



NEWSLETTER

Kids Club

With all the craziness that is happening in country, A Light of Hope (ALOH) continues to find ways to bring safety and security to women, this includes girls. This past April, ALOH started a Kids Club for girls between the ages of 8-15. Every Saturday, these girls get together with our Director Dieula and experience a place of learning, activities and worship. The first Saturday there were 8 girls, and within a few weeks the number has doubled. Word continues to spread, and more girls are interested.

During the club time, these girls will have a short bible study, work on a craft, spend time in worship and have a lesson on basic life skills. They are excited each week to come to class, and have shed tears when class has been canceled due to gang activities. Dieula has been able to connect with these girls and mentor them through the difficult times in their lives.



Back to School Project

School will be opening back up in Haiti in October. Finding school supplies can be very difficult and most families can't afford what they do find. The girls in the ALOH Kids Club will be in this same situation. ALOH wants to provide them with everything they need to go back to school. The goal is to put together 10 backpacks filled with the necessary supplies. Would you consider donating to provide essential supplies to these girls? ALOH is budgeting \$40 per backpack to purchase the backpack and supplies. You can send a check to ALOH P.O. Box 151042, Grand Rapids, MI 49515 or donate at www.alightofhope.org.



Skillset Class

Update from Miss Dieula

Over the past 3 years since we've moved from our former training center to where ALOH's new home is now, things have changed drastically for Haitians. Because of the unstable situation of the country and the gang activity in our area, sometimes we have to cancel classes. But we praise God that we are still able to keep going even with all the chaos. Other ministries have had to shut down. We had to change some of our classes so we could better reach the ladies. And I can tell you that it is working, because the ladies keep coming back. Women are asking when ALOH is going to have the next class? We have a variety of classes now, like event decorating, makeup application, nails, soap, girls clubs, Bible study etc... Some of the classes that we offer are very expensive to take in Haiti. The ladies aren't able to afford them elsewhere. We can offer them for free because of the generosity of our donor's. ALOH is the only one offering these classes in our area. Ladies would have to drive to another town to take these classes, which would cost a lot money and risk their safety. Hearing conversations and seeing how grateful they are for the opportunity, gives us the strength to keep pushing forward. We are thankful to help the women in our community not only spiritually but also give them a way to make a living.

Haitian proverb:

LESPWA FÈ VIV • HOPE IS ALIVE

Staff Spotlight

Miss Dieula

If you have been following ALOH for a while, you have definitely heard us talk about the in country director Dieula. You may have seen her on social media, or read her thoughts here in past newsletters. This woman is fierce, bold, and yet so compassionate. Her dedication to the ministry work has been unstoppable. But here are some things you may not have known about Dieula:

- Dieula had the opportunity to go to the States through the new Biden program. She said no and made it very clear her devotion was to her country and continuing to work with women. While Haitians are fleeing in droves, she chooses to stay in the battle field and walk alongside women.
- **When Dieula was — years old**, she started making homemade peanut butter and selling it on the streets. She managed to start a small business selling the peanut butter that in turn, supported herself as well as her family. Because of her experience she has a passion to teach the ALOH skillset classes. These classes give women the opportunity and experience she gained out of survival mode.
- For many years, she walked alongside an American woman who mentored her, helped her with English, and taught her how to be a leader. Dieula felt called from that relationship to one day lead women. Her English speaking skills opened up so many opportunities for her. Including a job at a business that connected her to ALOH.
- Dieula's mom died when she was 19. Being the oldest child, she finished raising her siblings. Her small business and mentorship gave her the skills needed to be able to take care of her siblings and make sure they could finish their schooling. Being the sole caretaker showed her just how difficult it truly is for women in Haiti trying to raise a family and not be forced to put their children in an orphanages.
- Dieula has an alcoholic father who abused her regularly. She knows firsthand the abuse of women in Haiti and how this is "normal" in Haiti. She is a survivor. Her compassion for women gives her the drive to have a safe place (the training center) for women to come and just breathe.



Welcome Miss Mirkande

ALOH has a new Bible Study Leadership Training teacher. Mirkande is working with women who want to lead bible studies in their church or community. She works through one of the ALOH bible studies with these women teaching them how to lead a study and how to get individuals to engage. She will discuss and teach in depth the study, to empower the women to fully understand what they are teaching when they start their own bible study.



One of the greatest needs ALOH hears from women in Haiti is the need for resources to encourage them into a deeper relationship with their Heavenly Father. There are not many churches that give women the opportunity to seek His word on an intimate level. Women have shared how much they desire to know more, to see more, and to feel more of God's presence. Finding bible studies for women in Haiti is nearly impossible. Women crave more because there is a lack of resources and their Pastors are only "spoon-feeding" them the Word. They live each day spiritually starving. This is NOT OK! This needs to be changed.

Proclamation Ministry works to equip and train indigenous female leaders to go out and lead bible studies. Leaders who will continue to forward the Kingdom movement in their families, churches and communities. Haitians discipling Haitians. It has been proven that the impact of Haitians teaching Haitians is much more productive than foreigners teaching Haitians. Women who want to lead a bible study are trained for 3 days. During this class, they work through an ALOH bible study and obtain the leadership skills to lead their own study. ALOH started producing Bible studies 4 years ago and have created 4 Bible studies written and published in their native language. The goal is to create studies that can be led and utilized right in the community.

Current Needs

Back to school project
Funding for fall 2023 classes

If you would like to join ALOH in reaching and equipping women in Haiti, there are 2 ways to contribute.

Mail:
ALOH PO Box 151042
Grand Rapids, MI. 49515

Or online:
www.alightofhope.org