

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Community Feeding 2

In Memoriam 3

What Sponsorship Means 4

Sponsor Me! 5

Meet A Teacher 6

Donation Form 7

Christmas in Haiti 8

## The Impact of Covid-19 in Haiti

The dreaded hecatomb has not taken place, however the new coronavirus, which has so far made more than 25 million confirmed cases worldwide, is still in progress in Haiti. The latest assessment as of August 31, 2020 shows 8,209 confirmed cases and 201 deaths. Considering the weakness of the Haitian health system, which is extremely limited, whether in terms of services, logistics and human resources, or in terms of structures, the worst has been feared. Following two initial cases confirmed on March 19, 2020, the government announced a series of measures such as travel restrictions and school closures to stem the spread of the virus. These measures, which have been of paramount importance in the management of the current health crisis, have also put severe strain on the poorest households living in vulnerable conditions and who cannot afford the luxury of applying the measures of social distancing or quarantine due to their working and living conditions. Indeed, the closure of sea and land borders and airports have blocked and slowed down the supply chain. Even before the advent of the global pandemic, the situation was already worrying in the country. According to a study carried out last October by the National Coordination for Food Security, with the support of the WFP and the FAO, one in three Haitians, that is to say nearly 4 million people, need emergency food assistance. At Life Connection Mission we keep taking action to help improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable households in our community.

**“The coronavirus unfortunately only worsens a long-term situation that was already there.”**

In response to the pandemic we have set ourselves a goal to raise \$65,280 in order to keep providing bags of rice and beans on a weekly basis to 200 members in our community for a year.

Continued on Page 2



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# Covid-19 in Haiti

By: Jean Rene Nore

Continued from page 1

## Reflection from the Board of Directors

What an unprecedented year this has been thus far. We know many people have been impacted financially from Covid-19, which is why we are so incredibly grateful for your continued support. It means the world to us that you still choose to give hope to our kids in Haiti during these difficult times.

While we may not be able to travel to Haiti right now, we have not stopped working. As you will see in this newsletter, our team in Haiti continues to help the community of Montrouis by providing meals and making improvements that impact the entire community, not just our students! None of this would be possible without you.

We hope you remain in good health, and we look forward to the day we can all safely gather again together.

Sincerest Thanks,  
Christie Anne Short,  
President



Each bag of rice costs \$40 and will be divided to feed eight families. Each bag of beans costs \$60 and will be divided to feed four families. Life Connection Mission is thankful for your continued support. Your donations matters and help make a difference in the lives of many families in Haiti. If your financial situation allows to give a little more, you get a chance to continue to support a new project in Haiti. Our hearts go out to everyone who has been directly or indirectly affected by this pandemic.

## Projected Financials for Fiscal Year '20-'21

Clinic Jul '20 - Jun '21	
Medicine	2,400.00
Office Visits	3,180.00
Donations	10,980.00
Medical Sponsorship	15,600.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>32,160.00</b>
Bank Charges	300.00
Medicine	6,000.00
Payroll Taxes	312.00
Phone & Internet	252.00
Repairs & Maintenance	600.00
Shipping	300.00
Supplies	1,800.00
Travel	60.00
<b>Wages</b>	
Administration	9,540.00
Clinic	11,100.00
Guard	3,900.00
Total Wages	24,540.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>34,164.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-2,004.00</b>

\* Clinic sponsorships are a great way to ensure our clinic remains financially stable—please consider sponsoring!

School/Mission Jul '20 - Jun '21	
Feeding Program	3,600.00
School Tuition	14,000.00
Sponsorship Donations	194,640.00
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>212,240.00</b>
Bank Charges	2,340.00
Books	14,000.00
Communication	5,400.00
Cooks	2,580.00
Food	23,800.00
Propane	2,150.00
Supplies & Maintenance	600.00
Gasoline	1,320.00
Generator	1,440.00
Medical	100.00
Mission Purchase	0.00
Office	864.00
Payroll Taxes	4,450.00
Phone & Internet	1,200.00
Professional Services	6,500.00
Repairs & Maintenance	4,740.00
School Fees	840.00
Security	21,600.00
Shipping	240.00
Supplies	1,800.00
Travel	60.00
Uniforms	7,125.00
Payroll Taxes	894.00
Wages	10,000.00
Vehicle Expenses	6,780.00
<b>Wages</b>	
Administration	14,748.00
Guard	510.00
Helpers	1,980.00
Teachers	64,000.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>202,411.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>9,829.00</b>



# In Memoriam

Francilia Ovilmar “Majorie”

