



Dear Friends,

With heartfelt gratitude, and after a long deliberation, we, the current Board of Friends of the People of Haiti, have come to the decision that for reasons explained below, Friends of the People of Haiti will be dissolving as a non-profit organization as of March 31, 2024. Friends of the People of Haiti is an independent 5013(c) organization. In 1989, we were assigned St. Anne's parish in Trouin, Haiti through the Parish Twinning Program of the Americas. Since then, Friends of the People of Haiti has developed a deep friendship and support system with the parish, school, and village of Trouin.

We are truly grateful for your generous and unwavering support of Friends of the People of Haiti for the last 35 years. Together we have accomplished so much for the parishioners of St. Anne's parish in Trouin. Among these are medical missions and work missions, in which there were many changes that improved Haitians' lives. Yet, there were more intangibles that will never be counted. Most importantly, we have developed friendships with the Haitian people and multi-generations of Haitians have deeply appreciated our support.

The reasons for reaching this conclusion of dissolving FOPH are complex. There are two sides to the story. The political unrest and violence in Haiti have prevented us from going to visit our friends and the children. Also, our aging membership has limited our ability to fulfill necessary board positions and fundraising chairs. The colliding of these two circumstances is most unfortunate.

Therefore, we are diligently working with the Parish Twinning Program of the Americas to find another twin for St. Anne's. If they find a twinning partner, we hope the new partner will assume parish support and the Sponsor-A-Child program. We trust you will continue supporting Friends of the People of Haiti with your sustaining pledges and funds for the Sponsor-A-Child program through March 31, 2024.

As a mother does not forget her child, we could never forget Haiti. Please join us in our continuing prayers for our friends in Haiti.

Mesi Ampil (thank you very much),

Luann Polissaint, President
Diane Gelaude, First VP
Marlene Shattuck, Second VP
Linda Clewell, Secretary
Jack Knepp, Treasurer

