



VENTURES IN PEOPLE



"HELPING HAITIANS HELP THEMSELVES"

MAY 2012

NEW LOGO... BUT SAME GOAL SINCE 1979 HELPING HAITIANS HELP THEMSELVES



VENTURES IN PEOPLE

Helping Haitians Help Themselves

From the very beginning, working together, side by side with Haitian physicians, nurses and other volunteers— learning from each other- developing cross/cultural understanding-working as equals has been the common goal.

VENTURES IN PEOPLE is 33 years old... our thinking isn't!

OUR MISSION: VENTURES IN PEOPLE aims to bring HOPE to the Haitian people through appreciating and supporting their efforts to become self - sufficient.

OUR VISION: WE UNDERTAKE PROJECTS that bring HOPE to the Haitian people through programs that promote health, education and community life.

PROJECTS

EDUCATION: STUDENT SPONSORSHIP & PROVIDE ENGLISH TEACHERS

Less than half of Haiti's children attend school because families cannot afford the cost.

The VIP Student Sponsorship Program offers Elementary & High School education and English speaking.



4 H CLUBS: FOR YOUTH 9 to 17 - LEARNING LIFE SKILLS LEADERSHIP & CITIZENSHIP, GOAT CARE & A GOAT

For the MANY who cannot afford a formal school education or live in an area so remote that there are no schools, 4H is an alternate educational opportunity. There are now 23 4H Clubs with 2000 members.



CLEAN WATER: PROVIDE WATER FILTER SYSTEMS- FAMILY SANITATION (COMPOST TOILETS) WELLS

Lack of family sanitation systems and the 2010 Cholera epidemic present an extreme threat to health throughout the country. Most water comes from polluted rivers and streams or collected rain water.

Though an impoverished country, Haitians are proud and resilient people

and desire to preserve their dignity and provide for their families.

They are just like you and me, seeking a better life for their children.



SUCCESS IS NOT MEASURED BY GOALS REACHED, BUT, BY OBSTACLES OVERCOME. (UNKNOWN)

VENTURES IN PEOPLE FOUNDATION, INC.

PO Box 203 • Hartland, WI 53029 • www.viphaiti.org

STUDENT EDUCATION

The month of May was rich with experiences with Louis Tenior Guerrier, our education coordinator in Mirebalais, Haiti, who was with us for the month. He enthusiastically told the story of what VIP is doing in his hometown along with sharing the history of his country and telling his own story. He shared this in schools, churches, service organizations, 4-H and small groups and even on the TV show, The Morning Blend.

We want to thank everyone who made an effort to meet him along the way and give him support and encouragement. We especially appreciated our student sponsors who introduced themselves to him at our Open House or during other presentations he made. This gave him the opportunity to get to know the people behind many of those names that he works with when setting up the classes each year and to say "thank you" for your help.



Louis emphasized the importance of education wherever he went. "Knowledge is the Key", he said, to helping young Haitians become responsible people in their country in order to move it forward. In his story he spoke about the need for VIP's English program to expand. At present we are teaching this in grades 4-6 in three of our nine schools. He and we want to expand this to all nine as soon as possible. VIP has taken on the responsibility of paying the salaries of the English teachers .

Louis also told us that he has 200 children waiting to be selected to be sponsored in our program. While here he encouraged people to become involved in helping a child to go to school for one year for \$150. School has ended in Mirebalais for the summer and soon Louis will be arranging classes for fall.

We'd like to remind our sponsors who haven't already done so to renew your sponsorship, if you wish to, and send the \$150 to our treasurer at the Hartland address. If you are renewing your support of a student, please mark your check "student renewal". If you are a new sponsor, please mark it "new student". That's a great help to our treasurer and to us. Thank you!

SEND CHECKS TO:

VENTURES IN PEOPLE FOUNDATION, INC.

PO BOX 203

HARTLAND, WI 53029

We were pleased to meet many of you throughout the month and want you to know how much we appreciate your expressions of concern for Louis and the work he is doing for our education program. It is his hope that each of us learned more about his country, its history and his hope for its future through education.

Karen Hintz

Barb Seefeldt

VIP Student Ed Co-chairs

TO GET THE NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY:

VISIT US AT VIPHAITI.ORG and sign up on line.

News available the day it is printed.

Reduces postage cost for VIP.

POSTAL SERVICE CONTINUES AS BEFORE:

Send Name and Address to:

VENTURES IN PEOPLE FOUND, INC.

PO BOX 203, HARTLAND, WI 53029

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY:

March – June – September – December

TO MAKE DONATIONS ON-LINE/PAYPAL VISIT

viphaiti.org/donations.html or newindex.html

VENTURES IN PEOPLE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We were fortunate to have Louis Guerrier with us for the month of May, speaking on behalf of Ventures In People Foundation, Inc. He spoke almost daily, and sometimes more than once a day. His telling story of "why" Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere is unforgettable.



