### April 29th, 2017

# **Nutrition Proposal**



Submitted By: Haitian Homes for Haitian Children

Placeholder Proposal Recipient Address Name 3836 Oak Grove Rd Loganville, Georgia 30052

### **Executive Summary**

Haitian Homes for Haitian Children (HH4HC) would like to invite the \_\_\_\_\_ Foundation to help further our impact in the city of Jérémie. A grant from your foundation will ensure that the children in our education programs have access to their nutritional needs for another year. We are confident that this support will also expand our outreach to more Haitian children desperate for an education.

In 2012, HH4HC cared for 6 children, but has since expanded, and now supports 45 with their educational and nutritional needs. We are invested in the well-being and future of these children. Education is extremely important in Haiti, but is also a great economic strain on families, one we help to relieve. Our Haitian staff of four accredited teachers devote themselves to not only the children's education, but also their health. The entire staff helps serve the meals that meet the nutritional needs of the children, and these meals are crucial to their success in school.

By, investing in the children's nutrition, we also invest in their education and future. The lunches and Vita Mamba (a peanut and soy based nutritional supplement bar) we provide the children have proven to be critical factors in their schooling because it keeps them alert during their studies and not hungry. However, nutrition stands as one of our most substantial expenses. As the number of Haitian children in need of proper nutrition and schooling grows, we hope to expand and bring more of these children into our care.

The funding for the children continues to be paid for by sponsors. Unfortunately, children are not added to the program unless sponsors are added, and this limits our efforts. Our greatest fear is having to cut programs such as nutrition, tutoring, and summer school for the children and having to limit the number of children added to the program.

Support from the \_\_\_\_\_ Foundation will ensure that HH4HC continues to make a positive, long-term impact in Haiti. We are determined to keep families together and ensure that the children have an opportunity towards a better life. Together we can continue to grow and make a difference in the lives of so many children desperate for an education and a future. Our goal is to help these future citizens of Haiti make better choices for themselves, and also their country.

### Statement of Problem

The 2010 earthquake and Hurricane Matthew in 2016 have worsened the lives of thousands of children and families in Haiti, the third hungriest country in the world. The conditions in the city of Jérémie, a regional capital and area of operations for Haitian Homes for Haitian Children, have been especially harsh after the natural disasters left thousands of children orphaned and families unable to afford food, let alone education.

After Hurricane Matthew swept through Haiti, BBC news reported that Jérémie suffered the most damage. Jérémie had not yet recovered from the 2010 earthquake when the storm destroyed an estimated 80% of the city. This aftermath of the hurricane, along with sanitation problems, has caused the problem of nutrition to be greater than ever. Due to massive amounts of surface runoff in the Grand-Ans region, crop yield has decreased significantly.

"It took a long time for these trees to get strong and now all my coffee has been lost. Our plantains and vegetables, everything is gone," said Rico Lifete, who works a small plot in the craggy mountains outside the coastal city of Jérémie and managed to save his dozen chickens by keeping them inside his stone-and-stucco shack with his family. (Oct, 16', Associated Press)

Situations like this cause a lack of nutrition which in turn causes deficiencies in brain development. The brain burns an immense amount of energy relative to the rest of the body. Tie a lack of nutrition in with the lack of education and the problem begins to show itself.

HH4HC provides children with, not only education, but their nutritional needs to excel in their schooling. Hungry brains do not retain much information and struggle to stay alert. If the children are hungry, they lose interest in their school work and lessons and can only think about food. Investing in their nutrition is investing in their education because if fed regularly they will excel in school.

### Statement of Need

Haiti's children have never needed nutritional aid more than the present. Unicef ranks Haiti 31st on a list out of 196 countries suffering from five years and under mortality. According to the nonprofit Chances for Children, statistics show that 4 out of every 10 children in Haiti suffer from stunted growth and 1 in 5 children die before the age of five. That's 1,400,301 children suffering from malnutrition and 700,150 children dying, roughly 13.35% and 6.6%, respectively.

A majority of Haitian children are required to work instead of attend school, regardless of whether they are given food at home. They do not receive enough aid, and the money they do receive goes to expenses for the family, and so they are trapped in this cycle.

While major cities like Port au Prince have a wider selection of food, the smaller cities in Haiti have a less abundant selection. With unpredictable seasons and equally unpredictable harvests, an apple can go for upwards of \$5. Compare that to the 59% of the population living off of \$2 every day, and there's a possibility of never eating a fruit or vegetable in many people's lifetime. The need for nutritional aid for Haiti's children is clearly great.

The children receiving aid from HH4HC are among some of the most amazing and underserved in Jérémie. With limited access to fruits and vegetables, it is crucial for these children to receive these nutritional supplements on a daily basis. With continued aid, HH4HC has been able to extend this service to 60 total students 365 days out of the year.

