



Children Homes Update

Haiti Lovelink Children's Home

In December, four more girls were added to the Home. As a result, all the teen girls were relocated to a larger dorm room, allowing more beds in the younger girls' dorm. Beds and mattresses donated by The Ohio State University went to the Home making this expansion possible. The four young girls who were placed in the Home are the Courtois sisters: Peggy, Amanda, Melissa, and Stephanie; their mother died of AIDS at Christmas and the girls, who have tested HIV negative three times in the past 4 years, are all healthy and living in a loving, Christ-centered environment now. Their brother, Robenson Faustin, is in Lifeline's Scholarship Program. He was first in his class at graduation last June and is now in computer school. Peggy Burke led their mother to Christ several years ago



Peggy Burke with the Courtois girls

and has been a key factor in the maturity of Robenson and the care of these precious girls.

January work teams from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio, and Missouri came to Haiti to work with Lifeline and brought shoes,

underwear, nightclothes, socks, toys and so much more for the children at the Home. They prepared recreational programs for them including basketball, crafts and other fun

things. The children performed for the Americans and there are many talented youngsters at the Home. Special expressive dance, songs, and testimonies from the young people brought laughter and tears to the eyes of the team members.

The Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio has "adopted" the Children's Home. Each quarter they follow Lifeline's list of "needs and wants" and their church members put together beautiful packages that are distributed to the children. Peggy Burke, who oversees this project, was here with Yvonne Gardner and they were able to distribute the lovely gifts and much-needed items to the 59 enthusiastic kiddies.



Karen Eckert distributing shoes

When the annual women's work team was present in February, the children did a special program for us: they performed what they had learned in their "Walk Thru The Bible" classes, which was a choreographed history from Creation to Sampson. It was super! Since the Haitian people



The kids eagerly inspect their gifts!

Prayer Requests for the Haiti Children's Home:

- That each child will continue to grow in Christ and become strong, upright Christian citizens, having a positive impact on Haiti
- That they will pass their upcoming exams
- That God will continue to protect them and keep them healthy
- For Everne & Martine Auxilas, Directors and Resident House Parents, and their own four children as they minister to the children at the Home and share their lives with them
- For the main truck that is broke down which allows Everne and other staff members to do the weekly shopping for the food for the children

Haiti Lovelink Children's Home continued...



The children performed their "Walk Thru the Bible" program for the women's work team



learn mostly by rote (memorization) the "Walk Thru" method of teaching the history and major events of the Bible fits well in Haiti. There is a tremendous amount of enthusiasm for this program. Also Emmanuel Christian Church in

Pittsburgh, PA sends Christmas gifts each year for each child at the Home. This year was no exception and the women's work team had the privilege of distributing these wonderful toys and goodies.

Praises and Thanks!

- Praise to God and thanks to the generous Americans for all the clothing, shoes, hygiene items, sanitary products, nightclothes, shower shoes, vitamins, etc. that work teams brought
- Also for the blue bus that brings



The Children's Home residents with Christmas gifts from Emmanuel Christian

Thank you to each of you who has been so faithful in your prayers and support of the children at our Homes. We send our gratitude and encourage you to continue to be in prayer and support for these young ones.

the children to Grand Goave for those special visits. Hopefully, now that things are improving politically in Haiti work teams can once again visit at the Home rather than bussing the children to Grand Goave, although the children love coming here!

- Continued praises for the nice chest freezer donated by Zoe Furgason of Delaware Christian Church, and for the piano donated by the Brockmeyer family...these young people are so blessed by these items.

Needs:

- More musical instruments
- Computers, printers and software for Computer Science Training
- Books for their library/learning room (French or Haitian Creole)

Important Information for both Children's Homes:

- The children in the Homes do not need sponsors to send money for Basic Baskets or Rice & Beans. Lifeline provides their food and all their basic needs, just like any family. Extra money sent by sponsors to their child is given to the Directors of the Home to be used for the specific needs of their sponsored child. Then the Directors present receipts to Lifeline showing that the funds were used for that child.
- Lifeline is very grateful anytime extra funds are sent to support the Children's Homes. We encourage sponsors and others to donate extra money to help with the basics as well as "extras". (The child sponsorship of \$25.00 per month does not begin to cover the cost to support one child in the Home 24/7)
- Some of the extra items needed: bed sheets, towels, books for school, medicines, hygiene items, soccer uniforms, and more...just like your own children! New mattresses must be purchased every few years, as well as plastic mattress covers.
- If your church, organization or other group would like to provide items to the Homes, we have a schedule of items needed and which months we are asking for them. For example one month we ask for hygiene items, another month for night clothes, etc. When donating items specifically for the Home, you receive photos of the children receiving your donated items. Email Lovelink@Lifeline.org for the schedule of items needed.

From the Archives...



Bob celebrates his 60th birthday with the children at the Home.

Honduras Lovelink Children's Home

The newly-acquired Home at Omoa, Honduras has undergone a dramatic "face lift", but that's only part of the exciting happenings!

