



Sisters of St. Joseph U.S. Federation Event 2016

<http://www.cssjfed.org/>

MISSION HAITI INITIATIVE TALKING POINTS



- The Mission Haiti Initiative, sometimes referred to simply as “Mission Haiti” or “Project Haiti,” is a Sisters of St. Joseph Federation response to the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010.
- Already possessing an inadequate infrastructure, the 7.0 quake and large aftershocks reduced the country to ruins and pushed the number of homeless to approximately 1 million. While the official death toll is not clear, the most conservative estimates approached 100,000.
- Following the quake, our UN-NGO representative, Sister Griselda Martinez Morales asked how Sisters of St. Joseph around the globe may respond. Sisters from the US and Canadian Federations submitted a grant proposal that was accepted by leadership in each Federation: “Rebuilding Haiti through the Empowerment of Girls.”
- Rebuilding Haiti through the Empowerment of Girls is a ten-year project, providing education for ten Haitian girls from primary through secondary school; three years of technical education for ten girls; assisting in the salaries and certifications of teachers where the girls attend; and financial assistance to rebuild the secondary school.
- Rebuilding Haiti through the Empowerment of Girls is facilitated by a carefully selected partner: Mission Haiti, Inc., a non-profit organization based in Minneapolis, MN. Mission Haiti, Inc. has an excellent relationship with Annunciation School and College Coeur de Marie (Heart of Mary) secondary school in Leogane (about 20 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince). This is the location our support is covering. In addition to our Rebuilding Haiti project, Mission Haiti, Inc. supports several projects in the country.
- Annunciation School and College Coeur de Marie secondary school are staffed by a religious congregation of native Haitian women, the Sisters of the Company of Jesus.
- In addition to Federation support, individual congregations have provided grants to support several projects, sponsorships and emergency responses.
- As of Feb. 2016, eight sponsored girls are now in Grade 4 and two are in Grade 3. Though there is some grade level separation, this is not unusual and funding will continue for all the girls. The teaching staff is very stable, with one teacher achieving advanced certification, while others continue to make progress. School repairs have been completed at Annunciation School. College Coeur de Marie, which was completely destroyed in the quake, is closer to completing its new campus of properly reinforced buildings.



For Additional Information, Visit :



Mission Haiti Initiative at

<http://www.sistersofsaintjosephfederation.org/archive/400-mission-haiti-initiative>



Mission Haiti Inc. at <http://www.missionhaitiinc.org/about-us/>