

## Helping Haitians Help Themselves

PO Box 1062, West Bend, WI 53095 • [www.viphaiti.org](http://www.viphaiti.org)

### A Message from the President



Many of you wanted to know what you could do to help those who were affected by Hurricane Matthew. Venture in People has an emergency fund that we can use to help during emergency relief. Through your generosity, as a board we decided to help three other organizations in Haiti in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew (specifics to follow). I believe that we are here to help others when and if we are able. I am very proud to be associated with this organization.

As another year comes to an end I want to thank you for putting your trust in Ventures in People. We can't do it without you!! Are you having a hard time deciding what to get someone on your gift list? How about a donation to Ventures in People in their honor? Please check our website [ww.viphaiti.org](http://www.viphaiti.org) for more information on ways to help. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

-Julie Stauss, President

### Hurricane Relief

Ventures In People has had funds set aside for emergencies in Haiti. Hurricane Mathew devastated the western end of the Southern peninsula. Using the emergency funds and some from our general fund we sent \$1,500 for hurricane relief to three groups working on the ground in Haiti.

\$500 went to Youthhaiti which has had a presence in the area for many years. \$500 went to The Rotary Club of Mirebalais, Haiti which they will use to purchase clothing and other supplies for people who have lost pretty much everything in the hurricane. \$500 went to Haiti Veterinary project, Dr. Kelly Crowdis, who started transporting water filters, tarps, food and even a Cholera hospital for immediate relief and is also supplying garden seeds and goats on a more sustainable level.

These groups purchase or obtain things locally in Haiti which benefits the Haitian economy while helping those affected by the disaster. We now need to replenish our emergency fund and would appreciate donations any time of the year.

From all of us on the Ventures in People Board we hope you have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!



## Ventures in People Presents: 4-H Partner Clubs



This is a chance for your 4-H club, community organization, or family to sponsor a Haitian 4-H club. You will be paired with a club in Haiti and have an annual opportunity to share friendship through photos and letters. A \$150 yearly donation will keep your partner club going strong by providing much-needed funding for club projects, learning opportunities and community service. What a great opportunity to learn about another culture and grow 4-H worldwide!

### The details:

**Who:** This opportunity is open to all. Ideally, we'd love for groups to have a long-term vision and commitment to support a 4-H club for several years so that a meaningful connection can be fostered.

**Why:** Life in Haiti is much different than life in the US. Many Haitians struggle to meet their basic needs. Although \$150 may not seem like a big deal, it allows 4-H clubs to continue to provide their members with valuable experiences that build their leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

**How:** Sign up today by going to: <https://goo.gl/forms/zZLgDOhg9vAqHo5I3> or by filling out the bottom portion of this form. **Registration form and checks should be mailed to: Ventures in People Foundation, P.O. Box 1062, West Bend, WI 53095.** You will be matched with a 4-H club in Haiti and provided with some basic information about the club. Watch for a mailing in spring with a picture of your club.

**A note about communicating with your club:** Since postal service is unreliable in Haiti, it is not possible to mail letters to clubs in Haiti. However, any time a VIP member goes to Haiti to work with 4-H clubs, you will be notified and an opportunity to send letters/pictures to your partner club. These will be given to our Haitian 4-H coordinator to deliver. Bonus: Sign up by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> and you can send your correspondence with our VIP team on their January 2017 trip!

**Questions?** Contact Jocelyn Ritger: [help4h@viphaiti.org](mailto:help4h@viphaiti.org)

Are you a:  4-H club  community organization  family/individual  other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (of club/organization): \_\_\_\_\_ Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes! I have included a \$150 check made out to: **Ventures in People Foundation Inc/4-H.**

**Return to: Ventures in People Foundation Inc, P.O. Box 1062, West Bend, WI 53095**

## Student Education

Ann Neumann arrived in Mirebalais, Haiti just a few days after Hurricane Matthew hit Haiti. Fortunately that area was not hit by Matthew. They experienced some rain but no high winds. The children and their families and Louis and his family were safe. Ann was able to take pictures of 179 of our 209 students. There was concern if the children would be in school while she was there since the country was flying all flags at half staff in memory of those who died in Haiti as a result of the hurricane. Fortunately the students were in school. Karen Hintz followed Ann about a week later and was able to take 13 more pictures. Louis is taking the remainder and will be sending them soon. Hopefully we will be getting them to you early in December. We know you're anxious to receive them. There have been some changes in students since a few of them have moved out of the area. If this applies to your student or students, we will let you know.



