



# 20 Years of Strengthening Communities

#### TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

NEWSLETTER #1: MARCH 2020

# **Brighter Futures Through Education**

The St Luke Foundation for Haiti was founded in 2000 by the Reverend Leo Richard Frechette. He recognized the impact of Haiti's prolonged economic instability on young people's access to education, and hoped to build a movement to end the impoverishment of the Haitian people. Today, St Luke provides needed opportunity and skills for the sons and daughters of Haiti through education programs and professional training courses.

The Foundation's executive staff is composed of leaders who were raised by Nos Petits Frères et Sœurs (« Our Little Brothers and Sisters »/ Nuestros Pequenos Hermanos) a sister organization. St Luke's staff overall has grown, and now employs 1,370 people working in 4 different fields (Education, Health, Social Services and Social Enterprise) across Haiti. Working together, these devoted staff members bring positive and sustainable changes to communities throughout all the departments of the country.

The St Luke Foundation commits to building a stronger Haiti by offering outstanding services to the poorest and most vulnerable of the country, which ensures that they can achieve to their potential.

The 20 years of the foundation's activities and achievements will be presented in 4 newletters during this special year, starting with our education sector.

For 20 years, the education program has provided free academic and professional training, school supplies, uniforms, backpacks and meals to more than 16,000 students.

Today, the St Luke Foundation education program includes 36 schools:

- 18 schools offering preschool, elementary and secondary education in each of the 10 Haitian Departments.
- 8 primary and secondary schools located in remote areas of the country.
- 2 schools for adult literacy and education completion.
- 1 special needs school (for deaf, intellectually disabled and blind students) in Tabarre.
- 4 primary and secondary schools sponsored by the Foundation (three in rural areas and one in Port-au-Prince);
- 1 secondary school in Tabarre, educating more than 3, 500 students.

The Foundation manages two technical schools that train professionals in paramedical science, telecommunications, electrical systems in buildings, domestic arts, auto mechanics, plumbing, masonry, technical informatics, technical agricultural, electrical engineering and photovoltaics (solar power).

#PolytechniqueStLucTabarre,
PolytechniqueStLucDameMarie).



### **Organizational Structure**

St Luke's education programs are directed by the Educational Council. This governance structure defines the mission, objectives, strategic plans and operational plans. This council includes the head of the executive team as well as three administrative officers.

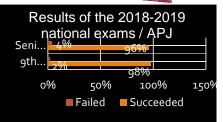
The Technical Department organizes and monitors the Educational Council's strategic and operational plans in all the educational facilities and other departments such as administration, finance, logistics, arts, culture and sponsorship.

The Council monitors the 36 schools and progress of our 14,000 students. Eight hundred staff members work in different units across the schools, including the Executive Council, the Administrative Team, the Coordination Team, the Teaching Team and the Support Team. They are committed to this mission and work to improve the living conditions of our students and fellow citizens.

More than 500 skilled and unskilled workers have obtained employment contracts through our programs, either in school

construction projects, woodworking, ironworking, plumbing, painting, catering, cleaning, auto-repair, printing and copymachine repairs, transportation to rural cities and towns, etc.









### **Mission & Strategies**

St Luke's educational programs have the mission to uplift the most marginalized children, young people and adults in Haitian society. Extreme poverty, geographical location, family situation, or physical or intellectual disability block opportunity for many Haitian people to reach their full potential. To ensure a better future for them and their families, we provide them a dignified education delivered in the highest of standards possible.

St Luke's education programs have improved the living conditions of approximately 16,000 children each year, while also creating opportunity and providing preschool, primary school, secondary education, and professional training that meets the needs of Haiti's labor market.

Our objectives:

 Include and uplift children who have been isolated or ignored by society because of their poverty, location, family situation, or physical or intellectual disability

- Provide basic and accessible education to children in underresourced communities in accordance with national and international academic standards as well as economic opportunities in Haiti.
- Nourish the children of our schools, especially those who live in the toughest slums, with a daily meal, drinkable water, food kits, clothing, and hygiene items.
- Incorporate sports, cultural, artistic, extra-curricular and professional activities in the academic programs of our schools (such as genius competitions, talent competitions, and summer camps) to raise funds and to ensure that all our students experience success.
- Incorporate technology and experimentation into our training, with practical sessions in laboratories or field trips.
- Facilitate post-secondary studies (career counseling & guidance, professional work experience, scholarships and grants for

« Le mal du bien, c'est la perfection. »

#### Fr. Rick Frechette

university studies in Haiti or abroad).

