



L'ARC-EN-CIEL

February 2022

Bulletin number 57

25 candles

For the Fondation
Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel
d'Haïti
(FMAEC)

by Jean-Baptiste E. Méhu,
president

On our 25th anniversary (1997-2022), I would like to thank the founding members (living and deceased), past honorary presidents and early board leaders who have shaped this organization, FMAEC, which helps the most vulnerable children/youth infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. FMAEC remains a dynamic and human symbol, representing 25 years of active assistance, presence and spiritual and financial support to La Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel shelter in Haiti. Two former members (Mr. Alfred Rioux and Brother Fabien Landry) remain points of reference in our daily lives.

The Foundation, in its genesis, is made up of personalities who inspire respect for others, trust and influence each other.

It is also made up of engaging unifying personalities. Our philosophical bond lies in the art of caring about the well-being of the most disadvantaged, ensuring their safety by accompanying them on a daily basis and training them. The human being is our source of inspiration.

During these twenty-five years, the members of the Board of Directors have developed winning strategies, provided balanced accounting reports to partners and donors, supported the momentum of our partner in Haiti by funding various projects, maintained stability at the level of our management committee, paid for certain equipment for income-generating activities and transport costs to Haiti, promoted best practices while remaining attentive to new needs.

The members of the Board of Directors are always actively listening to old and newcomers, donors and partners. I conclude my reflection by saying: Our strength lies in the respect of our mission and in the harmony of our actions.

Long live the Fondation Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel d'Haïti

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OUR GOALS

- Spiritual, moral, material and financial support to Maison L'Arc-en-Ciel, a Haitian NGO founded in 1996 in the suburbs of Port-au-Prince

OUR CONCRETE ACTIONS

- An annual fundraising campaign
- Other annual fundraising activities such as bowling-a-thon, parish quests, etc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board

J.-Baptiste E. Méhu, president
Carmen Lauzon, vice-president
Diane Mainville, secretary
Claude Marineau, treasurer
Stephane Deschamps, coordinator

Directors

Renald Grégoire
Alfred Rioux
André Roussel

Drafting committee

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Haïti

La Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel hard at work !!!

By Diane Mainville, secrétaire

With the financial support of our Foundation, La Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel begun various maintenance and development projects in order to protect the building and improve the living conditions of the children.



Showers and bathrooms



Moreover, in a context of great shortage of electricity, not to mention the recent increase in the price of fuel (from 169 gourdes to 354 gdes/gallon) to power the generator, La Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel is aiming for partial autonomy by installing solar panels. The first phase of the project consists of replacing the tin roof on the building adjacent to the home with a concrete slab. Various partners are involved in this project.



YOU ARE MOVING OR CHANGING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS !

In order to continue RECEIVING your newsletter and to keep in touch with you, please remember to inform us of any changes, either by e-mail, phone or mail, using the information in the **SECRETARIAT** section on the left.

OUR AFFILIATION WITH THE MARIST MISSIONS FOUNDATION

This affiliation allows our donors to receive tax receipts.

This foundation has nearly thirty-five years of experience in Marist missions in Haiti and in various third world countries.

A new shipment of material to Haiti...LAST FALL !!



Last October, the Foundation sent, thanks to your donations, three barrels to La Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel in Haiti. This shipment contained used clothes and shoes in good condition (donated by donors), some Christmas gifts, a wheelchair and plastic bins to store the children's clothes.

May we remind you that the barrels have a second life: they are used for water storage for the gardens, for composting and for food storage.

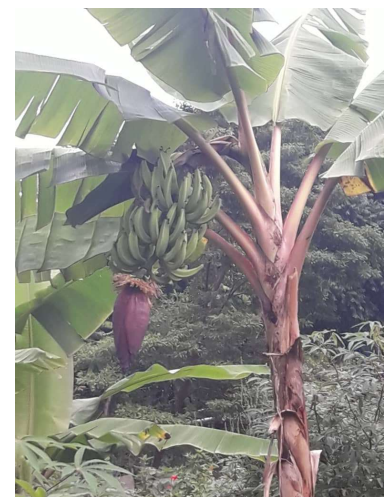
NEW EXPANSION PROJECT... The fig-banana !

By Danielle Reid-Pénette, Co-founder of La Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel en Haïti

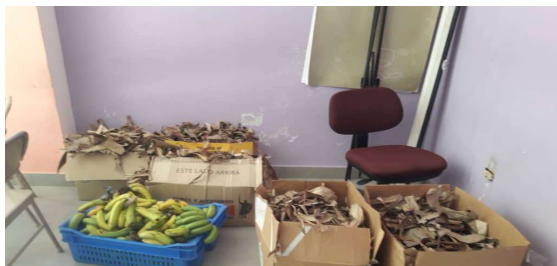
In the fall a **kombit** was held with the children. This activity allowed to realize, in a well needed environment of game and pleasure, the plantation of 200 banana plants, as much the fruit as the vegetable, the enrichment of the soil by the contribution of natural manure, the cleaning of all the fruit trees and their amendment. Days rich in sharing and awareness.

The most profitable crop now is the banana (fruit) which now represents 50% of our sales while benefiting more and more the children by the multiplication of transformable products. The whole plant is used from the flower that the children consume to the plant itself consumed by the farm animals.

(Kombit a traditional form of work organization built around a philosophy based on the foundations of mutual aid and living together.)



Plantain (vegetable)



Right and
left:
fig- banana
(fruit)



Investing in time... A brief review of our activities

By Alfred Rioux, administrator and founder of the Foundation.

Since 1997, a valiant team has generously devoted itself to the humanitarian work of the couple formed by Mrs. Danielle Reid, a Quebecer, and Mr. Robert Pénette, a Haitian.

Thanks to generous benefactors and many partners, La Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel d'Haiti has continued to progress from one year to the next for the benefit of our little protégés: acquisition of a large piece of land located in the mountains in order to avoid the immense pollution of Port-au-Prince for the children and employees, the construction of three hen houses, beehives, hutches, freezers, refrigerators, stainless steel tables for cutting up chickens, an indispensable generator, agricultural equipment, industrial washers and dryers, etc. In addition, a large vegetable garden with a wide variety of fruits and vegetables (banana trees, plantains, etc.) has been developed.

In order to ensure greater security, it was necessary to erect a ten-foot-high wall around the immense property.

All this development would not have been possible without your repeated support. The difficulties were immense, but together we made the difference.

Highlights

November 2021

- Launch of the annual fundraising campaign.

October/November 2022

- Sale of soup pots (if possible).

April 2022

- Bowling-O-Thon (if possible).

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Dorval-Jean XXIII high school.

June 30th 2022
End of the financial year



Awareness Day...at the Missionaries of Charity

Cross Catholic Outreach, a partner of La Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel, presented gifts to the children last December. The children chose to share a portion of the gift with the Missionaries of Charity, whose work is primarily with children from impoverished populations. This day aimed at sensitizing the children/youth to the importance of sharing.

In a future newsletter, we will tell the story of Fedeline and Neila in relation to this special day.

OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN CONTINUES UNTIL JUNE 30TH

Launched last November, this campaign aims to finance the projects of La Maison l'Arc-en-Ciel and to pay for certain expenses inherent to the proper functioning of the shelter.

Go directly to the Donations tab on our website : <https://maisonlarcenciel.org/>