



# Bulletin

Caribbean Children's Foundation

Spring 2023

## From the Director: Celebrating 20 Years

The year 2023 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> year of Caribbean Children's Foundation. Yes, 20 years! Back in 2003, I wasn't living in Haiti and certainly had no idea 20 years later CCF would still be in existence. Oh! How faithful God has been! Through good times and difficult times, God provided people like you to help keep the ministry running. Hurricanes and earthquakes were all greeted by overwhelming support. I am so grateful for YOU!

I have remained in the USA for several months due to the uncertainties in Haiti. God is using me stateside. In the meantime, my husband has returned to Haiti to access the situation and to ramp-up the various projects that are more challenging due to the unavailability of gas and the skyrocketing prices.

On a brighter note, last year, we did extensive fundraising for various projects. With those funds, we are now able to move forward with several projects.

An outdoor kitchen is being built at the orphanage which will prevent the smoky and toxic fumes, generated by the charcoal and wood used for cooking, from entering the living spaces.



*Foundation for Orphanage Kitchen*

After at least two years of dead batteries, the eight expensive solar power batteries have been replaced. Light will again return to the school, the guesthouse and the church on the sunless days that had been leaving those facilities in the dark.

The corroded roof of the school and church at Boisbouton is now being replaced. When complete, the students and worshippers will no longer "dodge the raindrops", as they did previously when the leaky roof would give way to streams of water coming into the building.

The landscaping is being prepared at the medical clinic. The one end loader that could be rented from the island officials is out of commission and no one knows when it will be repaired. Even this brought some good to the island as now many people have a paying job of clearing the land by hand with pickaxes and shovels. They are eagerly attacking the weeds, overgrown bushes, and the uneven terrain. This makes us one step closer to having the clinic ready to serve the community.



*Landscape surrounding Medical Clinic*



Four medical exam tables have been donated by a doctor who no longer needs them. We only

need to pay for the shipping to get the tables to Île-à-Vache via plane, boat, and a truck. You have made this possible too!



So many children can attend school because of our sponsorship program. One of our proud “mama moments” is the exciting news of how this program has helped one of our orphanage boys. Stanley, who is now an adult, has entered medical school and is living in LesCayes with his brother in a rented room near the college. I sure wish his deceased birthmom could see him now. We are so proud of him!

I would be amiss if I did not beseech you to continue praying for the critical situation in Haiti. There are no elected officials remaining in the government. Gangs continue to terrorize communities. Kidnappings for ransom and the murder of the innocent is commonplace. The country is in complete disarray and the people are finding it harder and harder to survive. Pray for an end to this tragedy. We know God can fix anything, even in the most hopeless situations.

Thank you for your faithfulness in our ministry to the children of Haiti!

Serving HIM,

*Nora Léon*

Nora Léon  
Executive Director



*Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. – James 1:12 ESV*

## Meet our New CCF Board Members

### My name is Mary Rigterink.

I currently work for Perrigo as a Process Support Engineer in the Technical Operations department.



I was introduced to Caribbean Children's Foundation through Chris Meaney (CCF Treasurer) and had the great fortune of being invited to join the 2019 Haiti team from Grace Lutheran Church on a mission trip to Les Cayes and Île-à-Vache.

What most impressed me with CCF was not only the basic needs they provide, but the long-term development projects, including the children's education program and the continued progress on the orphanage, medical center, and school facilities.

I'm honored to join the board to support the foundation and its mission to improve the lives of the Haitian children and their community.

### My name is Guy Huber.

I have lived my whole life in Buffalo, NY. I have four wonderful children, five grand boys and a grand baby girl due in June.



I work in a Family Business with two of my brothers in the Food Processing and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry as a Senior Field Tech Manager.

I've been a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for 26 years, serving in various roles on the Council, while also chairing several committees in our church and surrounding community.

I joined the CCF Board because I think it is one of the best ways I can give back and have a voice in the community. I look forward to sharing my skills, helping to guide and hopefully grow with this organization over my time.