

# NICAISE & MADELEINE AVIGNON NEWSLETTER

SPRING-SUMMER UPDATE 2025

## Greetings

We are happy and grateful for this opportunity to share this mission update with all the saints at Woodland Hills Church, and especially those praying regularly for us and our mission work in southern Haiti. We had the blessing and privilege of spending 5 months on the mission field at our headquarters in Camp-Perrin. We thank God for having provided this opportunity to return safely to the states.

## Our time in Haïti

Our time in Haiti was challenging but fruitful. Despite the general sense of uncertainty and lack of basic resources felt by our partner communities due to the immediate consequences of ongoing gang violence in Port-au-Prince, some positive outcomes were achieved during our time working with our staff and community leaders and members.

### Field Staff Reconfiguration

The Lord granted us prayerful insight and wisdom to make some hiring decisions after we lost 2 key long-time employees who transitioned to the United States. Those 2 vacant positions have been filled, and essential leadership in the affected areas has been reestablished. Along with our staff reconfiguration efforts, we unfortunately had to let go of 3 employees to address a serious funding issue for our field operations. Please pray that the Lord continues to guide and accompany our staff and community leaders in their daily work and that He would continue to provide financially for the needs of the mission.



## A personal note of gratitude

On a personal level, we are grateful to the Lord for our large family, especially our grandchildren totaling 9. From time to time, we had the chance to communicate with them via WhatsApp, showing them the mission campus, some tropical trees and animals (goats, sheep, chickens etc). We thank God for each and everyone of them and their respective families and pray daily for their growth and protection in this world.

We are also very grateful for the love and support we have been blessed to receive from Woodland Hills Church over the years as we continue to endeavor in the work of COFHED's mission. May the Lord continue to bless every saint and family at Woodland Hills Church!

# Our New Kore Tifi/Power to Girls Violence Prevention Program

In rural Haiti, aggression and violence on girls are significant concerns. However, the normalization of such behaviors within the cultural framework often leads to silent suffering, particularly among girls. The pervasive issue of violence and aggression towards girls in the home and the community is a pressing one, but it lacks a visible outcry. For example, during our community participatory rural appraisal assessment in Guillaume this past summer, we conducted three focus groups (Men, women, youths) on violence. The stories of sexual abuse and exploitation of girls shared during the sessions are heart wrenching, yet the saddest part was when community members mentioned that they have come to accept it as part of their reality.

The goal of our KORE TIFI/POWER TO GIRLS violence prevention program is to create a safe and empowering community environment for girls, build their resilience and equip them with the tools and resources they need to advocate for their own safety and well-being. Our vision is to promote supportive communities that actively oppose the abuse of girls. We are looking forward to training community activists from all sectors (business, health, churches, media etc...), mentors, community action groups, and focal groups in schools so they have the tools needed for expected long term systemic change. Our program aims to get up to 500 girls involved ages 10-19 years.

**Our Power To Girls Violence Prevention Program staff (pictured below)**



# Thanks Giving



We requested prayer for a young female student from the Lougou community who suffered a motorcycle accident that left her with a broken leg. Her family did not have the financial means to cover the cost of her surgery and healthcare. Thanks to some donations, we were able to provide for her surgery and her care. She's currently living on the campus of COFHED in Camp-Perrin for easier access to continuing care. God has done a great intervention in her life, she's healing well, and we thank everyone who has prayed for her recovery.

We're very pleased to share with you the joy of all the Christians attending the local Baptist church in the community of Gaetan where COFHED's headquarters is located. The church there badly needed to build a latrine for their congregants and visitors at times of church conventions. Thanks to a substantial gift from COFHED and other contributions, the latrine is almost completed. A latrine can appear to be a simple commodity, only if one has access to one. For the Gaetan church, it is a huge blessing from the Lord (James 1:17).

# GRATEFUL