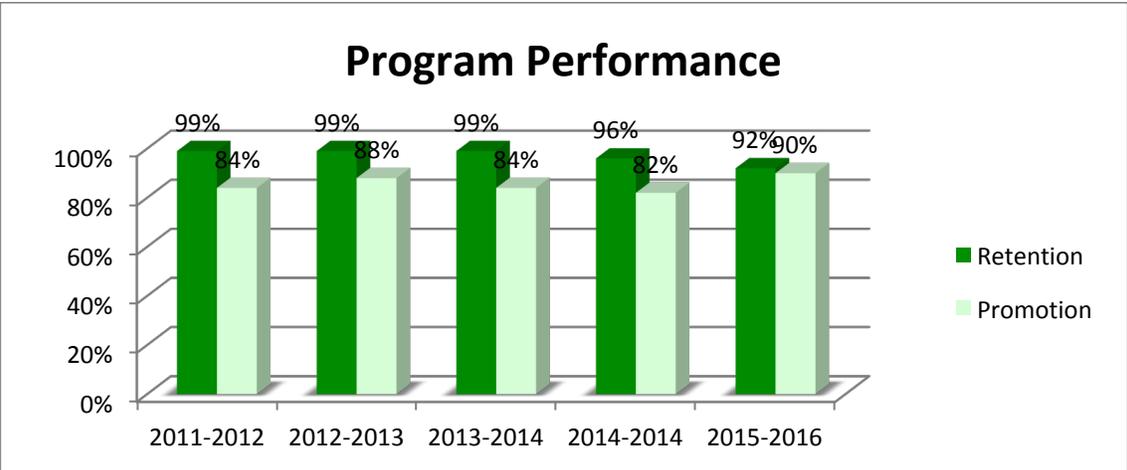
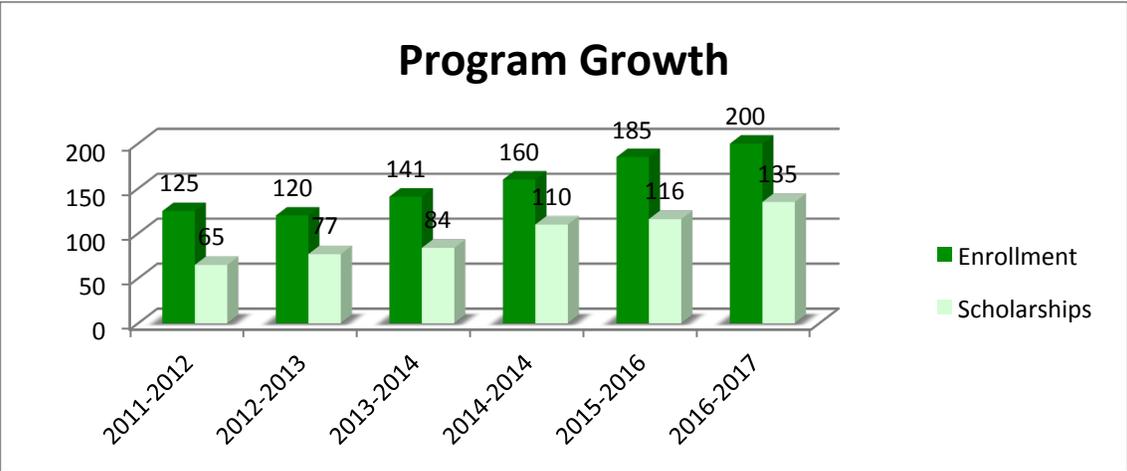


Haitian Educational Initiatives 2016 Annual Report



Executive Summary

Fortunately, the disruptions of 2016 took a smaller toll on HEI’s programs than expected. Enrollment grew in all areas: scholarships rose from 116 to 135 and participation in the after school and job training programs grew from 162 to 185 students. Additional students joined our summer camps, bringing total program enrollment to 200 children. The disturbances caused our retention rate to fall from 96% to 92% but the promotion rate of those children we kept rose from 82% to 90%, indicating that the program works for those who participate. Importantly, six years of consistent schooling has nurtured 36 students into secondary school and we hope to celebrate the first high school graduate in 2018. That’s outstanding considering that nationwide, only 40% of students in Haiti progress beyond the fifth grade and only 5% graduate!