I started going to Haiti in 1999 and stayed at the home of Father Carl Spitz across the road from LCM. Marjorie was the cook at Father Carl’s and my wife, Chris, and I ate most of our meals with him, so Marjorie was our cook from the beginning. At that time she was a gourmet cook as that was what Father Carl preferred. That was fine with Chris and I, but not so with my brother Steve who also stayed with Father Carl. Most of the time, Steve would not eat Marjorie’s gourmet food. Father Carl decided that he would have Marjorie fix him an American meal of a cheese sandwich. Steve was excited that he was finally going to get a meal that he would eat. A big disappointment for him—as it was goat cheese and a couple other cheeses that were definitely not American cheese. At that time her cooking was definitely gourmet! Her meals were set down that she cooked and served in several courses. We first had soup, then salad followed by the main course, and then desert. Of course she always had our glasses filled with fresh juice or wine followed by coffee. Marjorie was an excellent gourmet cook!

Chris and I soon bought Father Carl’s house and started eating at LCM. Soon Marjorie was the cook for LCM. This was a big change for her as she switched from gourmet food for just a few, to a mixture of Haitian and American food for large groups. No problem for Marjorie and she adapted well. She was soon supervising helpers. She could sure crack the whip when she needed to!

As time went by, LCM continued to grow and Marjorie’s responsibilities grew. She adjusted very well and prepared many meals that almost all liked. It amazed me that she could get together all the meals for so many people. Even with her usual duties, she would frequently prepare large amounts of food for groups of sponsored children and those seeking sponsors. She was surely very organized! I never knew of anyone at LCM that became ill from an infection from any of Marjorie’s cooking. That is quite an achievement in Haiti and with all the food she prepared. Some of my last memories of Marjorie that showed her thoughtfulness: I was standing in the sun watching construction of our new house and in just a few minutes Marjorie brought a chair for me so I could set in the shade. Marjorie knew I did not care for fish, so when she had fish she also had a couple fried chicken legs for me. You didn’t have to ask, she just did thoughtful things.

Marjorie was very dedicated to LCM and spent many years serving our mission. We were very blessed to have had Marjorie. She will be very missed by all of us at LCM and we all have fond memories of her. My last memory of Marjorie was her heading home from work riding on a taxi motorcycle while smiling and waving at me. I am sure she was well welcomed to her Heavenly home.

**Written By: Dr Jay.**

In Genesis 1:26, God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Thus, God in his love created Markline, this wonderful creature who was able to bring the joy and happiness to everyone who met her during her stay on earth. Markline was born into a family of four children. Despite her physical disability, she was a very dynamic little girl who engaged in a wide range of activities. She was very good at singing, telling jokes that made people laugh out loud, and was able to hypnotize people when she was dancing on stage. At school, she worked very well. Markline was not able to write. But, she was able to read and understand. So, thanks to the support she received from the Life Connection Mission, she was able to reach eighth grade. Markline was a very creative girl. She made products such as necklaces, bracelets etc., then sold them to tourists visiting the country. The sales of her products as well as the help from her many friends enabled her to financially provide for her family. Her passing left a huge void into the community, especially into her family. Rest in Peace Markline! Let us keep praying for her family and May God keep providing for their needs on a daily basis!



“Marjorie always brought us joy and made sure everything was just right with our food and things from the kitchen. A true humble and loving servant of God! We will all miss you so much!” - Lori Lyon

“We will never forget Markline’s charismatic personality, sharp mind and bigger than life smile. She was such an interesting person to speak with, willing to discuss any topic but most interested in learning about you and your life. We are so thankful that our team had the opportunity to know this sweet girl and we will be sure to keep her alive in our memories.” - Melissa Pastorino

**Written By: Pastor Moleus Darelus**

“Jehovah gave, and Jehovah hath taken away; blessed be the name of Jehovah.” Job 1:21

## Yard Sale 2020

**EVENT  
CANCELLED**

The annual St. Patrick's yard sale benefiting Life Connection Mission would not be possible without our generous donors, many volunteers, and countless shoppers. It is so many people coming together on one day that makes this event a wonderful success. It is also the reason why we are saddened to announce we must cancel the yard sale this year. The health and safety of our donors, volunteers, and patrons is of utmost importance to us. We look forward to next year's yard sale in October of 2021 and hope to see you there!

