

# HOPE rising

CHILDREN'S HOME • LEOGANE, HAITI

October 2013

[www.hrch.org](http://www.hrch.org)

Volume 1, Issue 4

It has been a busy few months since our last newsletter and much has progressed for HRCH. I'm excited to share with you that the wall and fence surrounding our property has been completed. Praise the Lord! A special thank you to those who donated one or more sections of the wall. Those who wished to have names and memorials added to their gift are listed below.

We have also started to see the Lord work mightily through the teams that have been present all summer long. He has used the short term mission teams in great ways and there have been many new souls come to Christ. As most of you probably know, our relationship that we had with the orphanage in Leogane has ended. It was a very hard decision to make, but after much prayer and seeking the Lord, we felt confident that the Lord was telling us to move away from that relationship. Before we ended our food buying program with the orphanage, we made sure that there were other organizations who were still going to feed the children and we know that they are being fed. Even in the midst of making the transition out of that place into the new place of ministry that God revealed, He has been faithful to bless. Thank you for your continued support of HRCH and I can't wait to bring you more exciting news about what God is doing!

*Matt Ward, HRCH Director*

Larry and Alesia Balch	Travis Balch Family	Jim Bean Family
Richard and Becky Brown	Rick and Reva Carter	Mike Cash Family
Mr. Harold Crone	Jerry Denton Family	Ramona Fate
David Frye Family <i>John 3:16</i>	Robert Gibson Family	The John Gooch family
Cory Green Family	Justin Green Family	Roger Green Family
Ray and Donna Gross	Mavin Hathaway Family	Glenn Headley Family
Aaron Helms	Steve Helms Family	Carl and Valerie Hill
Robert and Lori Hill	Steve Hockaday Family	Sue Morrison
Dr. Mike Johnston Family	Dawayne and Kay Jones	Pete Mulder
Ralph and Michelle Lasiter	Don and Mary Sue Lyle	David Maness Family
Jared Cleveland Family <i>Job 11:18</i>	Curtis and Jeanna McKee	Dennis Odom
Leon and Barbara Myers	Shannon Moudy	Gelene Ray
Ben and Mary Ray	Jason Shipley Family	Mike Smith Family
Buddy and Helen Smithson	Kenneth Smithson Family	Ann Staton
Roger and Sandra Smithson	Stuart Smithson Family	Bud Moore
Loyd and Cheryl Stem	Lee Tolleson Family	Matt Ward Family
Bob and Sue Ward	Bill Watson Family	Jim Webb Family
Dr. John and Susan Watts	Larry White Family	Linda Whitely
Danny and Sandra Wilson	Mark and Elaine Williams	Christy Williams
Mark and Elaine Williams Family	Elle, Snyder, Saylor, and Gunnar Williams	
Gary Braswell Family, grandchildren		
The Ladies of the Sisters in Faith Bible Study Fellowship		
<i>Anonymous: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Psalm 150:6</i>		
<i>In Memory of Aline Gardner</i>	<i>In Memory of Curtis Gardner</i>	
<i>In Memory of Bruce Staton</i>	<i>In Honor of Jan Sharp's Ladies Sunday School Class</i>	
<i>In Honor of Matt Smithson Family</i>	<i>In Honor of Shirley Cross Proverbs 31:10-30</i>	
<i>In Honor of Curt and Tammy Gardner, Julia Calhoun, and Jeanette Gardner</i>		
<i>In Honor of Travis McAfee</i>	<i>In Honor of the Jimmy Rogers family</i>	

## HRCH Executive Board

Justin Green, President  
Stuart Smithson, Vice President  
Robert Hill, Secretary

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### Scripture Encouragement: Giving

One of our supporters recently shared this encouraging scripture. Her prayer is that people's hearts will be moved and the Spirit will prompt them to give to The Lord.

Please take some time to read Exodus 35:4-29.

She reflects, "It's interesting that it's specifically recorded that the offering was made to the Lord, not to the tabernacle. In fact, this story is amazingly God-centered. God is present in every step of the process: God details the need; God tells how to use the supplies; God prompts Moses to ask for them; God prompts certain people to respond; the people give to God; the gifts are used to glorify God by craftsmen God gifted".

### 2013/2014 Team Dates

**Fountains of Hope**  
November 9th - 16th

**East Side Baptist Church:**  
December 27th - January 1st

**Antioch Baptist Church**  
June 23rd - 27th

*We are currently seeking building/construction teams. If you are interested in partnering with us, please contact Matt Ward.*

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### MK Corner... The Art of Flexibility

Soccer games, talent shows, ballet, or piano recitals are all common activities in which an average American school-age child is involved. However, for the Smithson children, these types of activities might not be a part of their daily routines. Most days you will find Kaylea, Dean, and Joel right beside their parents in the mission field or at home for home-school activities.

The flexibility that Kaylea shows as she shares a room with both her 9 year old and 3 year old brothers is admiring. Even at the young age of eleven, she is always calm and collected and goes with the flow of things. After spending a week with her, I gathered that she has a good understanding of the mission her family has been entrusted with. She is learning to love and understand the meaning of servant-hood. Dean is the master at keeping everybody on their toes. He makes sure everybody is following the rules and routines of a low-budget, limited electric and water supply lifestyle. He is a very smart boy who enjoys working with his dad at the Hope Rising property and, of course, making sure everyone is doing what they are suppose to be doing. Dean is learning that while mission work is a hard task, he seems more than happy to accept the challenge and hopes one day daily life might be an easier undertaking. The youngest of the family is Joel. He has already mastered the art of loving others regardless of their skin color, age or economic status. He knows no stranger and is open to share his food, water, and space. He plays with everyone he comes in contact with and he is not afraid to share the love of God through his little hugs. His flexibility will prove handy as he continues to grow up in a home that will host numerous amounts of teams.

When teams are visiting the family and serving with them, the dynamics and routines of what we would consider being an average home, change for the Smithsons. In light of this, the children seem to adjust fairly well to the alteration of routines. This family has shown what most Americans consider "their space" as a place where brothers and sisters in Christ come together to serve. The apostle John teaches us in third John about Gaius, a fellow believer who opened his home to strangers so that they could accomplish the work of God. Is this not what we as Christians should do? Shouldn't we open our homes with joyous hearts to others, especially those who travel to share the word of God? Sometimes we are so self-absorbed with our possessions, we forget that they do not belong to us in the first place, that without God we would not have any of them. The Smithson children reflect the true definition of hospitality and servitude. The difference they are making in Haiti is not only with the people of Haiti but with the teams that come and serve with them as well. God has placed this family to be a guide to missionaries coming into the ripe fields of Haiti as well as teaching short-term missionary teams the art of hospitality and gratitude for the bare essentials they have at their home.

*Written by ERBC College Ministry Team Leader: Alejandra Bowman*



*"Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world" James 1:27*

**Hope Rising Children's Home**  
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