



Newsletter

May 2005

First two children adopted from Haiti orphanage



Adoptions are on the rise! As our first 2 boys have gone home with their new family to California, many more will be following in various states. Currently, 32 children call Crèche De L'enfant Jesus home. 12 of these beautiful little ones are in the process of being adopted into loving families. 4 of these 12 are siblings and will be going home together. Many more adoptive families have begun the process to adopt from Haiti and will soon be able to choose their child or children upon completion of a home study.

We are working closely with partnering adoption agencies that meet only the highest of criteria and ethical standards. While adoption agencies across the country are beginning to learn about us and our Haiti program, many are beginning the application process for partnership. Currently, we have partnered with 4 agencies: West Sands Adoptions (Utah), Wasatch International (Utah), CASI Foundation for Children (Idaho) and Children's House International (Washington).

Ultimately, our main priority is to place these children into loving families. To learn more about adopting from Haiti, or our adoption agency partnerships, contact Holli Karren at 801.427.7158 or hkarren@achf.org.

From The Front Lines - Sincere Thanks

A Child's Hope Foundation would like to extend a sincere thanks and special appreciation to Rue and Mary Nielson for their incredible service to the foundation for the last six months. They have been heading the volunteer program and have been living at the orphanage in Haiti. We recently received an email from them. The following is an excerpt from that email.

Dear Friends:

The Davis family is now back on American soil and have arrived safely at their California home. The bonding process of the children and the parents gradually took place while we witnessed the blossoming of two little spirits as they received the love and attention that comes from loving parents. The children in the Crèche are happy children, but we literally witnessed a transformation in these two boys that was a miracle to behold. Their eyes beamed with joy, their laughter was spontaneous, their physical countenance became buoyant and joyous. They wrestled with their poppy, they hugged and teased their mommy. The crowning moment came when they realized that they were going in the truck with their mommy and poppy to a new home. They could sense a new adventure unfolding for them and they were ready and willing to embark on the trail.

You are truly engaged in a great work. At times it is discouraging and the problems seem insurmountable, but to find a home for these little ones is truly the most noble work one could engage in.

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NEXT PROJECTS

Haiti June 8 - 16
Haiti August 9 - 17

MEET THE ORPHANS

Mirlène Pierre-Louis



Mirlène was born in November, 2002 as the ninth child in her family. Her parents came on very difficult times and were unable to feed their family. As a result, they felt determined to make sure their youngest daughter had a chance at life; and they placed her in state custody to hope that someone would be able to care for her and eventually adopt her.

Fortunately, there was room for Mirlène at our facility in Haiti. She is calm, sweet, and a delight to everyone she encounters; always with a smile on her face. She shows a good appetite and sleeps well through the night.

Mirlène has yet to find a loving family to adopt her. For more information, please contact A Child's Hope Foundation.

Please visit our web site at:
www.aChildsHopeFoundation.org

You will find photos, videos, trip dates and much, much more!

Message from the President

Joy Beyond Measure -- I listened a few days ago to John and Lucien giggle in the background as their Dad talked on the phone with us about his overwhelming joy. I wished all 365 of those who have traveled to Haiti to help build John and Lucien's temporary home (our adoption center) could have heard the same giggles. If we placed no one else into loving homes, all our efforts would be worth it. You cannot put a price on the eternal joy of a family! Thank you all for your sacrifice. Thank you, Paul Cook, our founder, for your vision and selflessness. It is motivating, and most rewarding, to know that our first two adoptions are only the beginning. Haitian officials are currently reviewing the paperwork of 12 of our children, hopefully all of them should be in loving homes within the next few months.

Progress Update -- I just returned from a very encouraging trip to Bulgaria where we explored adoption laws, customs, and opportunities to help orphans there. We are helping to sponsor a roundtable, in Sofia, early in September which hopefully will lead to a few changes in present laws enabling many more children to be adopted. We are now in the process of facilitating the adoption of children in Mexico. If that goes well, we will proceed with building an adoption center there. We continue our efforts to develop relationships in China and assist orphanages there so one day we can be fully operational in that part of the world.

Service -- Rue and Mary Nielsen have spent the past six months as our first long-term volunteer couple in Haiti. They have started our preschool program, installed a lot of landscaping (including experimenting with many kinds of gardens and planting over 70 fruit trees), finished construction projects such as our chicken coop, worked on community projects, and, of course, assisted the volunteers who have been under their direction. Many lives have been significantly changed because of Rue and Mary. Over thirty four children have felt their love and concern. Thirty-four hearts have touched Mary and Rue. It is now time for them to return home to their own grandchildren. Accordingly, we need a dynamic duo to take their place. The couple's main responsibility is to work with those volunteers (18 years old or older) who help with the children. Other responsibilities will depend on the couple's interest and talents. If you or anyone you know would like to have the opportunity to love and be loved by some of God's little children, please call me.

Happy Anniversary -- This June will mark the third anniversary of A Child's Hope Foundation although we started work on our first adoption center weeks before the formal paperwork was completed. Thank you for all your help that has saved lives and made it possible for many John's and Lucien's to giggle.



Regards,

Perry Brätt, President

SPECIAL THANKS



Rue and Mary Nielsen

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We appreciate the opportunity you have afforded us to be a part of this process. It has and continues to be a great learning experience for us. It is an enlightening experience to learn to help and empower the Haitians in a way they can accept and respond to.

The English students are eager to increase their skills in the language and knowledge of the world about them. The community leaders are anxious to put together a soccer program. We meet with them at the soccer field Friday morning to start work on preparing the field for games. They're concerned about clean water for the area and we will be working with LDS Charities to determine if there is a possibility of finding additional water sources. And so the work goes on, the possibilities are endless. The work has only just begun. Stay the course. "Be bold and mighty forces will come to your aid!" Basil King

Take care,
Rue and Mary

How to Help A Child's Hope Foundation



With your help, we can continue to eliminate the barriers that keep so many orphans out of loving homes.



Volunteers are in for a truly life-changing experience as they take an active part in saving lives across the globe



We exist to help adoptive families as they save lives. Each adoption not only saves that orphan, but the generations that come after them.