

Dear _____,

We are writing on behalf of the Fond Blanc Foundation, an organization that supports an orphanage of 54 children in the small, mountainous community of Fond Blanc, Haiti.

After the 2010 earthquake hit Port-Au-Prince, Haiti, an orphanage run by community leader Pastor Jean Claude crumbled. With the help of his congregation members, Paul Young of Sure Foundations, and Next Step Ministries' summer mission trips, the pastor rebuilt the orphanage on the land he owned in the mountain region of Fond Blanc. But that was only the beginning. The children living in the orphanage lacked proper nutrition, educational opportunities, and basic care. As a result, Alison Praisewater and Andrew Atwell started the Fond Blanc Foundation with the goals of fostering an environment rooted in love and support for these children to help them grow into thriving adults.

The Fond Blanc Foundation focuses their efforts on four main areas:

1) Love and Care: Pastor Jean Claude oversees the general operations of the orphanage, but his numerous responsibilities make it difficult to provide each child with the individual attention and support he or she needs. In 2014, Alison Praisewater moved to Haiti to assist in providing a loving, supportive environment for these children and to further the Fond Blanc Foundation's other initiatives.

2) Health and Nutrition: The children in the orphanage receive two meals a day which currently consist of grits in the morning and rice and beans in the evening. Though these meals are appreciated, as many people in the Fond Blanc community do not have access to regular meals, they are lacking nutritional value essential for developing children. The Fond Blanc Foundation is in the process of enriching these meals with foods like fruits, vegetables, dairy, protein and necessary vitamins. In January 2015, the foundation installed a new kitchen and water purification system to provide sanitary food and water to more than 100 people a day.

Although food and water are an essential part of the children's health, there is a large need for basic healthcare. The children suffer from numerous health conditions such as ringworm, intestinal parasites, eczema, common colds and flus, scabies, bed bugs, and lice. With limited resources, 14 to 16 children share a room and often 4 children share one bed, making the transmission and subsequent treatment of these conditions incredibly difficult.

3) Education: Education is the only way for most Haitians to secure a future for themselves. All 54 children that live in the orphanage and about two-dozen children from the Fond Blanc village attend school at the orphanage. However, there is not a school building so makeshift classrooms are built around and within the existing church. School supplies are scarce and the 19 teachers' salaries are not secure. The Fond Blanc Foundation has begun fundraising to build a proper school with larger classrooms and a schoolyard.

4) Spiritual Development: Church is held every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday and Christianity is very important to this community.

As much good as The Fond Blanc Foundation is currently doing, they need your help to continue their efforts. All the children must be fed and all the children must receive education. But the foundation covers all costs associated with the orphanage - food, water, education, health and general care - and their costs are much higher than most traditional sponsorship programs. The Fond Blanc Foundation is unique in that 100% of the money goes to the children and the orphanage. So, whether it be by sponsoring one of the 54 orphanage children or donating to the organization as a whole, you can make a difference.

For more information and to start making a difference, visit fondblanc.org.

Sincerely,