Haitian Homes for Haitian Children has been able to sustain itself through generous donations by various churches, grants, and a healthy subscriber base. Through family stipends and nutritional aid, each child is able to continue to work, attend school and tutoring offered by HH4HC. The fact that HH4HC has several staff members' on-site means that they can effectively reach children who might be neglected or overlooked by other educational or nutritional services, potentially assisting several children at that higher risk of mortality or serious health problems.

### **Organization Information**

Haitian Homes for Haitian Children (HH4HC) is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to keeping Haitian families together to avoid child abandonment. HH4HC was established in 2016 as a 501(c)3 when the current Board of Directors wanted to create a place dedicated to the response of all physical, emotional, and economic needs of Haitian children and their families. The ongoing devastation endured upon Haiti has transformed the country's demographics into one of great need. In Haiti, 54.8% of the population consists of youth dependent, with 62.3% of Haiti's total population dependent upon the remainder.

Under the lead of Board Director President Robert Roney, Haitian Homes has helped the families of over 60 children. Haitian Homes is currently operated by ten leading board members, a four-team group of ex-officio members and a friendly team of volunteer-based individuals. Haitian Homes offers foreign aid with several members at an on-site location in Jérémie. Currently, Haitian Homes offer a wide variety of programs dedicated to meeting the needs of those in the community. These programs include:

- Providing education opportunities for 60 children through schooling.
- English tutoring with an on-staff tutor for 30 students.
- Economic assistance in the form of family stipends.
- Donations of motorcycles for the sake of family transportation.
- Nutritional aid by offering 60 children daily nutritional supplements.

Working as Executive Director, Jane Carney's sole responsibility is to the Board of Directors and every investor that cares for Haitian Homes for Haitian Children's success. She frequently travels to Haiti to work alongside the staff and oversee the work being done in Jérémie. Working within the guidelines of a quarterly-approved budget, Jane works with Robert Roney, the Board's President, and Nancy Coker, Treasurer and Bookkeeper.

Haitian Homes for Haitian children strive to create the best place for children to grow up in a loving, permanent family, instead of an orphanage. Continued efforts make it possible for Haitian children to remain in their own families, receive an education, and have their health

needs met.

### **Project Description**

We want to provide Haitian children with hope through education. Our overall goals are to:

- Hold families together.
- Educate children in efficient schools.
- Provide effective and consistent health care, and
- Grow the number of children within our program without increasing sponsorship cost.



This image shows a child full of joy after receiving her Vita Mamba supplement bar.

Currently, we provide nutritional development for 60 children, 265 days of the year (during school and summer school days), but we look to be able to provide meals for all our children for 365 days. With the funds formerly requested, we will continue to improve the children's nutritional wellness under our care. We have seen significant increases in student's grades after receiving the Vita Mamba supplement, so much of our attention will be given to the provision of Vita Mamba daily. Hot meals during tutoring times will also be given to keep students more alert during school. Our goals may alter based on effectual guidance and the experience we gain through our implementation. We aim to cultivate the safest, healthiest, and most cost-efficient method to give our children what they need.

# **Objectives & Methods**

We aim to deliver adequate nutrition so that our children may progress in their education, as nutrition plays a fundamental role in in the attentiveness of our children during school and tutor times.

#### **Objectives:**

- a) Provide a Vita Mamba (a protein peanut butter bar) to our children daily to improve student alertness during school.
- b) Serve either a hot meal with fruits or a sandwich between school classes and tutoring or during study hall 3 days a week.
- c) Establish a balanced nutrition during summer school by giving two meals (breakfast and lunch) 3-4 times a week for 6 weeks.
- d) To maintain and monitor children's health during their time in the program to ensure children are receiving the nutrients they need.
- e) To increase students grades in school during the school year, by improving their nutrition.

During our experience serving our children in Haiti, the organization's educational and nutritional programs have improved the children's health and well-being, education, and familial standing. Therefore, we will be working towards our goals with these methods:

#### **Methods:**

a) To ensure our children are receiving Vita Mamba at a proper and consistent time, we will purchase the product from Meds & Food for Kids and transport the product through Chap Haitien and Port-au-Prince to Jérémie. We will work to distribute the supplement before or during school to maintain student awareness. 2/3rd of our children attend the Baptist School and Vita Mamba is distributed to them at the door to maintain controlled distribution. Also, at monthly stipend meetings, we give Vita Mamba to the mothers of the children for them to distribute.

- b) During tutoring time and summer school, we use the services of a cook so that the children receive a hot meal. The entire staff helps to serve the meal to the children and the children help with cleaning up.
- c) To maintain and monitor children's health, we have staffed a health coordinator (Yvelore Moises) who keeps medical records, oversees the medical treatment and the health of our children, and attends their medical and dental visits.
- d) As previously mentioned, we intend to continue access the tutoring program by keeping track of student's grades. Two of our employees make home visits to all the families.
  This way we continue to receive updates on the status of the families.

