



Living Hope  
MISSION MINISTRIES INC.

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LIVING HOPE MISSION • FALL 2008

# Directors' Report of Activities

*"Learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless; plead for the widow." —Isaiah 1:17*

As Living Hope Mission moves into its 15th year of working in Haiti, we praise God for the many opportunities and blessings He has bestowed on this ministry. The year of July 2007 through June 2008 has been a busy one with many projects and growth in the churches and communities where we work. Again, we acknowledge the great Haitian staff and many committed associates who labor alongside us. Let us share with you the many things that have happened this past year.

—WILBERT and  
MEG MERZILUS, directors



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

## Key Achievements

July 2007 to June 2008



*Fosse Capois school under construction*

### Church and School Construction Projects

- ▶ Both the church and a school have been constructed for the community of Fosse Capois, where Pastor Claye and his wife have planted this new church and school to disciple these new believers. LHM is in the process of building a separate building that will provide office space, a kitchen, storage, and a small sleeping room for the pastor.
- ▶ Because the New Jerusalem Baptist Church at Juchereau had grown out of its 1984 building, LHM assisted in a 30-foot extension of the building.
- ▶ The community of Pister had no local bakery. Pastor Jules and the Pister Church have met this need as well as their provision for supporting their church and school with the small building and oven finished in April.

- ▶ The construction for the Hope Center Agriculture Building second story addition was completed this past year and will be used as office space for the Heifer Project International with whom we partner.
- ▶ Not all construction projects are buildings. Desks and pews custom made for the individual churches and schools were built for Limonade and Fosse Capois.

### Continuing Education for Leaders

- ▶ In early December 2007 Lee Robinson of Sarasota Christian Church presented a Christian Marriage and Relationships seminar.
- ▶ In March 30 pastors and their wives joined with Ray Still and Rusty Rice of Oakwood Baptist Church who shared the challenges of church leadership.



*Haitian crew works on addition in Juchereau*

OFFERING HAITI  
LIVING HOPE IN  
CHRIST, THE  
HOPE OF THE WORLD



Living Hope  
MISSION



Kindergartners having lunch in Pister

### Scholarship and Youth Opportunity Funds

- ▶ Using funds supplied by you LHM subsidized the cost of education at church schools in 10 communities: Acul Samedi, Balan, Blue Hill, DeRac, Fosse Capois, Gens de Nantes, Juchereau, Limonade, Pister, and Roche Plate.
- ▶ LHM acquired funding for school lunches in seven of the above schools.
- ▶ Health Education was taught to students in five schools.
- ▶ Six students received funds from the LHM Higher Education Fund for education at the college level. Students are enrolled in agronomy, medicine, business, and theology.

### Community Health, Community Development, and Benevolence

- ▶ Health Education in five schools covered personal and community hygiene, common childhood diseases, good nutrition, healthy skin and eyes, AIDS and its prevention, and dental health and hygiene. In addition, children were treated for parasites and taught how to avoid getting them.
- ▶ In cooperation with VOSH, PA, and Surgical Eye Expeditions, LHM hosted and coordinated volunteer teams who served over 2,500 patients, screened for eye diseases, and provided them with glasses. Over 100 patients received free glaucoma and cataract surgeries at Hope Center.
- ▶ Local doctor, Dr. Carmelle Lucien, continues to provide care for over 60 glaucoma patients at Hope Center.
- ▶ Doctors from St. Rita's Hospital in Lima, Ohio, and Stanford University Medical Center provided mobile clinics in



Dr. Mildred Olivier tests for glaucoma

DeRac and Acul Samedi, seeing over 1,100 patients in four days.

- ▶ LHM's well repair team continues to provide water pump repairs for North and Northeast Haiti. LHM has sponsored drilling one new community well at Fosse Capois School.



Boy Scout helping deliver food in DeRac



Fishpond in progress



Hope Center



Consulting patients in Acul Samedi

- ▶ The Income Generation program continues for 60 families who participate in LHM's small-loan program for start-up businesses.
- ▶ LHM provided emergency food relief to 300 families in villages in the northeast of Haiti.
- ▶ Benevolence funds provided by our donors met a variety of human needs including housing, hospital stays, funerals, food, transportation, doctor visits, and medicine.

### Agricultural Development

#### FOSSE CAPOIS FARM

- ▶ The Fosse Capois farm development began using a donated tractor to dig ponds for fish farming.
- ▶ LHM acquired a small portable pump for water well for cattle.
- ▶ Workers planted a large plot of plantain, a vegetable garden, and corn.
- ▶ The 13 cows in the project have begun producing milk.

#### HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL

- ▶ Three groups of women have received goats and passed on their offspring to second families.
- ▶ The second groups of families have begun training.

#### HOPE CENTER PHARMACY AND GARDENS

- ▶ LHM's Agricultural Staff is reestablishing the seed store and model vegetable gardens.
- ▶ Veterinary medicines, provided with the help of Dr. Ed Epp of Kansas, continue to be sold and used for animal care for local farmers.

