



Orphans International Helpline

A New School Year - 2017-2018 Pre - K and Kindergarten

Fresh, sharp looking uniforms, eager up-turned shiny faces, perhaps a few hearts quiver in the anxiety of the unknown adventure, nonetheless, school has begun at the Orphans International Helpline (OIH) compound. Supplies are handed out, careful details on class rules are introduced, places are assigned to each little girl and boy, and teachers radiate energy and the excitement of the beginning of an educational journey that will offer hope to each child in the room.

Only 50% of Haiti's children have an opportunity to attend school. OIH children are sponsored for \$30 a month, which ensures that each child will have a uniform, school supplies, and an opportunity to a free and basic education.

Yes, the new school year has begun for the OIH mission. President Jean Florvilus is thrilled that in the Pre-K to Kindergarten classrooms, there are many new students that have joined the school, as is OIH Principal Loreine Justin.

There are 82 students in the Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms. Of those 82 children, 27 are new students from the community. There are two teachers, Lita Derice and Edaise

Valbrun. They are blessed with two helpers, Maria Sianrius and Léristaine Telsaint.

Best of all, the children will learn that they have a loving friend Jesus and a faithful heavenly Father to help them face the future.

"Wisdom and money can get you almost anything, but only wisdom can save your life." Ecclesiastes 7:12 NLT



Progress of New Medical Clinic

On September 6, forms were in place to pour a floor for the new medical clinic. The completed base-ment of this new clinic nestles into the OIH hillside, overlooking a lush green valley, with gentle hills in the background. The plan was to pour the

concrete on September 7 and 8. However, Hurricane Irma interrupted the building progress, and OIH braced for the storm.

In answer to fervent prayers, all the forms remained intact through the storm. The workers wasted no time in getting right to

work to pour the floor, after September 17. (See photo below).

This medical facility has the potential of serving 200,000 people. The plan is to provide health care for children, relief for illnesses, and to perform minor surgeries and C-sections.



Special points of interest:

- OIH has enrolled many new students for 2017-2018 school year.
- Fund raising for the new medical clinic is at \$195,000. Goal is \$500,000. Expected date of completion: 2021
- School has been cleared to receive its first missionary family in 2018
- Love Parcels: for ideas of what makes a perfect Love Parcel for a child, look up www.oihonline.org

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In 2005 this ministry was officially named Orphans International Helpline (OIH) and was granted its non-profit 501(c)(3) status in the state of Michigan. Jean Florvilus is Founder and President of OIH. In addition, OIH also has an elected seven member board of directors.

Presently, the ministry is the sole support for 275 Haitian orphans in Bombardopolis, Haiti. OIH provides three meals daily, medical care clothing, education, clean water, and a safe place to call home to these children on a beautiful five acre campus.

In addition, approximately 100 village children (non-sponsored), are fed once a day at the center. This number varies from day to day, depending on the weather, as most of these children travel far by foot to reach the OIH center. During the summer OIH holds Vacation Bible School (VBS) and offers it to all of the children, sponsored and non-sponsored, in the community. Most importantly, all of these children are taught about the love of Christ.

OIH is a member of Adventist-laymen's Services and Industry.

We're on the Web!
www.oihonline.org

Hurricane Irma

People around the world watched in horrified amazement at the progress of the category 5 hurricane dubbed "Irma." Hurricane Irma maintained winds of 185 mph max. for 37 hours, "the longest any cyclone around the globe has maintained that intensity on record"¹ since satellite tracking era (1966).

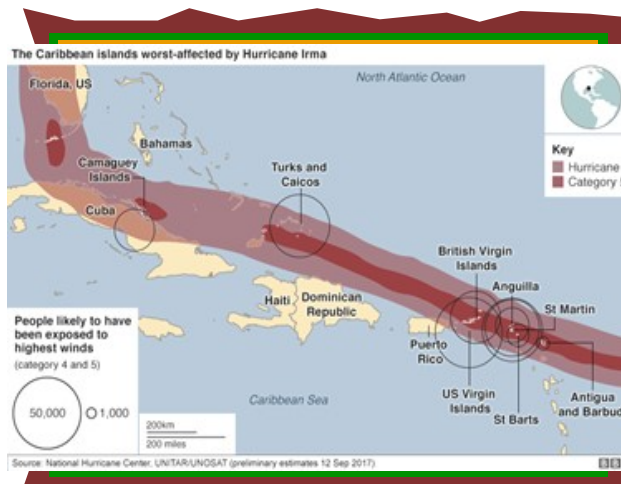
Irma was of particular interest to OIH's special group of supporters. OIH is located in the northeast part of Haiti, in close proximity to the coast, and was in the direct path of that record breaking hurricane. As photos of the storm's destruction to the Caribbean Islands began to collect on a variety of screens around the world, prayer chains were activated on behalf of OIH.

At stake were the lives of OIH children, staff, a recently completed and dedicated church, and the freshly placed forms for a floor for the new clinic building.

On September 9, 2017, the first indication of an answer to prayer

was when the hurricane was downsized from a category 5 to a category 4 storm as it landed on Haitian soil. "Haiti was spared a direct hit from Irma."² While the storm did not bring a lot of rain, it still had winds that devastated agriculture, especially in the northwest section

of Haiti. Fields that were newly planted after the devastation of Hurricane Matthew, that struck just a year ago, were stripped of their yield. Fort Liberty's, Mayor Louis Jacques Etienne, called Hurricane Irma "the Nuclear Hurricane."³



Hurricane Irma's Path of Destruction

However, the good news for those involved with the OIH mission, is that OIH children, staff, and property received no damage whatsoever, from Hurricane Irma.

"Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them." Psalm 89:9

1 - Hurricane Irma Meteorological Records/Notable Facts Recap Intensity/Day Measures. (Sept. 2017). Retrieved Sept. 17, 2017 from: <https://webcms.colostate.edu/tropical/media/sites/111/2017/09/Hurricane-Irma-Records.pdf>

2 - Charles, Jacqueline. (Sept. 9, 2017). Irma mostly spared Haiti. But for struggling farmers, the damages are devastating. *Miami News*. Retrieved Sept. 17, 2017 from: <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/haiti/article172268857.html>

3 - Faiola, A., Bever, L., deGrandpre, A., and Gold, M. (Sept. 8, 2017). Irma's destructive path: 'When you look at the carnage, you ask how anyone at all survived.' *The Washington Post*. Retrieved September 12, 2017 from: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2017/09/07/irma-kills-10-in-battered-caribbean-which-is-in-a-rush-against-time-before-the-next-storm/?utm_term=.1413269ed78e