

Dreams for Haiti

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Food or the Lack of it: This is one of the biggest issues facing Haiti right now. Without the containers coming in with food the people are scrambling. About 90% of the missionaries have pulled out of Haiti leaving a noticeable void. Many of the educated Haitian leaders have left for the USA or Canada leaving programs in shambles. Although we have not been able to ship food we have been sending money so our Haitian leaders may purchase it. Pastor Charles has been feeding the school children a wheat mixture. It is cheaper than rice and beans and the children like it. Ariol has been back out on the streets feeding the homeless. He also gave out food at a church to the elderly and the children. When the gangs come to a village the people run and hide up in the mountains. We have provided food for a pastor and 40 of his congregation members who had to run and hide in the middle of the night.



Ariol
feeding
the
homeless

Money: We are able to send money through moneygram and Charles picks it up being very careful when he does. Pastor Gilbert and I have a USA bank account where he is able to write checks so it is a little safer for him. It is very common to go to a bank and pick up money and go outside and be robbed and beat up. The bankers will work with crooks and call them and tell them who is coming out with money. All banks have armed guards but either they are in on the scheme or they look the other way and don't get involved.

Gangs: The gangs are holding onto their power right now by invading neighborhoods or villages and shooting people, raping the ladies and burning down their houses after stealing any valuables they might have. Over 5,000 have been killed this year that are reported. Our young friend, Alix, lives in one of the villages that was invaded by gangs. Alix, his mom, and 3 sisters had to run for the mountains and sleep there. The gangs control the roads and Alix has not been able to go to work so they have no money for food or to pay rent. (He teaches at a school down the road a little bit and is unable to get to work)

Pastor Charles said the gang members are coming into neighborhoods close to our school. They are in one neighborhood where a lot of our school children live. Charles says many of the neighborhoods have formed "neighborhood watches" where strangers are stopped and questioned to let the gang members know that they are being watched. It is difficult to fight with sticks and machetes when the gangs have big guns. 90% of the capitol, Port au Prince, is now controlled by gangs.

My friends have asked me not to visit Haiti for my safety and also for theirs. If the gangs see that they have American friends then they believe that Haitian has access to large amounts of money so it leaves them vulnerable to being kidnapped. We certainly don't want to put any of our friends in danger so for right now we are not visiting Haiti but our friends are doing a great job of keeping us informed and sending pictures.



Another
family
receiving
a goat!

School: In August we once again found out that several of our sponsored children's families had moved. They leave without telling anyone for fear the gangs will come after them. Another one of our students had been in an orphanage and when it closed he did not want to go back and live with his Mom so Charles and Patricia have taken care of him for years. This summer his siblings told him that his mother was very sick and wanted to see him so he went with them. When he got there she was not sick but then his father came and took him to live with him. Sadly because he is now old enough to go to work he will probably not finish his schooling and will have to go to work to support them.

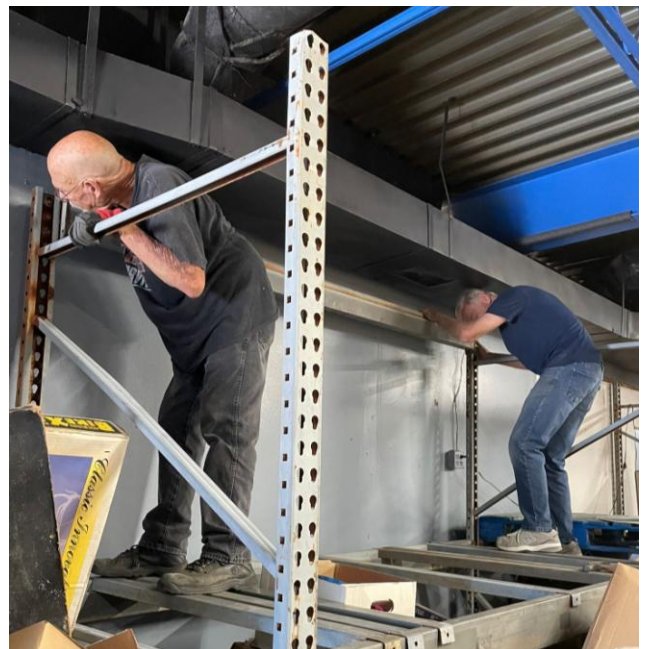


Clinic: Pastor Gilbert's wife was continuing running medical clinics in the south but now the gangs have taken over the roads she uses to get there. They were able to take a small plane but now that is not even safe. Young nurses that have been trained are now running clinics in the villages where the gangs have been. Medicine is very difficult to get and many of the hospitals are out of medicine or they have shut down (gangs took over some of the hospitals.) Dr. Legette is asking for donations for the clinics.



*Holding
clinic under
the trees*

Warehouse: We have been blessed with many donations this summer and fall. Some items were not suitable for sending to Haiti so we have been selling them. Some items we have found people needing right here in our city and some are being boxed for when we are able to ship again. We are thankful for all of them and excited that we got more pallet racking donated. Every 2 weeks we are getting pallets from a nice man. We gave items to a man fresh out of jail to give him a fresh start. We gave medical equipment to an elderly lady after she broke a hip. We are excited that Joe Mica volunteers his time to do a lot of grunt work. And our new friend Jacob is young and strong and a big blessing when it comes to moving heavy items! Let me tell you what an angel looks like. We went to pick up the left over items from St. Peters Church rummage sale but we only had our Haitian friend to help us and he had to leave for work. But a lady with tattoos, sticky up colored hair and 2 sons came along and pitched in. They knew how to pack, never complained about the heat, left to go get lunch when we had to get the second trailer, and then came back and finished loading us up. The Church ladies thought we brought her along, we thought she belonged to the church, now we believe that God sent her and her 2 teen sons to bless us on a very hot afternoon.



John and Joe putting pallet racking together

We hope that you have a very blessed Christmas and 2025 New Year and remember our dear friends and neighbors in Haiti who are struggling right now and could use our prayers.