- Prioritize intercultural and intellectual exchanges with trips in foreign countries.
- Encourage entrepreneurship and identifying internships for our students in paid positions and employment.
- Provide healthcare to the children and the communities in the vicinity of our schools.
- Support the parents of our children and the communities (mostly in rural areas) through agricultural and farming activities, housing, donations of solar lamps and streetlighting in the communities.

Another aspect of the education program is a choir of 60 talented children aged from 9 to 18 years of age who together form « Voices of Haiti ». These children have had the opportunity to perform, both locally and internationally, as the face of a better Haiti, of better days full of hope. They have performed with Emeline Michel and other famous Haitian artists, Sainte Trinité (« Holv Trinity » a famous national music school), with Andrea Bocelli at Madison Square Gardens in New York, at the United Nations General Headquarters in New York on International Children's Day, in Italy and for the Canadian Embassy on the National Day of Canada celebration.

### **Other Activities**

Among other institutional and community activities, we distribute pasta, hygiene kits, and Christmas gifts; organize trips to the beach, field trips, sports, artistic and cultural activities, and genius competitions between classes and schools; create potable water distribution kiosks; donate solar lamps and fertilizers; and build social housing and lighting projects in communities; among many other activities.

After seeing success with children and young adults move from life on the street to education and employment, St Luke expanded our programs.

Our next objective became supporting the students who had completed their second level of school in Haiti's academic structure. We realized that some of those living in the poorest neighborhoods had been forced back to the streets, and engaged in dangerous activities simply to survive. In response, shortly after the 2010 earthquake, the St Luke Foundation established a Secondary School Center designed for students coming from the West Departments of Haiti. These students came from impoverished areas that did not have secondary or professional schools and thus had no opportunity to complete their studies.

#### CORE OBJECTIVES OF THE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Socialization, Education, Certification







# Manitane de Luc Educational Institution/ Academy for Peace & Justice (APJ)

### **Objectives of APJ**

- Uplift the ideals of honesty, responsibility and productivity in service to each young person reaching their greatest potential.
- Provide young people with the opportunity to learn at least one professional skill to ensure their future economic stability.
- Include all children in the social, economic and cultural life of the country.
- Improve the living conditions of students' families.
- Reduce the juvenile delinquency rates in the country.
- Encourage students' fluency in English, French and Spanish (during summer camp programs).
- Train youth efficiently in their chosen fields (summer camp programs & extracurricular activities).
- Equip young adults to persevere through financial challenges with the tools of basic financial management.
- Inspire competitive and creative team spirit.
- Model time management and other « soft » professional skills.
- Show them how to develop their leadership skills.
- Encourage participation as full citizens in a true democracy



The Manitane de Luc Educational Institution is located in the municipality of Tabarre, Haïti, # 2 Rue C. Auguste, Boulevard 15 Octobre.





## **Quick Facts About APJ**

- Since opening in 2010 the student body has grown from 300 to more than 3,700 students
- Grades 7-12
- 4 buildings and grounds host an art department, sports fields, fitness center, library, computer lab, and 10 classrooms per academic level
- 120 teachers and 50 staff members including administrative staff and support staff from different areas of Port au Prince
- 4 deputy principals oversee each building
- Numerous graduating seniors have earned whole or partial scholarships at Haitian and international universities
- Some students have reduced mobility

### **Every Day at APJ**

The Academy for Peace and Justice (APJ) welcomes young people from some of Haiti's most challenged neighborhoods. Working together, young people, teachers and staff create visions of a more positive future and develop plans to make those dreams a reality.

APJ is open Monday to Friday, occasionally extending session to Saturday if requested by teachers. Under the supervision of the deputy principals and the teachers, classes start each day with a devotion followed by the Haitian flag raising ceremony from 7h30 to 7h50.

### The Art Department

The Art Department is a unit of the Manitane de Luc Institution/APJ. Its main objective is to promote artistic creativity and develop the students' talents in these subjects, particularly in culture and sports. (Facebook: #SportAPJ).



