



The Marco Depestre Foundation of Ottawa

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The people of Haiti experienced a very trying 2022, yet despite the political instability, increased gang violence, cholera outbreaks, food shortages and power outages, their strong spirit remains intact. Through these dire circumstances, the Marco Depestre Foundation was able, through God's grace, to continue its activities, though in a somewhat restricted way.

The following are highlights of our achievements in 2022

Child Sponsorship

Over 50 children are sponsored by supporters who provide \$30 monthly to cover school fees. Julia Depestre, the MDFH monitor, held 3 annual general meetings where children listened to a health-related presentation and received hygiene items. Thankfully the meetings took place without incident. Tragically though, at the end of December, one of our sponsored children went to the Lord due to a suspected case of severe meningitis. We are greatly saddened by the loss of this youngster.



Sponsorship Group 1 on August 12, 2022



Sponsorship Group 3 on August 20, 2022

Distribution of School Supplies

Over 753 students received school supplies in 4 locations. These essential tools contribute to the students' success at school.



Left: Laboule 12 students with bags of school supplies, on September 1, 2022

Below: St-François Xavier - Grade 1 students with note book and pencil, on November 30, 2022

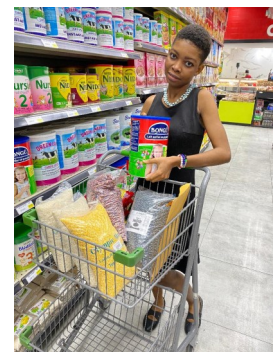


Nutrition Supplement

The families of 8 students received on a monthly basis the nutrition supplement resulting in improved well-being and better grades. The recipient families are most grateful.



Above: Eldridge shopping, August 27, 2022



Above: Guythly with provisions September 2, 2022

Agroforestry Project

The nurseries in Vialet and Furcy continued to function with guardians. Small scale farmers, students and a group of midwives received a variety of seedlings. Last year over \$3,000 was raised in memory of Michele Chung to help finance this project.



Left: Furcy - Students from Orphanage school with loquat seedlings - April 2022
Right: Vialet - Mango seedlings - July 2022

Humanitarian Aid

Repairs were made to the home of Mrs. Seide, damaged in the 2021 earthquake. The work was delayed due to heavy rains, insecurity and lack of materials but was completed in November including reinforced walls, new concrete floor, repaired roof and new WC. Mrs. Seide is most grateful. In January at Latibolière, where extensive damage was also caused by the earthquake, dry goods were distributed mainly to 52 elderly ladies. On Holy Thursday, the Foundation provided salt herring, in keeping with the tradition of consuming fish during Holy Week. The beneficiaries were most grateful to the Foundation for having thought of them in this special way.



Outside of Mrs. Seide's home in Les Cayes, on November 22, 2022

Youth Development Project

The Foundation is pleased to announce that Candy Jean completed his two-year course in auto-mechanics. He proudly graduated on December 28, 2022.



Candy Jean at graduation, on December 30, 2022

Christmas Activities

It was too dangerous to gather and share a meal to celebrate the joy of Christmas. Instead, dry good kits consisting of rice, beans, oil and other basics, were distributed to over 300 people in several locations. The most touching was the distribution of kits in Petionville to people in the streets who were elderly, disabled or begging for money. All were so appreciative to the Foundation for ensuring a small ray of Christmas hope in these dire times.



Left: Laboule 12: Distribution of dry goods kits on December 30
Right: Handicapped young man happy to have kit Dec. 24



Below left: EM PAP Brigade children. Toy distribution on December 25
Below right: Children waiting at Thomassin Catholic Church on December 30



Despite the challenges, through your support and by the grace of God, much was accomplished in 2022. We thank you most sincerely.

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