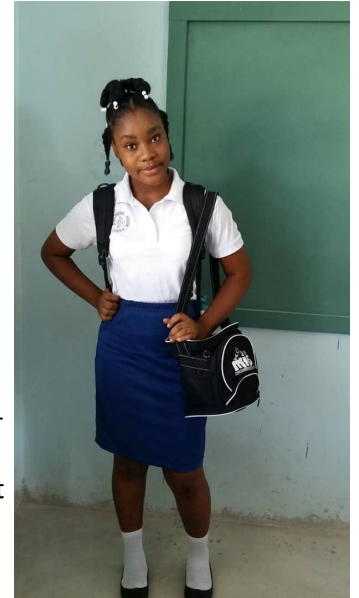
Join us on Facebook  
October 17th for some  
virtual fundraising fun!

## What Sponsorship Means

Dear Life Connection Mission Donors,

My name is Flor – Esmeralda Jacques (Daphnee). I am in 13th grade this school year. Thank you for all the support that I have received from you through Life Connection Mission. By donating to Life Connection Mission you have allowed me and many other children to attend school and have a brighter future. At Life Connection School I got all I needed for my education from preschool until now. I am very grateful for the school supplies, uniforms, medical care, meal (every school day) etc. that Life Connection Mission has been able to provide for me. This could not be possible without your support. LCM makes a difference in the lives of many families in our community because it does not just provide for children in its school, but also creates more job opportunities in our community where many people have a chance to get a job there to provide for their children in other schools. You have made all these things possible. I cannot thank you enough for all you have done so far in our community. However, all that I can do is pray that God keeps blessing you all. I love you and forever. I will be thankful for all you have done in my life and our community.

With Gratitude,  
Daphnee



## Community Latrines



Proper sanitation facilities promote health because they allow people to dispose their waste appropriately. Throughout the most vulnerable areas in our community many people do not have toilets at home and therefore dispose their waste in a way that is not acceptable—on the ground, resulting in contamination of the environment. At Life Connection Mission we keep taking action to help improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable groups. Thereby, we have set ourselves a goal to build two public latrines by the end of 2021. This project will allow us to provide residents who do not have toilets at home with access to a public latrine. It will also clean up the community of all human excrement and thus allow the inhabitants to live in a healthy environment—reducing the spread of diseases such as cholera, typhoid fever, and infectious diarrhea, and thus reduce the infant mortality rate. Each latrine costs \$5,400 US and will be able to serve approximately five hundred people. Life Connection Mission is thankful for your continued support.

Written By: Jean Rene Nore





## Sponsor Me!

**We set a goal to try to get 20 new sponsorships in 2020. We are happy to report that 18 children have been sponsored - 90% of our goal! Will you help us complete our goal?**

**The sponsorship cost of \$40 per month is used to pay the tuition, books, and uniforms for one child to go to school. The child is also given lunch each school day and medical care if needed. Sponsors will receive at least one picture a year.**



**Shamelaï Garçon**  
Preschool

Date of Birth: February 25, 2018



**Jean Laurent Derly**  
Preschool

Date of Birth: August 26, 2017



**Emilie Joseph**  
Preschool

Date of Birth: November 27, 2017



**Jayson Charles**  
Preschool

Date of Birth: December 23,  
2017



**Rachaira Exantus**  
Preschool

Date of Birth: November 14, 2017



**Ajun Belzince**  
Preschool

Date of Birth: December 28, 2017

*I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. Ephesians 1:16*

# Meet A Teacher

Interview with Julio Joseph Almidor: English teacher

By: Jean Rene Nore



Where do you stand with your sponsorship payments? Don't ever hesitate to ask! We are happy to provide updated billing info.

Have you moved recently or changed your email address? Please send any contact updates to us so we can make adjustments.

Do you need sizes for your sponsor child in preparation for Christmas? We have it all, please send us an email!

Dale@lifeconnectionmission.org  
301-370-6426

## 1- Tell us about yourself.

First and foremost, my name is Julio Joseph Almidor. I have been working as an English teacher for Life Connection Mission since 2009. More specifically, I have been teaching preschoolers and primary students, where I have been able to help students communicate with native speakers in order to express their thoughts in a clear manner. In that role, a major accomplishment I am most proud of was that I happened to help a disabled little girl speak English fluently by generating strategies capable of motivating her. This resulted in a time savings of approximately one year. Also, I have been working as team leader and translator for 410 Bridge Organization for more than three years. I have led groups to different places such as "Jeanton", "Dejans", and "Piatre". As team leader, I have been able to identify problems and resolve issues which are challenges for great leaders. Thus, I have come to connect both Haitian teams & American teams together by avoiding misunderstandings in order to get the job done better. Moreover, I have been majoring in Business Affairs for three years at "Université Nissage Saget à Saint-marc" (UNISSA) because I would like to become a great manager. I have been working as president of my group of classmates since I was a freshman. As a matter of fact, I have been motivating them to work so hard by generating more interests and by working with those incapable of the things I am most proud of. That was the result of a great positive mindset, and the result of someone's work who knew how crucial it was to make sacrifices in life in order to succeed. Finally, I am looking for an institution that recognizes all those values and abilities, and is willing to implement them so that both parties should be able to benefit from that.