Experience is also reflected in HEI's increased income and continued efficiency. This year, a special grant from Project Redwood enabling us to hire a part-time Executive Director, Melody Wagstaff, raised our grant level to 39% of total income. Consequently, although generous contributions from individual donors, family foundations, and special events have increased 14% over last year, they now represent 60% of our income. Melody's mission is to help us grow while maintaining our commitment to maximum efficiency, accountability and transparency. Consequently, 90 cents of every dollar go directly to programs in Haiti.



Contents

Executive Summary 1

Contents 3

A Letter from the President 4

Our Partners and Programs 6

Our Financial Picture 9

Financial Results 10

Analysis of Income and Expense 11

Board of Directors 12

Contact Information 15

A Letter from the President

Dear Friends of HEI,

In Haiti, programs that have an impact must be hurricane-proof.

2016 was a year of political upheaval, economic crisis and catastrophic weather. Fraudulent presidential elections caused nationwide protests and brought government to a standstill. Haiti’s instability, combined with a strong U.S. dollar, produced 12% inflation that exacerbated food insecurity. And then Hurricane Matthew hit just west of Jacmel, leveling hundreds of homes, damaging schools and flooding our centers. However, donors responded immediately and generously. Likewise, with determination, ingenuity and compassion, our partners cleaned out the mud, fed over 2400 local citizens and ensured that our scholars returned to school. They were instrumental in restoring order in their communities and continue to devise solutions to meet local needs. Thanks to HEI’s donors, partners, and resilient families, our programs are back on track.

Our partners are two child advocacy groups, Fondation Jean Bellande Joseph (FBJJ) and Cercle Amis des Enfants en Situation Difficile (CASED), who devise effective Haitian solutions to the problem of lack of access to education. Together, we’ve been teaching children that if they learn and they work, they can improve the quality of life for themselves, their families and their communities. That learning involves academic content, job skills, and values like non-violence, cooperation, and personal integrity.



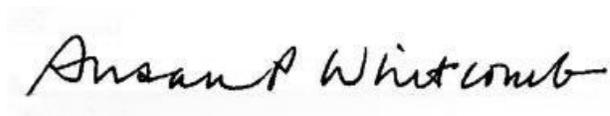
Six years of partnership has strengthened CASED and FBJJ. In addition to the exemplary crisis management skills they exercised, they continue to design and run our programs and follow the budgeting, accounting and reporting procedures vital to collaboration with outside funders. They also keep up with training in child advocacy. Steady employment has enabled our teachers, social worker, cooks and cleaning staff to model a strong work ethic to the children and the community.



Entrepreneurship is the focus of our job training programs because we believe it's vital to strengthening Haiti's economy. The students' computer lessons (on laptops donated by Greens Farms Academy) teach them how to write small business proposals and manage employees. Extra reading and elocution classes in summer camp enhance their communication skills. Dressmaking, tailoring and craft projects teach them to make items they can wear, use or sell in the market right now. Cooking classes help children learn techniques that improve their families' nutrition as well as provide experience in making food for sale. The children are using the money they earn to pay for rides to school and other necessities.

Hurricane Matthew briefly brought world attention back to the extreme suffering right on America's doorstep. Your support is making tangible contributions to the recovery of individual lives and community prospects. Regardless of political and economic instability, change is occurring at the grassroots of Haitian society and we are proud to be part of it. On behalf of the board of HEI, our visionary partners, and our exuberant children, I thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan P. Whitcomb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan P. Whitcomb, Ph.D.

