

Mission: Possible

www.toloveachild.net
is the place to go for frequent updates!

Visit us on Facebook too!

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February 2011

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A Very Special
Thank You to:
Xerox Services
Northeast Operation
for printing this
newsletter and
ARC of
Rensselaer County
for folding and
mailing the newsletter.

Child's Artwork Expresses Deep Emotion

Artwork can tell stories or depict ideas but most importantly art stirs emotions. The artwork below was created by Nadia, a 6th grade student, in Rantlamouaie, Haiti. This beautiful drawing and its sentiments were drawn after the students enjoyed hot nutritious meals, sports activities, and craft projects—all things the children seldom have during school hours. To Love a Child also provided a portable water filtration system and installed a solar panel system to provide energy lights for the classrooms. Lighting will give the community abundant opportunities for adult education, bible study and additional student activities which could not be conducted in the dark. The school will also benefit from the gift of its first computer and digital camera as well as English-Creole dictionaries to expand their knowledge of the English language.

"I need you". "I love you". "I very need you".

By Nadia, 6th grader, Rantlamouaie, Haiti



Appreciation for the work we do is seen throughout the community. It's in the artwork created by the students, it's in the smiles and handshakes of everyone you meet, and it's in the excitement and anticipation in the work the community does in preparation for our visits and future projects. In fact, each Saturday people gather to clear debris and widen a path to soon become a road suitable for motorized vehicles to use. It's amazing what a little bit of hope and friendship can do—**thank you for the donations that bring such joy and hope to these people.**

40' Sea Container Delivers Hope

It took 7 months to collect the items for the shipment .



It took a small army to sort, box, tape, label, inventory and load the container.



It took 18 days for the container to travel to Port au Prince, Haiti by land and then by sea. It took 30 days to clear the container from Customs.



They are still unpacking the 768 boxes of supplies and delivering the school desks, chairs, 55 gallon rain water collection drums, solar panels donated by GE, storage containers, soccer balls, wash basins, trash receptacles, wheel barrows, laundry baskets and 450 sterile

5 gallon containers for drinking water collection.

The shipment also contained a variety of food stuffs, first aid , personal hygiene, and school supplies as well as 2,000+ clean durable plastic drinking cups. Books donated by schools in Saratoga County were included in this massive shipment. In anticipation of the books arriving, the secondary school in Lascohobas was able to start a Terminal Class which gives students the opportunities and qualifications needed to enroll in University.

Thank you to everyone who donated supplies, time and energy to make this delivery a reality.

Saratoga County Schools
Surpass Chemical
Holidays Travel Planners
St. John's Church
The Round Lake Fire Dept.
The Marino Family
The Brewer Family
Chaka Ngwenya
John Mace
Miriam Kaba-Marshall
Bill Daniel
Justin Ochrym
Anita Daley
And, all the men from
the county that carried all
those heavy books !

Girl Scout Troop 1442 - Latham
The Boynton Family
The Salkowe Family
Country Club Acres
The Brobston Family
The Schmehl Family



"Children are the living messages we send to a time we will not see. " ~Neil Postman

February Mission Team Focuses on Long Term Projects to Last Generations

Five volunteers from the Capital District spent a busy eight days on the Central Plateau of Haiti in February. The trip included visiting the Orphanage of Good Will in Croix des Bouquet, Transfiguration School in Rantlamouaie, Ascension School in Pouly, St. Philippe School in Corosse and the Holy Spirit School in Lascohobas.

Tim Schmehl & Scott Underhill focused on the installation of a solar panel system, donated by GE, and lighting for the school in Rantlamouaie. They also conducted research to layout the plans for future water projects to include drilling wells, installing cisterns, installing gravity fed piping and building water filtration systems.

Other highlights of the trip included initiating a Maternal Health Program, conducting sports activities, providing meals, and involving the children in art projects. The team was blessed to be able to attend a beautiful wedding ceremony and reception as well as join the congregation in Corosse for Sunday church services.

As with every trip, the warmth, friendship and kindness that was extended to us was very appreciated. Each of us looks forward to our next trip and working with everyone to bring more supplies and services that will help these areas to become more self-sustaining.

**We need Volunteers!
We need you!**

Travel with us. Get involved with our Projects. Join an event committee. Sign-up for our fundraising committee or collect supplies. Go to www.toloveachild.org for more information. Call or write to get involved: **518-859-4424**
directoratTLC@aol.com

Mission Team Members:
Lucinda Ballard, Troy
Cindy Schmehl, Ballston Lake
Tim Schmehl, Ballston Lake
Amanda Underhill, Clifton Park
Scott Underhill, Clifton Park



Caring Hearts

You Can Help Vulnerable Children in Zimbabwe and Haiti Eat for Less than \$2 a Day....

65 children at the Orphanage of Good Will in Haiti and 30 children at the Tafara Pre-School in Zimbabwe rely on To Love a Child for food. Help us to feed these children by donating money each month for their nutrition.

IT'S EASY. IT'S AFFORDABLE.

It's protein, vitamins, fruit, vegetables, grains and dairy products to ensure that their young bodies get the nutrients to develop properly.

PLEASE GIVE!

\$10, \$20, \$40 or more...

ANY amount puts food into empty bellies!