The department is divided in many branches mastered by different professionals and seasoned teachers:

- Dramatic art putting the emphasis on theater and all the other sub-divisions of this art.
- Plastic arts including drawing, painting and silkscreen printing.
- Music (flute, violin, guitar, piano...)
- Literature (poetry writing).

For each one of the fields mentioned above, the art department uses the classes and the workshops to showcase : the talent and the creativity of each child using the facility on a regular basis and that develops an interest for arts. The department also wishes to awaken the other children's souls to their very own artistic sensibility.

From 2016 to 2019, four groups of students completed their senior year. Some of these students were beneficiaries of whole or partial scholarships for technical or university studies, at the national or international level.



# St. Luke Polytechnic Institute of Tabarre

The St Luke Polytechnic Institute of Tabarre opened its doors on April 10th, 2012 and was inaugurated on April 12th, 2012 in presence of the Mexican President Felipe Carederon under the name « Saint Francis of Assisi». The buildings were constructed with donations from the Mexican Alliance. (Facebook: **#PolytechniqueStLucTabarre, PolytechniqueStLucDameMarie**).

The polytechnic institute includes two schools: a school of Nursing and Medical Technology, and a School Science and Technology. The St Luke administrative team supervises the development of the training provided and ensures smooth operation in the teaching and learning process of the different fields.

Training equips students to:

- provide complete nursing care for patients
- enter the labor market as a skilled professional
- contribute to the social and economic development of our society

#### The program's benefits to Haiti:

- reduces unemployment
- provides the medical care market with skilled and efficient young professionals
- increases the income of households
- contributes to reduced juvenile delinquency

## Our Approach

The Tabarre area is crowded with young people, and, unfortunately, training centers are scarce. Geographically, we are at the heart of this community's economic center and have a strong



reputation with young people ready to build a career in Haiti.

Our ambition is to welcome all interested young people and train them according to international standards. In addition, we seek to instill a shared sense of responsibility for the greater good of our communities.

We place youth at the heart of our educational activities. Before young people are ready to learn, we must recognize how isolation and the trauma of their previous experiences have impacted their education and perspectives. Only then can they embrace the totality of our training program.

We have also established a close and strong bond with local employers and are responsive to their needs. Our training focuses on good customer service and the efficiency of our technicians, while coaching them on ethics and professionalism.

The Notre Dame de Guadaloupe Training Center is a top-rated center that supports and develops the skills of young people, while also strengthening the pedagogical and technical skills of the teaching staff.

Our long track record allows us to contemplate a promising future and to develop event stronger partnership for the good of our alumni.



The first graduates of our Nursing School



## **Training Priorities**

Haiti's natural underground reservoirs are getting drier and gradually deteriorating. Our Hydraulic Plumbing and Sanitation Department has developed a «**water treatment**» program in response to this challenge. Other areas of focus:

- Auto-tronics and auto repair
- Solar energy
- Digital media and communications



# A Tour of Other St Luke Schools

St Joseph School (Delmas, Petite Place Cazeau) Founded in January 2005, Sponsored by the Francesca Rava Foundation & Rotary International





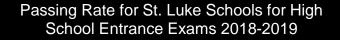


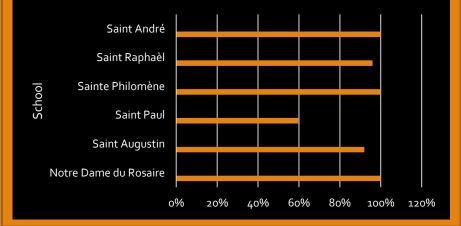


Ste Marie School (Delmas 19, west Department) Founded in October 2005, Sponsored by the Fondazione Francesca Rava



St Andrews Mixed School (Fond des Blanc, South Department) Founded in October 2010, Sponsored by BILD HILFT et HORNBACH)





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**St Paul School** (St Louis du Sud, South Department) Founded in October 2010, sponsored by the Fondazione Francesca Rava.





