

HEARTS AND HANDS OF HEROES



ISAIAH 41:10

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Message from the Board

Thank you to everyone who graciously prayed over and donated toward the trip we planned to celebrate the 25th anniversary of FEP children's home in March. Unfortunately, it was postponed due to the Covid-19 crisis, but we are hoping to reschedule later this year, when things settle in God's timing. We mailed down 5 large packages of aid items that were needed, and they were grateful for the hygiene items, feminine products, and clothing they received. Big thanks to all who partnered with us to gather supplies-- we look forward to delivering the rest of the supplies when we reschedule. We are waiting on standby, as the virus begins to ramp up in Hispaniola, as many of you also may find yourselves in the waiting, here in the U.S. We are prepared to help however we are able, but please pray special protection over Michaelle & Gerta (Children's Home Mama's), Ashley & Oriana (Missionaries), and all of the children and families we support, in these times of great uncertainty and trial.

Update from Providence Academy

As a school, they closed down immediately. The teachers did a fantastic job of getting ready to continue via distance learning. They have used Whatsapp texting, voice messages, pictures and even video calling to keep the kids moving forward with their education. While this can never replace the in person learning experience, we are thankful for this option, and that the employees can continue working.

Message from Missionary Ashley Wojton

"I remember this moment before hurricane Matthew a few years ago. I was on the top floor of my apartment just looking out at the trees. It seemed so peaceful, calm and honestly normal except we knew soon everything would change. A big storm was coming our way and there wasn't anything to stop it. We just had to go through it. This moment we are living now feels a lot like that. Our daily life hasn't changed much, and to be honest, many Haitians aren't taking things seriously. They aren't taking many of the social distancing precautions, and even masks are few and far between. This may be because there aren't any known cases in my city yet. The problem is, we can't be tested here, the test is expensive, and no one wants to be the first one with it, so no one is volunteering to be tested. It gives a false sense of security that it won't come here. God wouldn't let it come here, we have suffered too much already, is a familiar phrase I have been hearing. But it is coming. We know that we have 72 known cases and 6 deaths in Haiti, and we imagine it is a lot higher than that in reality. We are not afraid of a lockdown. It's a new phenomenon for many Americans, but for us and many other countries around the world it's a familiar place to be. Although this is different than Peyi Lock, when we had political unrest we had the past year or two. I don't see smoke, burning tires, or know of friends getting their homes tear gassed. You aren't hearing of friends, co-workers or family members being kidnapped or robbed like before. But there's still a fear lingering in the air. The president is trying to do right and closed schools, churches and any other large gatherings after the first day we had a confirmed case. My family, Oriana, and the orphanage have taken many precautions to stay safe during this time. No one comes in or out of the orphanage unless absolutely necessary. We wear masks and try to limit how often we leave the house. I think we all know what is coming when this breaks out across the country. Panic, no sufficient medical care, lack of staff and supplies, not to mention another devastating blow to the already fragile economy. And desperation will set in, people will steal to survive, there will be more robberies and kidnappings and crime in general will rise. This is the calm before the storm and there's no way out without going through it, so we are preparing as much as possible. Keep us in your prayers and we will keep you in ours."

UPDATE ON SHARLA IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The D.R. had a number of Covid-19 cases very early on as the crisis became apparent. Many people were panic buying, as they did here in the U.S., as things began to shutdown. There has been a shortage of food and water at times, but Sharla has been managing well and stocking up when she is able. Her classes are continuing online, and she recently needed a new cell phone to communicate with her professors. Thanks to some generous sponsors providing for this need, she was able to purchase a phone, to help in her studies. We also plan to send her a care package once the postal service in her area reopens. She is staying encouraged and is in good spirits, trusting Jesus to get her through this time! Thanks to all who are supporting her dreams of becoming a doctor! Please continue to pray for her, as she is living on her own in the D.R.





DONATE FOOD FOR FEP & FAMILIES

If you are looking for a way to help Haiti in this trying time of Covid-19, FEP and our community families are in need of some gracious hands to help financially provide food. Prices in Haiti are going up, all while they are supposed to be quarantined and not working. A lot of people are struggling to provide their families with food, and are reaching out to us asking for help. If you would like to contribute, please donate through the link below. Please feel free to share this need with your church or others you may know that would love to give to such an important need.

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