Founder and President

January 29, 2017

Our Partners and Programs

We work with two Haitian led organizations: Fondation Jean Bellande Joseph (FBJJ) and Cercle Amis des Enfants en Situations Difficiles (CASED). As lawyers, teachers, school administrators, and dedicated caregivers, our partners are excellent role models for the 185 children in our programs.

Fondation Jean Bellande Joseph (FBJJ), Cayes-Jacmel

The Joseph family foundation operates in the semi-rural village of Cayes-Jacmel, located about 15 minutes east of Jacmel. Led by Claude Saint Hilaire (President, right) and Paul Brunet Joseph (Director, below right), eight members of the Joseph family and their associates have provided leadership and important services to their community since 2007. FBJJ’s 65 children primarily come from subsistence farming families in the mountain and coastal regions of Jacmel. This region suffers from food insecurity as crops have been destroyed by drought followed by Hurricane Matthew. The distance of area schools makes after school gatherings impractical, consequently FBJJ has designed these programs:



- **Scholarships for 65 children to 19 area schools.** These funds cover tuition, uniforms, backpacks, shoes, books and school supplies. FBJJ pays the fees, completes the paperwork, and oversees attendance and academic outcomes.
- **Weekly meals for 65 children** – the only cooked meal most of them eat all week. Good nutrition helps children resist disease and perform better in school. These children eat only a cornmeal mush augmented occasionally with a vegetable or fruit. FBJJ provides a meal of rice and beans, fried chicken or beef stew, and a vegetable or plantains with fruit juice.



- **Weekly computer literacy classes for 30 children aged 9-18.** Computers donated by Greens Farms Academy allow students to learn Microsoft Word, Excel, and to use the Internet.
- **Weekly needlework and dressmaking classes for children aged 9-18.**

The garment industry has been a long tradition in Haiti and tailoring is a proud accomplishment. Our students learn sewing, embroidery, and crochet to prepare for anticipated new jobs in factories and sewing cooperatives. We also teach jewelry-making, bead curtain-making and traditional crafts to children aged 3-8. Paper flower making for use in parades, weddings and other celebrations is a popular industry in Haiti.



- **Emergency food kits.** We made two distributions of food kits through FJBJ this year: 65 food kits were distributed in March when fall floods and winter drought caused severe food shortages in this area of Haiti. The kits, which contain enough rice and beans, spaghetti and cooking oil to feed a family of 6-8 people for one month, enable school children to maintain their health and concentration in class. We made a second distribution of kits in response to Hurricane Matthew, feeding a total of about 1000 local residents.
- **Summer camp for 70 children 3 days a week in July and August.** Our camp provided children with remedial reading, art, cooking, sports, and environmental conservation classes. Daily meals supplied crucial nutrition. Instructors also built on the foundations of dressmaking, crafts, computer literacy and dance that the children enjoyed during the year.



Cercle Amis des Enfants en Situation Difficile (CASED), Jacmel

CASED is a child advocacy organization founded in 2008 to protect vulnerable children from abuse and has 12 chapters across Haiti. Before the arrival of foreign aid, CASED gathered children in the streets and fed them, encouraged them, and taught them their rights. The Jacmel chapter aids children in prison, prosecutes abuse cases in Haitian courts, conducts anti-violence campaigns in local schools, and offers art, music and games on Saturdays for the neediest children. CASED members Rosemilka Ancioun (Administrator) and Remus Lauture (Administrator, lawyer, and teacher) and their staff of six teachers designed these activities for 120 children:



- **Scholarships for 70 children to 40 local schools in 2015-2016.** As with FJBJ, these scholarship funds equip the children with everything they need to enroll in school.
- **After school tutoring for 120 children including our scholars.** Four sessions run Monday-Thursday in two locations: our headquarters in central Jacmel and a satellite location in a local high school for children in distant neighborhoods. These locations provide the academic support necessary to help Creole-speaking students keep up with their assignments and learn the French they need to pass school exams.
- **Friday and Saturday computer classes for over 40 children** who are learning Word, Excel, and use of the Internet on computers donated by Greens Farms Academy. The Internet has great potential to supplement their learning materials.
- **Summer camp for 117 children** who took art, music and sports classes and continued developing their computer skills. Weekly field trips to local sights provided welcome escape from the crowded urban slums. Summer camp reinforces the achievements of the academic year and encourages retention in the scholarship and after school programs.