Ecole St Nicolas, (Citée soleil, Terre Noire) Founded in September 2005, Supported by PEN PAPER PEACE / NPH Germany

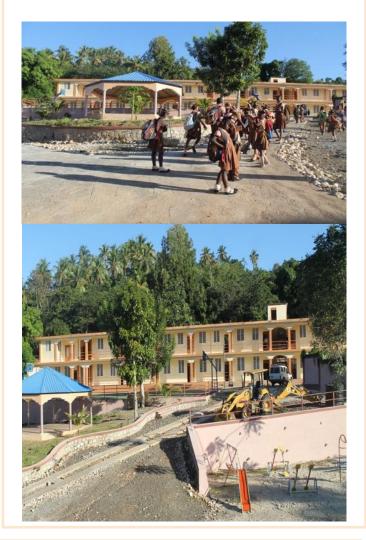
**St Augustin Primary School** (Grande'Anse, LaSeringue) Founded in 2005, sponsored by the **Andrea Bocelli Foundation** 



Pupils saying the morning prayers on the school yard in the picture below.



Manitane de Dame Marie School (Jérémie, Baliverne) Founded in September 2014, sponsored by the Andrea Bocelli Foundation



**Our Lady of the Rosary School** (Croix-des-Bouquets, West Department) Founded in September 2008, sponsored by the Andrea Bocelli Foundation





St Yves School (Limonade, North Department) Founded in March 2011, Sponsored by the NPH Germany/ BMZ







St Raphaël Educational Institute (Devarenne, South East Department) Founded in January 2014. Sponsored by the Andrea Bocelli Foundation



St Marc School (Bon Repos, West Department) Founded in October 2007. The new construction project is currently in the second phase to complete the building.

## Ste Joan Margareth School



The Ste Joan Margaret facility is a special school; one of the few schools for children with disabilities in the western department. In collaboration, with Manitane de Luc Secondary School and the Academy for Peace and Justice, it provides a welcome refuge for children who are deaf, mute, blind, and/or intellectually disabled.

The school was founded on the April 14, 2010 by the leaders of St Luke Foundation, on the initiative of Mr Ferel Bruno. It is located at August Pierre Paul Street, Tabarre 41.

The Ste Joan Margareth School supports this special population and facilitates the integration and inclusion of students and families in their communities.

The school has grown from 63 students in its first year to 300 for the 2019-2020 academic year. Experienced teachers, an attractive location and a building that meets seismic standards to withstand earthquakes all contribute to the quality of education students receive.

Being an educator in a school that meets the needs of students who are disabled requires skill and patience. Our staff works constantly to increase their knowledge. Under the direction of the Educational Council of the St Luc Foundation, we organize bi-annual training seminars for teachers from pre-school to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Our students achieve accordingly: The success rate of students in the official examinations of the Fundamental Cycle of the school varies from 99% to 100%.

Saint Joan Margareth School addresses the following courses according students' needs and capacities.

- Adaption/rehabilitation: the use of white cane, Braille, adapted computing
- Music: musical bell, piano, guitar
- Arts & crafts: cooking, baking, macramé, floral art and sewing
- Sports: football, physical culture.
- Auditory and speech therapy: audiogram examination, hearing loss and lip exercise



A student whose arms are disabled proudly writes with his toes while a student who is blind reads aloud.



A student who is deaf solves a mathematical problem with the support of his teacher



A student does her school work on the class Braille machine.

## Vision for the Future

- 1. Develop the artistic and cultural department of the Academy for Peace and Justice Institute (APJ).
- 2. Implement an Experimental Sciences Laboratory at the Manitane de Luc.
- 3. Build schools in St Louis and Jean Rabel in northern Haiti.
- 4. Launch two more schools in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area.
- 5. Expansion of the scholarship program "Scholarships for Excellence" for the graduates of the Manitane de Luc Institutes and APJ.
- 6. Develop a reforestation and environmental education project for the children at the St Luke schools.
- 7. Install a drinking water system at "Bas des Moustiques" at the northeast of Haiti.
- Establish a botanical garden at the Manitane de Luc / APJ.
- 9. Reinforce the professional training workshops of Ste Joan Margaret School.
- 10. Modernize the libraries with a digital system and increase the resources available to the students and the staff.
- 11. Build capacity across all of our educational programs by promoting and using adapted management systems software.
- 12. In partnership with the University Of Southern New Hampshire (United States), implement online university courses for our students and staff.
- 13. Continue to develop our nursing, water treatment and solar energy programs to the benefit of our students.
- 14. Increase the numbers of classrooms at our St Luke Foundation Schools and further enhance the facilities.

