

INTERNATIONAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

PROJECT 0295



Cross International

Delivering Food, Shelter and Hope in the Name of Jesus

School of the Good Sower Port-au-Prince

Provide a Christian Education to
Haiti's Poorest Orphans and Vulnerable Children



Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop —
a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

Matthew 13:8



We are a ministry

that mobilizes the global Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Rather than create new institutions to distribute aid, we support existing ministries and churches already serving the poor. In addition to being the most cost-effective way of helping the poor, empowering these ministries allows us to support the Church's spiritual mission and its important position of leadership in poor communities.

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach.

We invite you to join with us as we seek to transform the lives of the poor materially and spiritually — ways that please the Father and glorify Him in Heaven and on earth.





Project Synopsis

Description

This project will help educate orphans and special needs children living in a compound called Hope Village. It will also serve the needy children from the surrounding neighborhoods.

Purpose

The Christian education these children receive will give them a head start in life. The goal is to provide **80 primary school students** with classes in reading, writing, math and civic studies. An additional **30 special education students** will receive a specialized curriculum tailored to their needs. *Special education is rare in Haiti, making this a much-needed ministry.*

Location

The Fragneauville area in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Cost

\$86,499 will help provide salaries for teachers and staff, as well as educational supplies and operational expenses, to cover a period of 18 months.

Highlights

- The School of the Good Sower is founded by Gladys Thomas, a Haitian-born, U.S.-trained nurse. In her years of ministry, she has run two orphanages, including a home for the handicapped, three primary schools and a fully-functioning hospital in Port-au-Prince.
- The School of the Good Sower provides a bright future for Haiti's orphans by preparing their hearts and minds for success. Gladys' hope is that, just like the mustard seed that fell on good soil in Jesus' parable, the seeds sown through this ministry will grow and flourish in the hearts and lives of the young students.
- This brand-new Port-au-Prince campus is divided into a primary school (pre-K, grades 1-6) and a special education school, with curriculum devised in accordance with Haitian Ministry of Education standards.
- The school asks families to contribute a small amount of tuition as a token of their commitment to their children's education, which provides the important "buy-in" that helps avoid setting up dependency.
- However, no child is turned away due to inability to pay. Parents may volunteer time or give whatever they are able to afford.
- Funding is needed to cover the salaries of the hardworking teachers and staff at each school, plus other expenses.



Help these impoverished children sow the seeds of a good education and flourish!



The Need



Gladys Thomas believes an education can bring one of God's greatest gifts — simple human dignity.

The Need for Hope in Haiti

- **59%** of the population lives below the poverty line
- **39%** of people over the age of 15 are illiterate
- **67%** of the labor force do not have formal jobs
- **90%** of Haiti's land is deforested, slowing economic progress and the advancement of agriculture

Sources: CIA World Factbook, World Bank, MDG Report.

Why Christian Education Is Important

To understand why the School of the Good Sower is so important, it is vital to understand the hardships Haitian children face on a daily basis.

Free education as we know it in the U.S. doesn't exist in Haiti. Most decent schools are privately operated, require tuition and impose dress codes that require parents to purchase uniforms, making access virtually impossible for the very poor. Even public schools require children to come with shoes, uniforms and school supplies — goods too expensive for impoverished families to purchase.

In Haiti, where 39 percent of the population is illiterate, these hurdles to an education create a sense of desperation among many parents and contribute to the hopelessness of their children. The result is a seemingly endless cycle of poverty, continuing one generation to the next. To make the situation even more complicated, voodoo is widespread in Haiti, creating a negative spiritual climate and further corrupting the lives of the children.

But there is hope! By providing the poor with a low-cost Christian education, Gladys Thomas believes needy children in Haiti can experience a radical transformation. As children come to know Jesus Christ in a personal way, they can become catalysts for a broader spiritual awakening.

“Education is a gift from God,” says Gladys.

“I want these kids to have the dignity to say, ‘Yes, I went to school. I am a human being that God created. I am beautiful. I am knowledgeable. I will help other people. I will work for what I have, and I will work for good things and I will not settle for less!’”



A School to Serve Poor Children in Need

The new Port-au-Prince campus of the School of the Good Sower has been a tremendous blessing to poor children in need of an education, but it needs support from U.S. Christians to achieve its ambitious goals. This financial assistance will allow it to serve disadvantaged children in the community, as well as the orphans and vulnerable children living at Gladys Thomas' Hope Village in the Fragneauville area of Port-au-Prince. Please help us empower this Christian school to provide state-of-the-art special education programs for the children at the Hope Home for the Handicapped and for other disabled children in the area.

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS



Exceptional Teaching Staff

According to Director Marie Nicka Petit-Frere, the teaching staff at the new School of the Good Sower is the most talented and dedicated she has ever encountered. Besides being highly qualified, these professionals teach from the heart.



Academic Excellence

The new School of the Good Sower prepares children for the future. The school is raising the bar academically. Teachers speak to students in French, not Creole. There is a new positive energy at the school — and it is infectious!

Special Education Program

In Haiti, programs for children with special needs are uncommon, making this a much-needed ministry. Moving forward, the new School of the Good Sower is planning to add a second special education class. The school is also planning to add a second special education teacher, and divide special-needs children into higher- and lower-functioning groups.





School of the Good Sower | Project 0295



Help Now!

Gladys Thomas desperately wants her ministry to touch hearts and draw souls to Jesus Christ, and you can empower her outreach to provide those blessings. By supporting the new School of the Good Sower, you can help impoverished children sow the seeds of a good education and flourish!

As Gladys has said, “It is only God. He has made the way; He has made the way. He has put the right people in my path. It is only Him; it is not me.”

We agree. We believe God is reaching out to faithful Christians like you to empower Gladys’ ministry in Haiti, to bring her vision for this school to fruition.

It was Jesus who said, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:19-21).

Join with us! Show your wisdom and commitment to the Lord by making this investment today!

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others,
as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

Our Promise to You!

Proceeds from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2018, the close of our ministry’s new fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.