Our Financial Picture

The quick response from our donors and new friends to the ravages of Hurricane Matthew enabled HEI to provide funding for emergency hygiene supplies and food kits to help the families in the Jacmel area. More than \$15,000 was donated specifically to help relieve the hardships of Matthew, allowing us to distribute over 300 food kits feeding nearly 2,450 people.

The financial position of HEI continued to improve in 2016 as total income rose 34% from \$110,300 to \$148,200. Even excluding the hurricane relief, income was up over last year. This increase was driven by the continued generosity of major donors and family foundations combined with the growth of our base of smaller contributions. Institutional grants totaled \$57,000, reflecting a significant increase from Project Redwood (an initiative of Stanford Business School alumni) and Trinity Church of Southport, CT.

Instead of a large fund raising event, we held a special thank you reception, kindly hosted by The Southport Galleries. In addition, after telling our story to a group of young professionals in Manhattan, they, in turn, hosted an event tagged "Fight for Haiti" which brought together boxing enthusiasts at a Manhattan boxing gym. These two events brought in more than \$7,000. More importantly, this helped us expand our support base, particularly among the young professional community in New York City.



Our outreach to Haiti expanded 37% from \$80,200 in 2015 to \$110,100. This allowed us to scale up both programs, CASED - which focuses on helping children in the city of Jacmel, and FBJJ - which assists children in the rural countryside. We were able to increase scholarships from 116 in 2015 to 135, and summer camp participation increased from 155 to 192 children in 2016.

Total administrative expenses increased 24% to \$10,800. This reflects higher insurance rates and the bringing on board, in November, an Executive Director, Melody Wagstaff. Given her business background in marketing and strategic planning, we look forward to her help in managing our growing organization and expanding our donor base. Part of the grant money received last year was designated to fund this paid position. In 2016 more than 90 cents of every dollar went directly to programs in Haiti, and while we now have one paid staff member, we expect to continue to operate at a high level of efficiency.

Finally, we wish to thank the many generous people who include HEI in their charitable giving plans, and also the institutional donors whose support is so important to us.