#### LIST OF THE ST LUKE SCHOOLS

#	Names of the schools	Location
1	Ste. Philomène	Ouest / Kenscoff
2	St. Gabriel	Ouest / Pétion-Ville
3	Miracle	Ouest / Pétion-Ville
4	St. Michel	Ouest / Pluits Blain
5	St. Joseph	Ouest / Petite Place Cazeau
6	Ste. Marie	Ouest / Delmas 19
7	Ste. Elizabeth	Ouest / Delmas 31
8	Petite Compagnie de St. Luc	Cité Soleil / Simon
9	St. Jude	Ouest / Delmas ???
10	Ste. Joan Margareth	Ouest / Tabarre 41
11	St. Amboise	Cité Soleil / Boston
12	St. Patrick	Cité Soleil / Soleil 9
13	Ste. Anne	Cité Soleil / Wharf Jérémie
14	St. Martin de Porrès	Cité Soleil / Wharf Jérémie
15	St. François D'Assise	X-des-Bouquets / Marin
16	St. Nicolas	Cité Soleil / Trutier
17	Ste. Emma	Cité Soleil / Terre Noire
18	Andragogie de St. Luc	Wharf Jérémie
19	St. Marc	X-des-Bqts / Bon Repos
20	Notre Dame du Rosaire	X-des-Bqts /
21	Institution Educative	Ouest / Tabarre
	Manitane de Luc / APJ	
22	Polytechnique St. Luc de	Ouest / Tabarre
	Tabarre	
23	Ecole Mixte St. Yves	Nord / Limonade
24	St. Raphaël	Sud-Est / Devarenne
25	St. André	Sud / Fond des Blancs
26	St. Paul	Sud / St Louis du Sud
27	St. John de Camp-Perrin	Sud / Camp-Perrin
28	St. Augustin	Grande'Anse / La Seringue
29	St. Paul de la Croix	Grande'Anse / La Seringue
30	Manitane de Dame Marie	Grande'Anse / Baliverne
31	Polytechnique St. Luc de	Grande'Anse / Anse
-	Dame Marie	d'Hainault
Other schools supported by the foundation		
32	Centre d'Enseignement	Sud / Lomon / Fond des Blan.
	Toussaint Louverture	
33	Notre Dame du Perpétuel	Nord-Ouest / Dupiti
	Secours	
34	La Noblesse	X-des-Bqts / Bon repos
35	St. François d'Assise de Pestel	Grande'Anse / Pestel
36	Jardin Fleuri de Nicole	Ouest / Delmas

## We Can Make a Difference

"You have a limited number of heartbeats in your life; it is a finite number. And you have a limited number of steps you are going to take in your life; it's a finite number and it can be calculated. The question is what is your heart beating for and where are your steps taking you?"

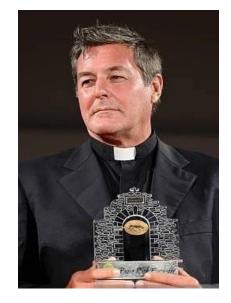
> Fr. Rick Frechette Founder and CEO of the St Luke Foundation

At the St. Luke Foundation for Haiti, we believe in the possibility of a more prosperous and independent Haiti. Every day, our programs — run by highly skilled Haitian leaders save lives and create opportunity. By following a shared vision for the future, we will walk hand-in-hand towards making that vision a reality.

Without your support, the achievements we've shared on the previous pages would not have been possible. Thanks to your financial and logistical help as well as perseverance, we have impacted the lives of countless families. For them, a St Luc education provides the tools to live with dignity and honesty, as well as the insights and values to pursue a better future for Haiti and the world.

In partnership over these twenty years, we have worked together to create hope and a better life for thousands of young people. We understand that in today's complex world there are many demands on your attention and resources. We hope you will continue to stand side by side with our Haitian leadership to strengthen communities.

May we continue to work together, so that our Foundation will experience two more decades (at least!) of abundance and prosperity.





Jean Nebez AUGUSTIN National Director of the St. Luke Foundation

Future editions of the newsletter will celebrate our accomplishments and outline our plans for our other focus areas:

- Health care
- Economic development
- Community outreach

### For the latest St Luke news:

- www.stlukehaiti.org
- Twitter and Instagram @StLukehaiti
- Facebook The St Luke Foundation for Haiti

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