# Goals

for 2008-2009

### Construction

- ▶ New school elementary-high school for DeRac to include 10 classrooms, a kitchen, storage, office, and latrines (needed: \$60,000)
- ▶ Completion of a new church building and school for the community of Philibert (needed: \$30,000)
- ▶ A new church in Jacquezee (needed: \$25,000)
- ▶ A new church Madelene, Acul Samedi (needed: \$20,000)
- ▶ A new church Lina, San Rafael (needed: \$20,000)
- ▶ A new church Bas Saline, Romeo (needed: \$20,000)

### Pastors Training and Continuing Education

- ▶ In December 2008 host seminar with Lee Robison of Sarasota Christian Church
- ▶ In January 2009 host seminar with Mike Dunlap of Northstar Youth Outreach
- ▶ In March 2009 host seminar for pastors and wives using pastors from Oakwood Baptist Church
- ▶ Needed for all seminars: \$7,200

### Scholarship and Youth Opportunity Fund

- ▶ Provide grants to 10 schools to supplement their operating budgets (needed \$30,500)
- ▶ Fund lunch programs at six schools (needed: \$42,000)
- ▶ Provide higher education to college students (needed: \$10,000)
- ▶ Offer "In Service" training days to

teachers in LHM-associated schools (needed: \$3,600)

- ▶ Provide salaries for two Haitian teachers to continue to teach health education in five schools (needed: \$2,800)

### Community Health, Community Development, and Benevolence

- ▶ Provide two eye care clinics in September and December 2008 hosting VOSH team from Pennsylvania, SEE (Surgical Eye Expeditions), and SOSH (student chapter from the Pennsylvania School of Optometry)
- ▶ Continue consultations for glaucoma in cooperation with Dr. Carmelle Lucien (needed: \$500 for coordinator, \$480 for nurses, \$1,000 for air freight for glasses)
- ▶ Continue the well pump repair project (needed: \$10,000)
- ▶ Add two communities to the Income Generation small loans project, with the starting funds in each community to be \$3,000 (needed: \$6,000)
- ▶ Continue to offer help to those in need through LHM benevolence fund (needed: \$20,000)

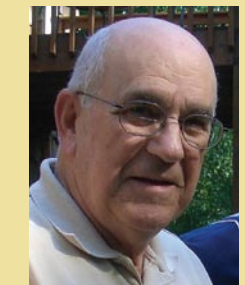


### Agricultural Development Project

- ▶ Continue farm project at Fosse Capois to provide food for the school lunch program.
- ▶ Develop 15 acres in new crop of peanuts
- ▶ Stock fish ponds with carp and tilapia
- ▶ Continue the Heifer Project International goat project through the spring of 2009
- ▶ Restock the Vet Pharmacy with medicines and the Hope Center Seed Store with seeds and books.
- ▶ Needed for agricultural projects for the next three years: \$40,000

# Financial Information

It has been my privilege to serve this unique ministry since the Board was formed back in 1994. My, how the Lord has blessed the efforts of Wilbert and Meg to serve Him in north Haiti! The budget the

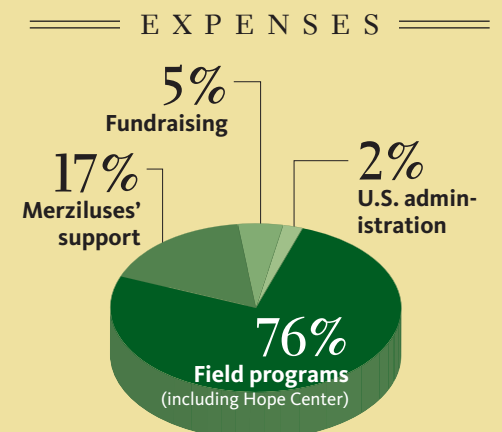
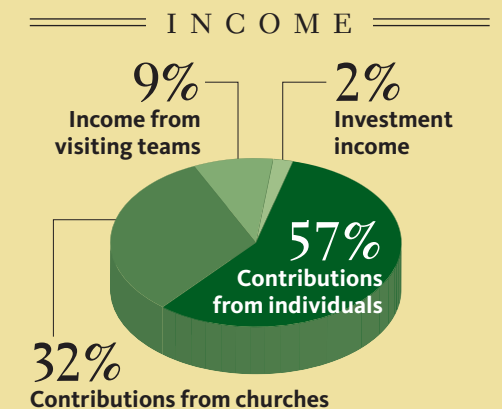


Board has approved each year keeps growing. We operate on a cash basis, meaning we never borrow funds and only spend what our generous supporters provide the ministry. Living Hope Mission

is also blessed with many hard working volunteers, so we have no paid staff here in the USA.

God bless you!

— JOHN BOLDT, Treasurer, Columbus, Ind.



Living Hope Mission's purpose is to touch the suffering people of Haiti with the love and healing power of Jesus Christ, by providing spiritual, educational, and physical help for the whole person.