*The Board of Directors of To Love a Child are all members of
The Caring  Hearts Program.*

Payments may be made by:

Mail : To Love a Child, PO Box 165, Clifton Park, NY 12065

**PayPal at www.toloveachild.net
(sign up for an automatic payment each month!)**

Credit Card by calling 518-859-4424

**Your donation can be designated to one program or it
can be shared by both programs.**



50 Women Benefit from Maternal Health Program



In both Haiti and Zimbabwe there is a high rate of maternal mortality. To Love a Child (TLC) is taking measures to help with this situation and already has 50 women in Haiti benefiting from this program.

Working with registered nurses, mid-wives and health care workers, TLC is now providing prenatal vitamins to pregnant women. Since there is a high rate of home births we are providing **"Bundles of Love" Birthing Kits**. These kits contain simple supplies that are highly effective in keeping the birth environment clean and lowering the chances of infection. We are also providing **"Bundles of Joy" Newborn Baby Kits** which contain items needed for the baby during the first months of life.

TLC is also in the process of organizing a mobile health program to travel to our sites to provide vaccinations and immunizations.

We need more caring individuals to help us with this program. If you can sew let us know—we need small fabric drawstring bags and reusable menstrual pads to be made. Can you set up a collection spot at your work or church to collect items such as cloth diapers, maternity clothes, and onesies? If so contact us and we'll provide you with a complete list of supplies needed for this program. Go to www.toloveachild.org for more information.



Memories of the Holiday Season

Your donations provided a very memorable holiday season for the people in the communities we serve.



UGANDA

Over 350
women and
children fed.

ZIMBABWE

Over 400
people
fed and
children
treated to a day
of fun, games
and small gifts.



HAITI

30 children at
the orphanage
fed and treated
to a trip to the
ocean and
small gifts.

USA: Children in a local program for low income families were visited by Mrs. Claus and given treats.

Thank you for your donations that gave these children and adults a Christmas to remember.

Make Dreams Come True

*Every dream that has ever been reached began with
just one step and the belief that it can happen!*

Give an orphan in Haiti the chance of a lifetime. With your sponsorship you will provide hope to a child that they will never forget.

There are 30 orphans right now who are desperately waiting for your help. This is your chance to reach out and do something truly significant.

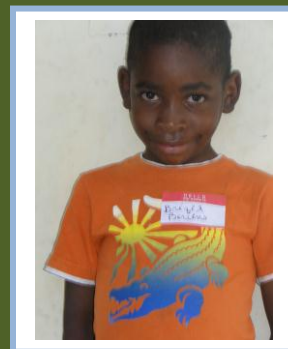
Each month we will feature a few children from Haiti on our web-site. With one click you can begin the journey with your child providing life-changing programs in health care, education and nutrition that will create a better quality of life for them.

When you become a sponsor, we'll contact you with additional information on your child. Throughout the year you will receive drawings, letters or photos of your child benefiting from the gifts you send each month.

Be a part of something extraordinary!

Sponsor a child on your own,
with a friend, as a family,
with your co-workers or
with an entire club or church.

Dreams really can come true for the orphans in Haiti
and the journey begins with YOU!



To Love a Child, Inc., 518-859-4424, directoratTLC@aol.com

Upcoming Events!

The Ultimate Wine and Cheese Experience

June.

The event will provide an intimate opportunity to experience the pairing of unusual wines and cheeses from remote regions of the USA and beyond.

Rhythms of Hope

Working in Harmony to Help Haiti

ACTION: H₂O

Hosted by: The Empire Haiti Coalition
August 30, 2011

The Cathedral of All Saints
Albany, NY

Kids-Giving 2

Coming this Fall

TLC Annual Dinner & Awards Celebration

Coming this Fall

GO TO WWW.TOLOVEACHILD.NET FOR
MORE INFORMATION

Music Brings Joy!



*Rev. Muno and his wife
present the keyboard to the church and school*

For those who have visited a developing country the memory of hungry children, lack of clothing, dirty drinking water, bumpy roads and inadequate housing comes to mind. Yet amongst all the poverty there is one thing that rises above all the worries of day to day life—music. You can hear it in the voices of the children playing outside, in the drums that echo in the night air and in the churches where people gather together for worship, friendship and conversation.

Thanks to your donations we were able to provide a beautiful keyboard to the Tafara Church and Pre-School so the sound of music will ring out more joyously than ever! We hear the youth are already learning to play....

TLC Joins the Empire Haiti Coalition!

The Empire Haiti Coalition (EHC) is a group of not-for-profits, churches, businesses and academics that have partnered with six schools in the plateau region of Haiti. The objective of the partnership is to support our Haitian neighbors with education, water, nutrient, health, and other basic living needs. TLC is proud to be a partner in this wonderful project. For more information please go to www.toloveeachild.org.

Partner - Cathedral of All Saints
Partner - St. Andrew's Church, Albany
Partner - St. George's Church, Clifton Park
Partner - St. John's Church, Troy
Partner - To Love a Child, Ballston Lake
and
Engineers for a Sustainable World
Engineers without Borders
General Electric
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), Troy

Save the Date: August 30, 2011 Rhythms of Hope – Action H₂O
An exciting event to raise money for water projects in Haiti

Please send us your e-mail address so we can forward these quarterly newsletters to you electronically! Thank you. directoratTLC@aol.com.



Special Thanks to
The Arc of Rensselaer County
for helping with this month's newsletter

Clockwise from upper left:
Susan Peters, Jennifer O'Connell, Connie Harper and Beverly Vogt.



FOOD. TECHNOLOGY. CLEAN WATER. EDUCATION. HEALTH CARE. BASIC ESSENTIALS.

To Love a Child, Inc.
PO Box 165
Clifton Park, NY 12065

Enriching Lives Here and Abroad....