

St. Vincent’s is Known for its Music

As Père Duveaux reminds us, St. Vincent’s is best known in country for music and the Brace Shop. Some of us who have visited St. Vincent’s in previous years were treated to the Bell Choir. After several years of quiet, that has now been revived. There are six teachers of music, as instrument playing is now an integral part of the program: piano, violin, guitar, bells, as well as song and dance. In 2026, more violins and some flutes are coming. St. Vincent’s students learn music inside our gates and share it with those on the other side. Amid the chaos, it makes a difference.



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www.stvincentshaiti.org

Federal Tax ID number: 62-1564456

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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- LABEL LINE 2
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- LABEL LINE 5



Spring 2026 Newsletter
www.stvincentshaiti.org

Early Gifts Kick Start the Year

Just like a household budget, St. Vincent’s has daily, weekly, monthly expenses. They start on January 1st. In 2026, CMMH will send \$40,100 every month to keep school, clinic, and brace shop open and operating. To do this we need your help. Making your gift early in the year ensures that we can keep apace of expenses and no one stresses out about a possible shortfall. You can make your contribution online HERE or mail a check to:

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

Your contribution ensures educational instruction, medical service and food. THANK YOU!



Thank You, All

Because December brought the gifts which made our \$250,000 annual goal, the members of the Board breathed more easily! In fact, your generosity took us a bit over goal, and we agreed to spend those dollars in two much-needed areas. We bought additional equipment for our Brace Shop and Physical Therapists. Because so many hospitals and clinics have been forced to close, they are much in demand. Despite the actual physical barriers (such as burning tires) to reaching the campus, families continue to come, and the medical staff are treating fully half as many patients as they used to see downtown. We also agreed to expand our small open-air chapel. It is located immediately to the left as one enters the campus. Many parents now walk their children to class and spend the day waiting in the chapel, away from the elements. A larger roof and replacement pillars to support it will mean that there is space for all the parents and for

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all-school meetings. While not major work, it still requires funding.

Père Duveaux constantly thinks of the many small ways in which life on campus can be enhanced, without drawing unwanted outside attention. And because M. Bruno, our School Principal is also an engineer, construction work can be designed and implemented on site. None of this would be possible without your support, and everyone at St. Vincent’s is immeasurably grateful.



What Is Ahead in 2026?

The late January Annual Meeting of CMMH (Children’s Medical Mission of Haiti) which supports St. Vincent’s Center approved a budget of \$550,000. Of this amount, \$505,000 goes directly to St. Vincent’s. That’s \$40,100 for each of 12 months and a staff bonus in December. With the Board vote, that \$505,000 is guaranteed for the year. It covers salaries for 110 employees, 40 boarders, food (100,000 meals!), medical and educational supplies, administration, buildings and grounds, security, and a host of other expenses. It does not cover all the needs nor any emergencies, such as the \$20,000 we had to raise quickly to cover flooding at the entrance last year and the \$11,000 to put a roof on the art and music building...but, we did it, thanks to generous donors.



Our plan for 2026 includes two week-long on-site enrichment sessions for faculty, when outside experts come to campus to improve Braille and sign language competencies as well as further educating faculty about addressing psychological needs. Our goal is to enhance the School’s educational rigor, in terms of faculty capability, curriculum, and educational supplies. While our academic standing is high, we would like more students to progress to the next grade level than is currently the case. Having said that, all eight of last year’s ninth graders passed all of their state exams! Average attendance at class in 2025 was 180 out of 200 enrolled students.

In 2026, we will begin work on a plan for remote learning, that is far better than what we can do now on WhatsApp. Lékol Konekté (if you know French, say it aloud, and it will make sense!) will enable us to reach the students who cannot make it to class now and to reach the entire student body if that need arises. Because we do not yet know the full cost of this program, it is not in the operating budget.

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Dr. Valcy, who lives in Santo 17, will continue to come three days a week to care for students and staff. Our Orthopedic Surgeons, Pediatricians, Brace Shop workers and Physical Therapists will continue to serve as regularly as safety permits. They come to campus by motorcycle, picked up and returned home again by a staff person whom the local gang recognizes.

That remaining \$45,000 in the \$550,000 operating budget keeps the U.S. side going. It covers printing, postage, insurance, an outside bookkeeper and database manager, and an audit. We have no paid staff in the United States.

How does the Board Communicate with SVC?

Every Friday at 9:00 a.m., three CMMH Trustees speak with Père Duveaux for minimally an hour, sometimes as much as two and half. Board Chair Paul Glover, Pedagogical Chair Deane Gordon and Development Chair Elizabeth Lowell listen, learn and ask - about class and medical clinic attendance, gang activity in the area, the political situation throughout the country, progress on projects, any emergencies, financial needs. In other words, anything and everything. With Treasurer, Mike Quinn, we stay apace of monthly expenses. We have our own bank account in Haiti and read the statements carefully. Nothing is started unless the full funds are in hand. All projects are estimated by vendors in advance and the work is phased. Père Duveaux sends receipts and pictures. Board members are ever-mindful of their responsibility to you, our donors, as well as to the IRS. If you have questions, please contact one of the three Trustees mentioned above.

What Does “Adapting” Mean?

When Père Duveaux reports on Attendance in the first few months after classes start, he refers to the number of students “adapting”. This refers to the students who are so homesick that they are unable to adjust well to their environment and to students having a difficult time with learning Braille or sign language. Usually, these are “the littles”- our youngest students.

At the January 2026 Board meeting, Trustees were welcomed, in French, by Arianne, a petite blind 14-year-old who now calls St. Vincent’s home. But that was not always the case. She comes from Cap Haitian in the north, and her father drove her the five-six hours to Port-au-Prince so that she could have a good education. She cried when he left - and, according to her, she continued to cry for six months. Trustees understood viscerally what “adapting” means!



Arianne spoke of what St. Vincent’s has meant in terms of furthering her education, and how grateful she is for the School. She has mastered Braille, and she loves to sing. Trustees hope that they will be regaled by song at the summer Board Meeting. Arianne’s sparkling smile assured us that that would be the case.

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

Thank you for your support!