

Don't Wait

Please don't wait to make a contribution to St. Vincent's right now. Like any family household budget, St. Vincent's has regular bills to pay: weekly groceries, regular fuel for vehicles, monthly salaries for 110 remarkably dedicated employees who must stretch their wages to care for their extended families. We send \$38,000 to St. Vincent's every month – and as with many non-profits, summer is our "dry season." Your gifts keep St. Vincent's alive and moving forward. Geminah would not be walking without your help. The ninth graders would not be taking national exams. The teachers would not be attending enrichment seminars. You make all of this happen. So, please, make your donation now.

You can give online at www.stvincentshaiti.org or by sending your check to:

St. Vincent's Center, Haiti
P.O. Box 1433
New London, NH 03257

Hundreds of people thank you!



Learn more and support our work at
www.stvincentshaiti.org

Thank you for your support!

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St. Vincent's Works Miracles

Geminah is four years old. She enrolled in St. Vincent's School last November, and integral to our acceptance procedure, underwent a psychological exam and then a physical one – all in her wheelchair. She was immediately referred to our Physical Therapist, and in June of this year, she walked for the first time in her life! Her mother calls it a miracle.

Such miracles are happening frequently with the reopening of the Brace Shop on the Santo 17 campus. Our Orthopedic Surgeons, Physical Therapist and Brace Shop workers are treating more than 30 children who patiently waited for treatment after the downtown facility was destroyed. The wait list continues to grow.

Because almost nothing gets through Haitian Customs these days, medical supplies must be purchased in country. If available,

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Give a gift today online by
scanning the QR code.

Scan me!



When you do, please consider
selecting the box to cover the
processing fees to ensure that all of
your gift goes toward helping the
children of St. Vincent's Center in Haiti.

CMMH/St. Vincent's Center, Haiti
P.O. Box 1433
New London, NH 03257

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www.stvincentshaiti.org



such equipment is costly, even such basic items as stethoscopes and blood pressure cuffs. It took months of persistence and extra-budgetary funding to re-equip the Clinic and Brace Shop. It also took personal courage for two volunteers to go north through gang-controlled territory to purchase and return (via bus) with the oven needed to make plaster casts. None of this is easy and everything takes longer than one can imagine. But, dedication to the welfare of these children and incredible perseverance results in miracles.

Look at Geminah's face. You have made that joy possible. Thank you!



The Board Elects Nancy Rollins

By unanimity, the Board has elected Nancy Rollins a Trustee. Nancy's background in both non-profit and state government (of New Hampshire) is extensive. Among other posts, she has directed the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services and was the Chief Operating Officer for Easter Seals in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine. With a Doctorate in Social Work from Boston College, she has also taught at the Dartmouth College Medical School and the University of New Hampshire.

Closer to home, she has served three three-years terms on the New London, New Hampshire Board of Selectmen. She currently serves as the Senior Warden of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in New London, which is a regular and generous supporter of St. Vincent's Center. Skilled in finance, operations, administration, and work with children with disabilities, Nancy brings many talents to this working Board.



If Your Acknowledgement Was Late...

We apologize. We changed banks earlier this year to expedite deposits in the U.S. and wire transfers to Haiti. The process took far longer than we had anticipated, and, as a result, letters of thanks for your gifts were considerably delayed. All is now copacetic and we are deeply grateful for your support and your patience.



Which Came First?

St. Vincent's Center, founded by Episcopal Sister Joan Margaret in 1945 came first, followed in 1994 by the Children's Medical Mission of Haiti (CMMH). What's the difference? Sister Joan was a Physical Therapist with the Episcopal Order of the Sisters of St. Margaret. These remarkable women founded Trinity School, the Music School and St. Vincent's – all in Port-au-Prince, and continue their caring work today with a foyer for ageing women. Seeing so many disabilities among the young, Sister Joan began her compassionate healing work and named the endeavor St. Vincent's. It became known throughout the country, and visiting medical personnel came from around the world to offer their assistance.

When it became obvious that St. Vincent's needed financial assistance, a group of Tennessee Episcopal clergy and laity established Children's Medical Mission of Haiti which filed and was approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, number 62-1564456. The Corporate purpose of CMMH is to help children with disabilities which is accomplished by making grants to SVC. CMMH focuses singularly on St. Vincent's and to emphasize this relationship, CMMH was also approved to "do business" as St. Vincent's.

So, what's the difference? Only U.S. organizations can claim tax-exempt status, so, St. Vincent's, *per se*, could not receive tax-deductible gifts, but CMMH can. It is not a "pass through" organization. Rather, it functions as a grant-making entity. St. Vincent's Executive Director, Père Irnel Duveaux, creates an annual budget (\$500,000+ right now) and the Board votes to approve that budget and grants the necessary monies which are wired, and documented, monthly. Extra-budgetary capital projects must also be Board-approved, and those funds are obtained with specific requests to donors, often Episcopal dioceses and parishes. Capital expenses in 2025 are about \$125,000. If you'd like to know more, please contact Trustee Elizabeth Lowell at elowell236@aol.com.

Blind Students Receive White Canes

SVC blind students have traditionally navigated by holding hands with the sighted person in front of them or by putting their hands on that person's shoulders. It's common to see an entire line of blind students trailing behind a sighted student. Now, a gift of 25 small white canes from a Trustee will give independence to our younger visually-impaired students. While white canes are used in Haiti, they are not available in country. One of SVC's blind teachers will train the students in use of the canes. And larger canes for our older students are on order. Their delivery time depends on Haitian Customs, which is largely closed to imports at present.