We were so blessed to have as members of the First Christian Church (Springfield, OH) work team a professional furniture maker, a cabinetmaker and a contractor. This team gutted the kitchen, built cabinets for the pantry and kitchen and built wardrobes for the girls. Everyone pitched in with the cutting, drilling, treating with an anti-termite stain and the first coat of paint. Even Janny jumped in to learn how to build cabinets and work with wood. A computer database was also created for all the girls' records, including medical and dental.

The work team from Oregon included a nurse, a hygienist and a dental assistant. They were able



The team from First Christian Church worked hard building cabinets and wardrobes for the Home

to complete basic physicals and determine the dental needs of all the girls. These wonderful ladies also held a class on basic hygiene and dental care. The girls asked questions and really appreciated



The front gate at the new Children's Home

Omoa Girls

by Janny Augustus

Joel and I have been working in Honduras with Lifeline for 10 years and have experienced long valleys but have also reached many mountains. As we complete a decade of missionary work, I would like to share God's latest assignment: an orphanage.

Since we arrived in Honduras back in 1996 Joel's assignments have increased significantly from being Dean Cary's apprentice to preaching; teaching; hosting groups; overseeing teachers, doctors, preachers, construction workers, cooks; accounting; legal representation; helping start a new outreach in El

Salvador; and many other things, so I have to admit that "one more thing" was not on my list for him to do. As we all know, though, God is always at work and as long as we allow ourselves to be used, He will let us be part of His plans.

Last October I went to the orphanage to meet the girls. I was surprised at how well mannered they were. (I guess for some reason I was expecting the contrary.) At first they were very reluctant to get to know Joel and I. I don't blame them though; they have been through a lot in their lives. The youngest one in the home is Estefany. She has a sweet smile and is almost a tomboy; her hair is very curly and short. When I asked her why it was so short she said she likes it that way because she

doesn't have to fuss over it! (my kind of girl!). She wraps her arms around me all the time and I can't help but love her. Never in my life has the topic of adoption crossed my mind until I met her.

The older girls are full of dreams and girly talk. Anabell is the oldest and she is very quiet but always observing and analyzing everything. Lourdes, on the other

hand, talks non-stop and is very good at sports. She giggles for hours, has a servant's heart and is also very sweet. Merlin is the most talented one when it comes to

crocheting, drawing, crafting and poetry. She and I are kindred spirits. She opens up to me with no effort and when I go there I look forward to talking to her and seeing her latest project. Julissa plays basketball, rides a bicycle and LOVES to listen to music. When you hear the only radio in the house playing really loud, you can be sure to find her next to it!

Joel and I are privileged to have witnessed all of their baptisms; somebody has done the planting and pruning before us and to harvest these souls for God is amazing!

The orphanage is a great undertaking and a challenge but also an incredible opportunity to bless and to be blessed.



Honduras Lovelink Children's Home continued...



The girls received Christmas gifts from the women's work team in October 2005

getting this special attention.

Nora Suisse returned to the U.S. in January and Lifeline was able to see that a vehicle was provided for her.

Visitors to the Home from Kensington Community Church and House of Hope at Omoa conducted VBS several days for the girls, brought them gifts, craft items and showered them with blessings. It was good for our staff, Carlos and Paty and their family, to get to know the Kensington/House of Hope folks on a personal level.

A new basketball court has been installed at the Home, too.

The girls love to visit Lifeline's CaryHill mission complex. They are

so blessed to go there and have more space outdoors for fun and games.

Two of the government social workers visited and they were in awe. Very excited!

The new girl that just arrived, Elvia, was born in the United States so she is a U.S. citizen. But she cannot return there until age 18 since she has no adult to be responsible for her there. Regardless, the U.S. Embassy has been following her case. Therefore, we were instructed to expect a visit by the consular authorities within the week to check on her new home.

Eight of the girls went to CIY (Christ In Youth) in January. They had a great time. It was their first camp experience ever.

In May we will begin the child sponsorship program for the girls at the Home. Photographs will be taken, measurements, biographies, and more information will be available for each girl. If you have felt led to sponsor a girl at the Honduran Children's Home, please email Lovelink@Lifeline.org to be included on the list of persons interested in sponsoring one of these girls. Many people have indicated an interest to sponsor these beautiful young girls but we have not kept any previous, formal record of requests. (We did not want to begin this process too soon because new girls have been added to the Home and some have left.)

Praises and Thanks!

- Thanks to the former Omoa supporters (CCO&O) who have pledged and continued supporting the Home through

Prayer Requests for the Honduras Children's Home:

- That the girls will continue to grow in Christ. They are all "babies" in the faith and this world can be oppressive at times, especially when you don't have a family to lean on.
- For the Directors, Carlos and Paty Cojon, as they minister both spiritually and physically to the children.
- Pray for those who are seeking to adopt some of these girls; that God would expedite paperwork and provide the means for them to become a family.
- Pray for their future husbands, that they will be men who truly honor God and desire to serve Him.
- For the financial shortfall to be met...some who committed to continue their support of the Home have not done so.
- Pray for Lifeline as we continue to formalize procedures, policies, vocational and educational plans and for the overall administration of the Home.

Lifeline

- Another group of young girls have committed their lives to Christ and been baptized recently



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Joel baptized five girls in November 2005