Most people who heard his presentation were "moved". One listener said "I never give to charity, I don't trust them, but Louis got to my heart and I am giving a gift". A high school senior said, "I just spent over \$100 on clothes I did not need, I can certainly afford to sponsor a child".

At another school, as Louis appealed to students to appreciate and value their education, they were surprised that it costs the WB School District approximately \$7000 to send a child to school for a year, while in Haiti, through VIP it would cost only \$150 US a year.

We ask the question, "Was this a positive experience for Louis and Ventures In People" ?

My answer is "Yes". Perhaps we cannot point to "dollars" gained at this point in time, but, I believe lives were touched, many seeds were sown and we will realize new support in the future.

For me personally, it was a great joy to accompany him on many of his speaking engagements.

He is truly a servant of his people in Haiti and an ambassador for VIP in Haiti.

George Schowalter
VIP President

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT HAITI ?

A CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE AWAITS YOU

10 Day Trip

January 11 to 20, 2013

For details check the VIP website- www.viphaiti.org or email gschowalter@att.net, Group Leader

Reservations due by OCTOBER, 1st, 2012

Comments from past trip participants

"My trip to Haiti was life changing. It opened my eyes and my heart".

"I appreciated the opportunity to experience the people and culture while traveling from city to countryside—mountain to seashore".

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH AND
LET IT BEGIN WITH ME

TO SHOP ON-LINE/MARKET AMERICA VISIT-

viphaiti.org/marketamerica.com

Register by signing in (Follow the prompts)

TO SHOP: viphaiti.org/supportviphaiti.com

CHECK: STORES- for specific stores

SHOP IT ALL: for specific products or services

HOT DEALS: for coupons or special deals

VIP HAITI receives royalties from purchases and you receive Cash Back.

If you prefer you can send the "cash back" you receive to VIP at the above address.

HONORARIUMS

Mrs. Lois Ann Siferd

MEMORIALS

Albert (Bud) Asch

Bob Holman

Reuben Schmahl

Candy Durdin

Dora Schleif

Richard Smith

Martha Wille

*What better time than Spring
with its' new beginnings to Remember or Honor
Parents, Graduates, Newly Weds and Others whom you know ?
Think about it, won't you ?*

VENTURES IN PEOPLE

Many lives were enriched by the visit of Louis Guerrier from Haiti.
Pictured are just a few of the many places he visited.
Schools, churches, social gatherings and homes.
New experiences for everyone.
School lunch in Haiti? Rice and beans In the USA?
Different each day.
And so it was with many activities.
THANKS from the VIP Board of Directors to all who opened their doors and hearts to Louis.
We DO appreciate your kindness



4-H Team Travels to Haiti June 12-22, 2012

Well, the time has come at last! I will be heading down to Haiti with a team of 9 other volunteers June 12-22nd. Our group will be working with the 4-H program: teaching at 4-H clubs, meeting with leaders, and viewing projects 4-H clubs have been working on with their VIP \$150US grant money. We couldn't be more excited!



We will start our journey on the west coast of the island with visits to three of our more remote 4-H clubs: Montrouis, Perre'Payne, and Archaea. From there, we will head back into central Haiti. We'll call Mirebalais home for the next few days as we venture out into the surrounding villages to meet with 4-H clubs and leaders. Our team, which includes six 4-H youth from Washington County, has prepared some exciting projects to teach at 4-H club meetings! These include woodworking, leadership, goat care, crafts, and recreation. Attending a club's meeting gives us an opportunity to meet the members, teach new skills, and get updates on club activities. Learning more about Haitian culture and sharing a laugh and smile is always part of the fun too!

Another main aspect of our trip is the Annual 4-H Leader's Meeting. This event brings the leaders of all the clubs (23 and counting) together to report on club enrollment, activities, and how they have been using their VIP Grant

money. If clubs have had a successful year, they earn another yearly grant. Since this may be the only time leaders get to see each other throughout the year due to distance and transportation costs, it is also a valuable time for them to share ideas and celebrate successes with one another.

Finally, throughout our trip, we will likely have opportunities to visit sites of various projects that 4-H clubs have been working on with their grant money. 4-H clubs can earn a \$150 US grant each year to use for community enrichment or educational projects. In the past, these have included anything from community gardens to repairing schools to clean water and sanitation projects, like wells and latrines. It is inspiring to see the ingenuity and hard work of 4-H members in the ways they use the grants to make their communities a better place to live!

We are obviously really looking forward to this trip! The group has planned and prepared for many months and is ready to go! Please keep our team in your thoughts and prayers. I look forward to sharing our experience with you when we return!

Peace,

Jocelyn Ritger

Ventures in People 4-H Coordinator

P.S. Watch for more information about the 4-H grant program in future newsletters.