## 2- What motivates you to work here?

Basically, from a biblical approach, we are all created to work in order to realize our goals in life. By this, I certainly can say this is the first reason that motivates me, because I believe in all out effort if people want to go beyond. Second, I am motivated by the philosophy of Life Connection Mission which is to help the kids get higher education, considering the importance of being well-educated and how that can impact the community of Montrouis. And finally, I am motivated by the staff of LCM willing always to innovate. I love innovation and it is relevant nowadays, considering how the world is moving forward so fast.

## 3- How has Life Connection Mission impacted your life and given you an opportunity?

Talking about that point requires me to move a bit back to start with my professional career. It was in September 2009 that I was called to work for Life Connection Mission as an English teacher after I had passed an interview. At that time, I did not have any experience because it was my first job in such a great school. However, I was very motivated as a young man who believed in working hard. Thus, Life Connection Mission gave me the opportunity to start my professional career. Over the years, I have learned so many gorgeous things that have changed my whole life in a nutshell, such as team spirit and commitment. Those two factors have given me the opportunity to work for 410 Bridge Organization as team leader and also, they have allowed me to see life from a different perspective as I have become more mature. Obviously, Life Connection Mission has impacted me in many ways: First, spiritually through its staff that is aware of the fruits of the Holy Spirit and is always willing to share them with me. Second, socially by creating ways of connecting people together through one of the greatest schools in Montrouis which is "Institution Educative Excellence de Montrouis". And finally, economically I am able to take care of my wife and my daughter and I am able to pay my tuition fee. So, I am very grateful for what Life Connection Mission has been doing for me and for all the community of Montrouis.



*With God's grace and your support, LCM has been privileged to serve the people of Montrouis for over 20 years. Please consider how you can help us accomplish all we hope in 2020 and see dreams become reality for our students.*



**Left:** A new community well has been completed. Wells are greatly needed to provide clean water for cooking and drinking.

**Right:** Our incredible staff was hard at work over the summer making masks to help protect students and faculty.



Please detach the form below and return to LCM at:  
23 Grey Pebble Ct.  
Germantown, MD 20874

**Donations are greatly appreciated.**

**Please prayerfully consider one of our projects to support.**

**Christmas 2020-** Rice & Back Packs for Christmas. Please help us see that every child receives a Christmas gift this year and a bag of rice. Recommended donations: back pack \$45, rice \$40, beans \$60.

Please accept my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**School Feeding Program**— Not all of our students have sponsors, but we continue to feed every child every day. Please help offset the cost of the children who do not have a sponsor.

Please accept my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Clinic**— Medications and supplies are used daily and are always needed. Approximately \$200 a day is needed to treat 25 patients.

Please accept my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsorship Opportunities** Can you sponsor another child? Or please also show the enclosed pictures to family/friends and share of your experiences and joys of sponsoring a child with LCM.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for: ☐ \$40 (monthly) ☐ \$240 (1/2 a year) ☐ \$480 (1 year)

**We pray the resources needed to complete these projects will be made available to us in 2020.**

# Christmas Is Coming!

Good news! Haiti has been able to re-open their ports, which means gifts can be shipped to Haiti for Christmas! If you would like to send a gift to your sponsor child please send it to 23 Grey Pebble Ct. Germantown, MD 20874 no later than October 1! You also have the option of purchasing a backpack through our website and we will do the shopping for you. You can also check out our website for other gift ideas. Rice, beans, goats, beds, bikes, chickens, and more can be purchased in Haiti and are always an appreciated gift! Thank you for shopping early and giving the gift of Christmas to our Haitian brothers and sisters!



**AmazonSmile**

Amazon Smile is now on the mobile app! Please select us as your charity of choice when making purchases. An easy way to donate to the mission that does not cost you extra!



Follow us on  
**Facebook**

**Like what you see? Follow us on Facebook to view more photos and stay up to date with what's happening at LCM!**

**LIFE CONNECTION MISSION**

23 Grey Pebble Ct.

Germantown, Maryland 20874

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



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