

## Helping Haitians Help Themselves

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

### A Message from the President



Waiting for spring?? I know we are here in Wisconsin! Last year at this time a major project was in progress at my

dining room table. I decided that all my pictures needed to be digitized. I found some that belonged to my parents and grandparents. It turned out to be about 3,000 pictures!! Each picture needed to be scanned, cropped, labeled and then put in the correct file. When I started I had no idea it would take weeks to finish and a very patient nephew! The oldest picture that I came across is a wedding picture of my great-grandparents from 1885. Looking at all these pictures was a wonderful trip down memory lane. Reliving vacations with family and friends, pictures of my Mom and Dad when they were dating and so many faces that have come and gone in my life. They say some people come into your life to stay and some just for a short period. Maybe

to help you thru something or to make your life better for a time. I can tell you that as you read this, you have made a difference in the lives of many Haitians. Many don't have the pictures to look back on but with your help they can have memories of good times. Going to school, attending 4-H meetings or being sick less often because of clean water. Whatever you have chosen to contribute to or get involved with, we as the board of directors of Ventures In People are very grateful for you. Want to do more? Please check our website [www.viphaiti.org](http://www.viphaiti.org) and see how to contact me. Join us on a trip, help distribute water filters or come to a board meeting! We are always looking for new ideas. Thank you for your interest and support of Ventures In People.

-Julie Stauss, President

Join us for our next meeting!

Monday, April 23rd 7pm

West Bend, WI

Visit our website and contact Julie for more information.

## Student Education: Lucienne Estime



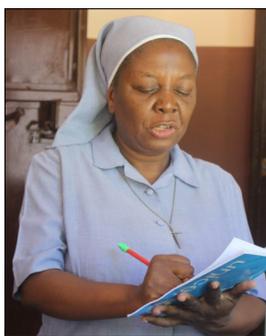
View of Lucienne Estime from street.



Lucienne Estime

LUCIENNE ESTIME is one of the ten schools where we have students sponsored through our VIP Student Education Program.

There are very few public schools in Haiti so for the most part our children are enrolled in private schools such as the one we are highlighting in this article.



Sister Alorissaint

Lucienne Estime is in the City of Mirebalais, Haiti. The school was founded in 1948 by Father Louis Farnese Louis-Charles. Sister Lunie Emose Alorissaint has been the principal for the past seven years and belongs to the

“Little Brothers of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus” Community. 51 of the 400 students are sponsored by families in our VIP Student Education Program. Lucienne Estime has 9 teachers. Classes begin at 8am and students receive a hot meal before going home at 12:30pm.

This year when we were taking pictures, one

of the classes went outside and picked up the trash around the school grounds. What a great feeling to see that the staff and students take pride in keeping the school looking great. Also while taking student pictures, one classroom was teaching the students time.



Students learning time.

Our Haitian Student Education/English Teacher Coordinator in Mirebalais, Haiti – Louis (Tenior) has been teaching



Tenior helping students take notes.

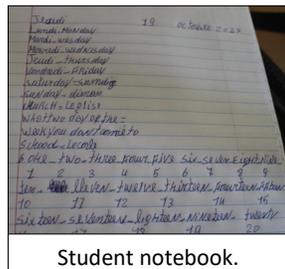
Conversation English at Lucienne Estime for the past five years. He teaches in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year

elementary grades. When I was in the classroom, Tenior was teaching the days of the week and counting from one to twenty. Students write notes in their notebooks

## Lucienne Estime Cont.

what Tenior writes on the blackboard.

I quizzed the students by asking them which days of the week they do not attend school, how many days they attend school, what day it was that day, and how many days of the week there are and their names.



Student notebook.

Thank you to all who Sponsor Students and help with our English Teacher Program.

Quote from Father Louis Farnese Louis-Charles –(French ""C'est quand la formation pratique sera liée au savoir classique qu'Haïti sera sauvé ... et que le pays connaîtra des jours heureux". Il a appelé cette façon d'éduquer les gens "EDUCATION RENTABLE")

(English : "It is when the practical training will be linked to classical knowledge that Haiti will be saved ... and that the country will have happy days." He called this way of educating people "PROFITABLE EDUCATION")



A classroom in Lucienne Estime.

## Water Project

Ventures In People volunteers distributed 800 water filters in a week in January 2018 in the lower central plateau area of Haiti. Half were purchased by VIP and Half by Rotary. Between 4,000 and 8,000 people now can drink clean water. Thank you to all of you who donated for water filters.



Families getting instructions before water filters are distributed.

### In Honor/Remembrance Of

Water filters donated in honor of Karen Karnish, Lisa Karnish, Geoff Karnish, and Katie Kramschuster

~Given by Chris & Karen Karnish

Sponsorship for 2 students in honor of George Schowalter

~Given by Beth & Mike Grzesiak

Student sponsorship and water filter donation given as Christmas gifts to each other.

~Gene & Gwen Krueger

Donation for English Teacher's Salary in remembrance of Mamie Boutain & Sharon Olbrantz

~Given by Marlene Olbrantz

## 4-H Updates

*As I write this, I look out my window and see the silhouettes of trees, cloudy skies, and a few lingering snow piles. While I can't wait for the earth to come alive with color in a month or so, I can't help but admire how winter has a way of pulling nature back to its simplest framework. In a similar way this month, I want to use this space to bring to the forefront again some of the basics of what 4-H is and why it matters. Whether you are a new reader or a longtime supporter of VIP, I hope you'll see and appreciate the impact that 4-H has in Haiti.*



### 4-H strengthens communities.

4-H clubs are small and localized. A 4-H club begins when a committed adult decides to bring together the youth in her or his town and village. Every club is unique, but all clubs share a vision of empowering youth and improving the lives of those who live in their community.

### 4-H builds leaders.

It is the youth who run a 4-H club, under the guidance of caring adults. By putting youth in leadership roles, they learn skills such as decision making, collaboration, public speaking, teaching, conflict-resolution, budgeting, and time management.

### 4-H teaches life skills.

Clubs are committed to educating their youth. 4-H'ers learn skills such as financial literacy, health, gardening, animal husbandry, cooking, sewing, woodworking, and much more. Many clubs have also started their own entrepreneurial projects, such as grinding peanut butter or growing produce for the market. For some youth who can't afford to go to school, the skills they gain in 4-H might be their only education- making 4-H that much more vital.

### 4-H fosters generosity.

Because of the local nature of 4-H clubs, members are invested in improving the lives of those who live in their community. 4-H clubs find creative ways to be of service to their neighbors- whether it be fixing a road leading to the local clinic, donating food grown in their garden to neighbors in need, teaching parents from the club how to read and write, picking up litter, or building public latrines. 4-H youth are invested in bringing about positive change.

*I hope you enjoyed revisiting some of the core tenets of 4-H with me. I'm looking forward to spring and the continued growth of 4-H! May this newsletter find you well!*

Blessings!

Jocelyn Ritger

Ventures in People 4-H Coordinator