*Louis getting information on two of the thirty-four sponsored students from Alliance Communautaire school.*

Karen reports that our English Program is well received by both teachers and students. We thank those of you who responded to our plea to help to keep the program going. We are desperately trying to get funds enough to pay the teachers for the rest of the year and are very concerned about the future of the program. This Christmas you may wish to consider this need in your giving. Many young children in Haiti would be most grateful. Ventures in People is doing its best to help the children in Mirebalais to become well educated young people. As they continue to learn and become better citizens they, their families, and ultimately their country will benefit. What an opportunity for us to be a part of such a journey. Thank you for all you do to support our efforts.

## Water Filters

Over the past year Ventures In People has raised money to purchase water filters for Haitian people whose water supply is not potable. We have ordered 600 filters to be picked up in Haiti in January 2017. A team of six VIP representatives will spend a week in Haiti assembling and distributing the 600 filters. These are family size filters so each one will serve 5 to 10 or more people. The result is 3,000 to 6,000 people will now have clean water to drink and cook with.

This is a particularly good time to purchase filters as the manufacturer has a special offer in which we get one free for each one we order. VIP is currently raising funds to order filters to be distributed in 2018.

## VIP of VIP: Carol Carpentier

My name is Carol Carpentier. I was introduced to Ventures In People, Inc in 2011, the year after the devastating earthquake hit Haiti in 2010. My youngest son, Jaydin, was 12 yrs old when the earthquake hit. He was compelled to do something to help the kids that he saw on T.V. He wanted to adopt all of them. I encouraged him to think of other ways to help.

In 2011 a co-worker by the name of Christina shared that she was going to Haiti to deliver school supplies & other needed items to school children in Haiti. She was associated with VIP, invited me to a meeting, and my love affair with the people of Haiti began.

In 2011, my son Jaydin and I joined a small group of volunteers going to Haiti. We delivered school supplies, clothing, hygiene products. We volunteered at a school, played with kids at an orphanage, and helped to build a state-of-the-art orphanage with bricks made my hand by local residents. Yes, my son Jaydin and I made bricks, by hand, in Haiti, bricks that would be used to build a state-of-the-art, earthquake resistant orphanage. How symbolic.

In one school program, Jaydin, 14 yrs old at the time, shook hands with one of the students from the school, and together they committed to work to rebuild Haiti and overcome the devastation that has plagued the precious, phenomenal, dynamic, resilient people of that country for so long.

Since that time I have continued to participate in the VIP meetings as a volunteer. I have participated in some of the marketing efforts. For example, I volunteered at an event when Louis Tenor from Haiti was here to meet supporters. I volunteered at a

community event hosted by the Chamber of Commerce for the town that I live in. The Chamber of Commerce event was intended to bring attention to non-profit organizations such as VIP, that are active in our community. And I have helped to facilitate contributions to VIP through online shopping platforms such as Shop.com & AmazonSmile.

It's one thing to contribute to the efforts of "Helping Haitians help themselves" because of my own love for Haitian people. It's so much more meaningful to share that love with my son, and to see his concern for the future of Haitians grow as he grows. Thanks to VIP for providing an avenue for my son and I to "help the people of Haiti help themselves". I'm very hopeful for the future of Haiti!

## Online Shopping

**'Tis the season!** Save money this holiday season by shopping online, and contribute to Ventures In People all at the same time! TO SHOP ON-LINE at your favorite retailers, save money, save time, and support Ventures in People, VISIT:

[www.viphaiti.org](http://www.viphaiti.org)

**CLICK on the SHOPPING Tab**

Once there you can choose one of two ways to shop online. Both shop.com as well as amazon smile donate a portion of the money you spend to Ventures in People. What an easy way to help support VIP through this holiday season!

**Contact Carol at 262-573-5433 or [ccarpentier@wi.rr.com](mailto:ccarpentier@wi.rr.com) with questions.**

**Merry Christmas!**

**FA LA LA LA LA, LA LA LA LA!**