## **Staffing & Administration**

We maintain a Haitian staff who make monthly visits to speak with the children and parents. The staff manages the tutoring and nutritional programs. The American executive director receives regular reports on the status of the children through school records and makes frequent visits.

#### Key Staff Members and Qualifications:

*Jane Carney* is our U.S. based agent. All the staff in Haiti are Haitian and they each have college degrees. Two employees (Serge Severe and Rolin Despeines) work at least 40 hours most weeks but are listed as part-time because their work schedule varies a great deal and they wish to remain flexible.

#### Jane Carney – Executive Director

She is responsible to the Board of Directors and works within the guidelines of the approved budget. She works closely with the Board President (Robert Roney), the Bookkeeper, and the Haitian staff. She communicates between the Board and the staff in Haiti. She also organizes publicity and fundraising for the organization. Finally, she travels 3-4 times per year to oversee the program and communicate through email and telephone with the staff.

#### *Serge Severe – Education Director*

Compensated and treated as full time. Occasionally he works as an interpreter for a medical group and as such is compensated at a high level. He does, however, have a teaching degree. Our 2 main employees are cross-trained so that he can take advantage of these opportunities.

#### *Rolin Despeines – Administrative Director*

He covers for Serge when he works other jobs. Both Serge and Rolin have been provided with motorcycles as transportation since they are required to make home visits to all the families.

#### *Yvelore Moises – Health Coordinator*

She oversees the medical treatment and the health of our children, accompanies them on medical and dental visits, and teaches health classes. She keeps medical records on them. She is part-time

#### Daniel Saint Juste – English teacher

Daniel teaches English to our top 15 students on a trial basis for a year. He is part-time. In addition to our regular staff, our summer school staff involves 6 other compensated staff members. Tutoring involves 3 to 4 other people and all must be accredited teachers and are compensated accordingly.

# **Evaluation**

For HH4HC, we measure success in a variety of ways:

- We will follow our children's progress throughout their schooling. Many of the children's grades have gone up, about 20%, after the hurricane kept them out of school for 5 weeks, and we calculate the success of the tutoring program each year by keeping records of their grades.
- We also started keeping health records on the children this year. Seeing a maintained health and nutrition in these records allow us to keep track of their wellness.
- To ensure that families are staying intact, we will send out staff members to check in on the status of the children and the parents. They will report back with their update.

### Sustainability

These funds will be used towards different aspects of our nutritional program. This grant will enable HH4HC to provide nutrition for the current children we have in the program. It will also enable us to expand our services throughout the year instead of just a portion of the year. We do expect to sustain our program through:

- **Sponsorships** Sponsors pay for the education costs, health costs, and \$40 per month stipends to families.
- **Grants** We receive one ongoing grant each year for \$15,000 to \$20,000. We also have two or three small grants of about \$5,000 that are ongoing from individuals.
- **Donations** We continue to visit churches and almost all of them have increased their support to us. Support from churches equaled to \$12,566 in previous years. We have a few churches that give us undesignated funds and gifts from events they do to raise money for us.
- **Fundraiser** We do one mail-out per year and raise several thousand dollars from newsletter solicitations.
- Word of Mouth We know that our program is known all over Jérémie and that people are stopping our employees and the pastors we work with to ask how their children can be included.

# Budget

### **Direct Expenses:**

#### **Needed Nutrition Costs:**

Vita mamba 60 children @ 30 cents x 365 = \$6570.00Lunch 30 children @ 14 dollars x 5 months = 2,100 (tutoring meal) 8670.00Summer School 60 children @  $$2 \times 15 = 1800.00$ Total Nutrition = \$10,470.00

- Transportation for each bar is 0.07 cents
- Price for one Vita Mamba bar is 0.23 cents
- Transportation + single bar of Vita Mamba is 0.30 cents



Nutrition

Total: \$10,470

Vita Mamba	<b>Tutoring Meal</b>	Summer School	
60 children	30 children	60 children	
0.30 cents per serving	\$1.17 per serving	\$2.00 per serving	
\$18.00 per day	\$14.00 per day	\$2.50 per day	

Nutrition	# of Children	Price	Duration	Total
Vita Mamba + Transpor tation per bar	60	\$0.23 + \$0.07 = \$0.30	365 days	\$6,570.00
Tutoring Meal	30	\$14 per child \$1.17 per meal	5 months	\$2,100
Summer School	60	\$30 per child	3 days/wk x 6 wks	\$1,800.00
Total Nutrition	-	-	-	\$10,470