Financial Results

INCOME AND EXPENSE SUMMARY

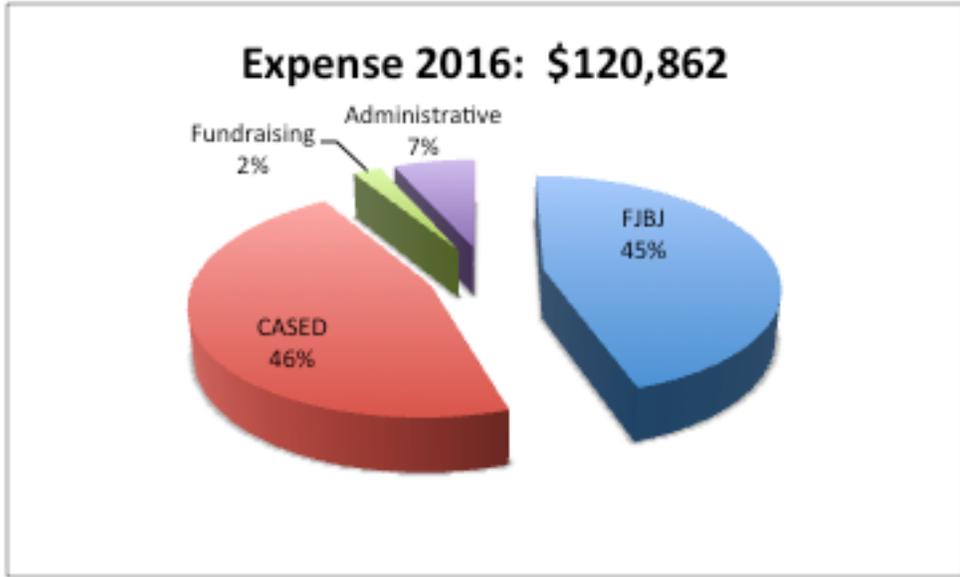
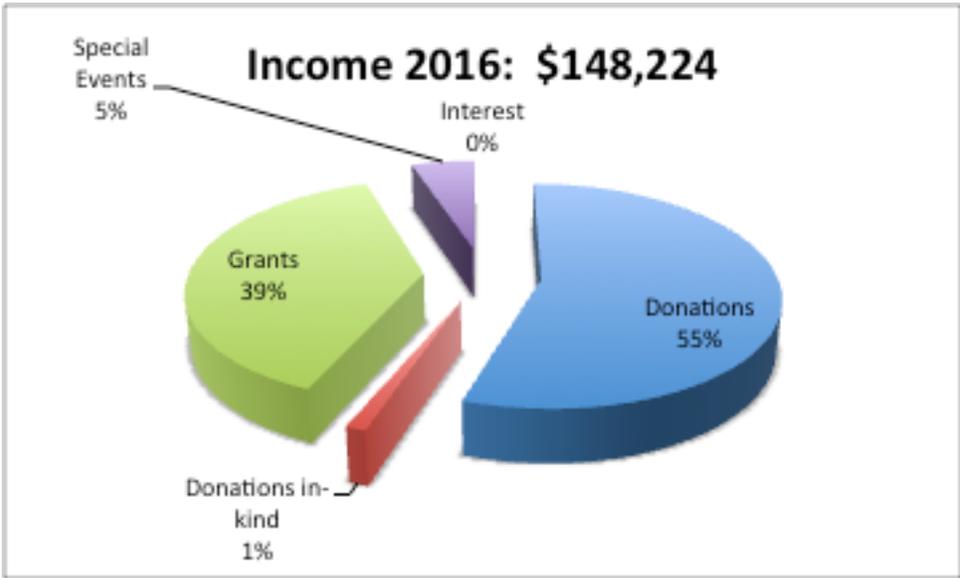
FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st

	2016	2015
Income		
Donations	\$81,877	\$60,832
Donations in-kind	1,725	4,726
Grants	57,050	30,000
Special Events	7,558	14,726
Interest	13	8
Total Income	<u>148,224</u>	<u>110,292</u>
Expense		
Program		
FJB	54,279	44,086
CASED	55,771	36,086
Total Program	110,050	80,172
Fundraising	2,818	2,766
Administrative	7,995	5,927
Total Expense	<u>120,862</u>	<u>88,865</u>
Net (Deficit)/Surplus	<u>27,361</u>	<u>21,427</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31st

	2016	2015
Current Assets		
Cash	\$89,532	\$61,391
Inventory	1,000	1,300
Total Assets	<u>90,532</u>	<u>62,691</u>
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	500	50
Total Current Liabilities	500	50
Charitable Funds		
Restricted	43,020	19,345
Unrestricted	47,012	43,296
Total Charitable Funds	90,032	62,641
Total Liabilities & Funds	<u>90,532</u>	<u>62,691</u>

Analysis of Income and Expense



Board of Directors

Susan Whitcomb, Ph.D., Founder and President

Susan founded HEI in December 2010 after serving as a volunteer teacher with Global Volunteer Network in Jacmel. She taught English and French to adults recovering from the earthquake and also assisted in childcare facilities in the city. She has taught at Purchase College and the University of Saint Joseph, where she also directed the Honors Program. Susan served on the Board of Directors of the A Better Chance program in Ridgefield, CT and is a docent at the Morgan Library in New York. She earned her B.A. from Wellesley College and Ph.D. in English Literature from Yale University. She lives in Fairfield, CT.



