



ZONTA
CLUB OF
CAPE GIRARDEAU
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

MEDICAL-DENTAL CLINIC

Sept. 12-17, 2018 the Zonta Club of Cape Girardeau, MO took it's fifth medical team to the Institution Mixte Shalom des Freres school in Croix des bouquets, Haiti. On this trip two Zontians, Dr. Heather Cugini, clinic medical director, and Andrea Sachse, Zonta Haiti Chair and Sponsorship Coordinator co-lead the team of new members. Dr. Daniel Duroseau made it possible for the first fall combination clinic by doing extractions. He saw 39 patients in two and a half days doing 53 extractions. Assisting Dr. D were Nancy Winchester and Josh Greaser.



Dominique Dixon from New York worked with Drs. Heather and Greg Cugini in the medical clinic. Triage was conducted by nurses Jessica Rhodes and Kristen Steffens. The three day medical clinic treated 560 patients.

SCHOOL NEWS

School opened on Sept. 3 and the enrollment was at 305. Many students have not yet returned or may have moved. Each trip we learn something new. While the government requires black shoes be worn at school, they sell for as much as \$25US on the street. Families may hold their children out of school until shoes and a backpack can be gotten.

We took down several suitcases of these items and were able to dispense these during the clinic to families that had yet to return. These items will be an ongoing supply need, as many children walk a long distance on rocky roads quickly wearing out their shoes. A bus picks up students in one direction from the school when gas is available, and hopefully the acquisition of a second one will enable another route as well. Grades 7-10 are in the recently painted new high school building. The first graduating class will be in June 2020. Therefore, a business incubator and vo-tech program are in the planning. Many of the older students show talent in areas such as graphic design. The top floor of the high school will be a science/chemistry stem lab. Older students are now able to eat in the bottom floor cafeteria rather than in classrooms. After school snacks are now provided upon dismissal. The Haitian American Caucus, based in NY, continues to serve as an umbrella over the school. Samuel Darquin, HAC Co-Founder and school CEO, said many children do not eat from lunch Friday until Monday.



Stay connected to HAC through their website: WWW.WEAREHAC.ORG or become a friend on their Facebook page.



GROUP HOME

Recently 75 students at the school were identified as restaveks, child servants. This means when not in school these children are house servants, sometimes with abuse. In hopes of helping older students in this situation a series of group homes are planned. The first will open in Oct. with a house supervisor and 12 students, some of which presently live at the school. These young adults will be learning life skills as they learn to run their household.



Here are two of the excited young people slated for the first home which is nearing completion.

SPONSORSHIP & FUNDING

The students and staff, HAC, and Cape Zonta want to thank all the sponsors that have supported students in the past and ask that you continue your sponsorship. In Aug. three of the Cape Zonta members attended the HAC board meeting in NY and gave a glowing review of the work and integrity of HAC's with the school in Haiti. We are presently at 81 sponsors if all continue. However, we want to reach 100 by the end of the year! Won't you help spread the word about the school. If \$450 is not in someone's budget, any donation is appreciated. Please keep your contact information and club contact name current.

We are discontinuing the monthly PayPal option, as keeping track of this is difficult. However, check payment can be broken down to twice a year (\$225) or quarterly (\$112.50). All checks are made to the "Haitian American Caucus" and mailed to the sponsorship coordinator below. If you still choose the Pay Pal yearly, just email a copy of the receipt to the coordinator. Again we invite you to join us on a mission trip, (March 8-12, 2019) and Sept. 2019, to meet your sponsored child. You can also keep in contact with the school through social media.



A huge shout out to Kristen Steffens who obtained cases of vitamins from Cape Girardeau and Jackson area pharmacies. These were the first vitamins the children had received in the last two years.

SPECIAL NOTE

Please keep the Raphael family in your thoughts. As the team prepared to fly home, four of the family's children were struck by a truck while walking to school. Nine year old Samuel had a leg amputated and while initial surgeries went well, the other leg is showing signs of infection.

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