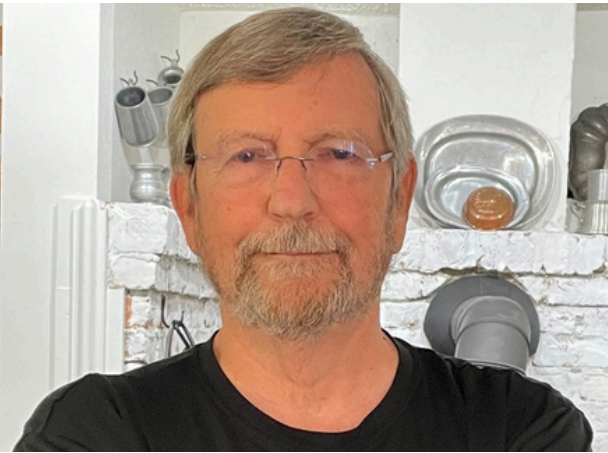


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St. Vincent's has a New Address

Your gifts used to go to Ken Quigley's home address, but with his death and the sale of that house, we have had to move. Here's where we are now:

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

Obviously, we don't live in a Post Office Box, but our database administrator, Jason Lang, lives nearby, and he will input and acknowledge all donations, including those made online at www.stvincentshaiti.org.

In 2024, St. Vincent's needs \$200,000+ in operating funds and an additional \$50,000 for capital projects which enhance our facilities, such as expansion of our vegetable garden, equipment for our Physical Therapist, new chairs for all of our faculty, and better drainage of the campus property. The operating funds are our priority, for that includes salaries, food, medicine, and security. Just like your household budget, it's what sustains our daily operations. Please be generous as you daily nourish, nurture, educate, and medically care for St. Vincent's children.

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



"Many Hands Make..." 500 Meals a Day

First, Mme. Christelle prepares the weekly menu and the accompanying shopping list. Mme. Coeur then costs out the expense, and Samuel Eliazar takes charge of the purchasing. The recently-purchased used pick-up truck then heads to the formal markets in nearby Santo and Croix des Missions, and, when products are scarce, which is often these days, further afield to informal markets in Tabarre and downtown Port-au-Prince. Thus commences the School's weekly search for food.

Once all the ingredients are on campus, six cooks prepare the daily meals, overseen in the small kitchen by Mme. François. One devoted cook has been with St. Vincent's for 18 years! Some 70% of our students arrive without having had breakfast, and perhaps, even supper the night before. Food scarcity is a reality these days in Haiti, and Père Duveaux says that "the most-frequently-administered medicine is food." That "medicine" is delivered as soon as children step down from the bus. Empty stomachs prevent academic concentration and need to be filled ASAP.



Due to rising USPS costs and the need to conserve money here so that we might do more in Haiti where inflation (100% over the last two years) is ravaging income, our newsletter is now a self-mailer and sent bulk. We are grateful to Jason Lang for his redesign of our major communication tool. If you'd prefer to receive the newsletter by email, please provide that information on the reply form when you mail your gift.

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Vineyard Haven, MA
Paul W. Glover, III, Chair
Norwich, VT
Deane Gordon
Williamsburg, VA
Ernsou Jean Louis
Port-au-Prince, Haiti
Sister Kethia Jean Simon
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Dr. Mary White
North Haven, ME
Dr. Pierre Marie Woolley
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Questions?

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or

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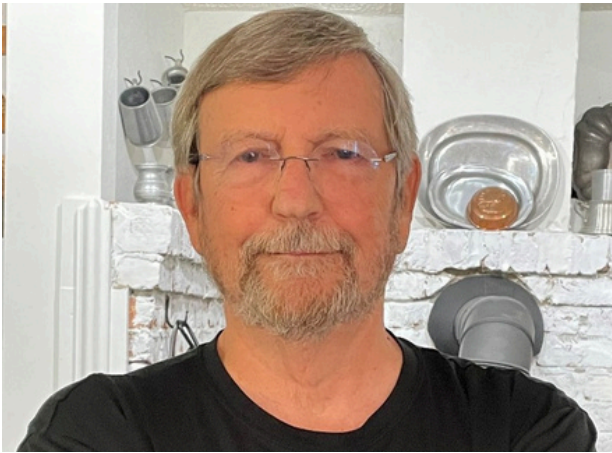
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Spring 2024 Newsletter
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The mid-day meal is always hot and feeds everyone on campus - some 300 people. It is frequently pasta or rice with a nourishing vegetable, beef or fish sauce. There is no dessert, and there are never any leftovers! Supper for the 100 remaining on campus is oatmeal or porridge or corn flakes and milk and tea. This simple fare feeds all those who stay on campus.



While we have a vegetable garden which provides spinach, corn, okra, melons, bananas and papayas, it's not enough. We are limited by a lack of water to irrigate the crops and that lack also constrains the variety of crops which we can grow. Drought exacerbates the situation as we must cut back on irrigation. More water can come only from a much-needed second well; and that well will also allow expansion of the garden. Yes, it is on our 2024 capital projects wish list!

Nutrition is a high priority in St. Vincent's care of students and staff. Installation of a potable water system on campus a year ago was a much-needed addition to the "menu" of healthy provisions. As funds permit, we strive to enhance every aspect of St. Vincent's infrastructure.

Take a Closer Look at Our Students

Propelled by an insatiable desire to learn, our 200+ students are ages three to nineteen. Because half of our faculty are fluent in sign language, our 69 deaf students can acquire a language very early on, so that there is a foundation for future learning. The 30 blind students are ably served by our ten teachers who teach and use Braille; and Director Père Duveaux is determined that even more faculty members will learn to speak these other languages. Remaining students are in wheelchairs or use walkers, are multiply-handicapped or speech-deferred. These handicaps are the reason that while students "graduate" from ninth grade, some are in their late teens when they do so.



Imagine taking the national exams in math, science, history, Kréyol, French, English and Spanish - the required subjects - and doing all of this in Braille or sign language! The Ministry of Education assigns an independent "translator" to each student who has auditory and/or visual disabilities, or the student may take an assistive device. Even so, our students must be incredibly competent to pass the exams. In 2023, all eight of our ninth graders passed every single exam!

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St. Vincent's Board Elects Three New Trustees

At the January 24th Meeting of the St. Vincent's Center Board, Board members enthusiastically elected three new trustees.

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