Abigail Franklin, Secretary

Abigail has 25 years of senior management experience in fundraising and marketing with organizations such as The New York Academy of Medicine, New York Common Pantry in East Harlem, NY, The Ms. Foundation for Women, Columbia University and the Brooklyn Academy of Music. She is a graduate of Wellesley College and holds a graduate degree from Yale School of Drama.



Bill Duncan, Treasurer

Bill is a retired executive of JPMorganChase where he held a variety of management positions over a thirty-five year career. He sits on the Board of Directors and the Audit Committee of Conair Corporation, Stamford, CT and has served as Director of International Studies at Stony Brook State University's College of Business. As a volunteer, Bill served as Chairman of the Finance Committee and Junior and Senior Warden of Christ Episcopal Church, Greenwich in the 1980s. In 2008 Bill was elected to the Vestry of Trinity Church, Southport and has served as Treasurer and financial advisor. He was also on the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Finance and Audit Committees of Lighthouse International, NYC. Bill and his wife, Peggy, live in Southport, CT.



Gerard Azor, Jr., Liaison to the Haitian-American community and the Haitian diaspora

Gerry is Sales Manager for Cardinal Health. He is also the Vice-Chairman of the United Haitian-American Society of Connecticut and the Executive Director of the Haiti Relief Fund. He has been a leader in the Haitian-American community for over 30 years, organizing numerous activities in the tri-state area. He serves as an advisor to many Haitian-American media outlets. Gerry studied Business Management at Sacred Heart University. He lives in Fairfield, CT.



Joanne Delone

Joanne has over eight years of experience in working with the nonprofit sector in providing clinical, management, program development, fundraising, and event planning services. She is a Clinical Therapist with Bridges-Community Support System and Graduate Resident Coordinator at Fairfield University. Joanne is also the Co-Founder of Haitians Building Unity (HBU). Joanne earned her B.A. and M.A. in Community Counseling at Hampton University and an M.A. in Global Development and Peace at the University of Bridgeport. She lives in Fairfield, CT.



Anne Svensk

Anne has been a teacher at Chateau Brillantmont in Lausanne, Switzerland, the Annunciation School in Washington, DC and Greenwich Country Day School in Greenwich, CT where she taught French for many years. She has also taught ESL at the Mercy Learning Center in Bridgeport, CT and was a Trustee of the Putnam Indian Field School in Greenwich. A civic leader, Anne has been President of the Fairfield Women's Exchange and has served on the boards of the Fairfield Garden Club and the Sasquanaug Association. She also chaired the major annual



fundraiser for the Southport Congregational Church. Anne has lived in Vienna, Moscow and Bucharest. She is a graduate of Vassar College, has an MAT from Manhattanville College and is an avid water colorist. Anne is married to Robert E. Svensk and has three grown sons and one grandchild.

Jim Whitcomb

Jim is a Managing Director at Westbury Group, an investment banking firm headquartered in Westport, CT. Previously with firms such as The Chart Group, Lehman Brothers and predecessor firms of JPMorgan Chase, Jim has advised corporate clients on mergers, acquisitions and corporate finance in markets around the world. He served as Director, President and Treasurer of The Southport Conservancy, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of an historic Connecticut village.

Jim was educated in England at Rugby School, received a B.A. in History from Williams College and an M.B.A. from the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. He and his wife live in Southport, CT.



Contact Information

Haitian Educational Initiatives
rebuilding Haiti, child by child



Mailing Address 857 Post Road, Fairfield, CT 06824

Telephone 203-512-1774

Email info@haitiedu.org

Website www.haitiedu.org

Facebook www.facebook.com/Haitian.Educational.Initiatives

Twitter #HaitiEd