30. Over 1500 parents, children and teachers received meal kits, toys, candies and hygiene items. These activities were made possible through the generous support of donors and the diligence of Julia Depestre and her team of volunteers. All were delighted.



Far left: Students at École Sur un nuage enjoying their meal, Dec. 23, 2021

Left: Toy and dry good distribution at Duplan, Dec. 24, 2021

Right: Savannah families with dry goods, Dec. 21, 2021



*Despite the challenges, through your support and by the grace of God, much was accomplished in 2021. We thank you most sincerely.*

**«Let us stir up one another to love and good works». Hebrews 10:24**