

HOPE UNITED

A message from the president of Hope United:

If you're anything like me, much of the news we've seen out of Haiti over the last 18 months has been discouraging: Assassinations, earthquakes, gang violence, kidnappings, and soaring inflation have all worked together to severely degrade the Haitian quality of life. They have also prevented mission teams from traveling to Haiti to work alongside our Haitian brothers and sisters. Even within the past few weeks, we learned that the Haitian government has delayed the opening of schools until at least October, due to ongoing widespread gang violence. Make no mistake, life in Haiti is more desperate today than it has been at any point since the earthquake in 2010.

As the months have dragged to years, you might have also found that the distance, time, and language barrier make it challenging to maintain connections and relationships with your friends and sponsor children in Haiti. I understand; I struggle with the same things, but instead of letting that discouragement set in, I'm going to ask you to do two things, one personal and one tangible:

First, I'm asking that you pray for peace in Haiti, for the safety of our brothers and sisters there, and also for the ministry of Hope United. Our work continues in the face of these challenges, thanks to your continued prayer and support. In fact, just this week, you should receive a newsletter and your sponsor child's report card in the mail from us.

But we are currently unable to provide an updated sponsorship photo, because conditions in Haiti have prevented us from traveling to the country. This leads me to my second request. I'm asking you to help us with a project:

Normally, we love sharing and seeing photos on social media from all the teams that visit La Mer Frappée, but since those trips haven't been possible, no new pictures. Here's where you come in. We'd like to make a video that's a collage of pictures from our supporter's favorite memories in Haiti. So would you mind taking five minutes to scroll through your Haiti pictures to find a few of your favorites? Perhaps it's a photo of you with your sponsor child. Or maybe it's of you working alongside a Haitian translator in a medical clinic. Whatever the story behind it may be, we all have a handful of pictures that really mean a lot to us. Our hope is that you'll be willing to share that memory with the rest of the Hope United community. Once you've found a few of your favorites, go to hopeunitedhaiti.org and submit them in the dropbox found on the home page. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to being able to share this video collage with you all in the coming weeks.



Matt Weber
President, Hope United