



## MISSION STATEMENT

Haiti Foundation of Hope is a Christian organization addressing the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the people in the impoverished and underserved rural communities of northern Haiti.



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## TERRE BLANCHE SCHOOL: then and now

Fall is a time of change and the school at Terre Blanche is no exception. The school opened in 1996 with 65 students. Today there are 950 students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12.

Osita Tira, a grandmother of five school-age children, remembers life before there was a school and says the school has been a big help in many ways.

Before the school opened, families struggled and children had no shoes. Now, students have uniforms and are no longer barefoot. This area suffers from floods and drought and food is often limited. But students receive a hot meal at school so the children no longer starve.

Osita says the cultural expectation is for her to take responsibility for her grandchildren's education so it passes to future generations. She donates her time and gives a percentage of the sales of the grain she grows to the church. She connects the school and church. They cannot be separated in her mind.

Her grandchildren are proud of their school and like their teachers.

Micheline has hopes her daughter and three sons will continue their education to become a nurse, a doctor, an agricultural worker and an engineer.

Before the school was built in Terre Blanche, the nearest school was in another village called Dubedou. Children had to walk in groups and didn't start school until they were six or seven years old. Now they may start as early as two years old and remain safe.

Micheline recalls that when children had



*Top:* Students line up for a photo outside the new construction on the secondary school building. Details on the completion of the construction work will be coming soon.

*Bottom:* Children in Terre Blanche before there was a school.

no school, their time was wasted. When they grew up, they would work but not get enough money for their families. Some would go to the Dominican Republic but they had no skills and could not find work.

Micheline speaks for many as she says the school has made a difference because now their community has a vision and one day the children will have choices for their futures.

*Written by Mari Walker, June 2014 team*



## More School News

National exams are taken at the end of grades 6, 9, and 12. Those passing may move on to the next grade. Here are the results from this year's exams at the school in Terre Blanche:

6th Grade — 27 of 30 passed

9th Grade — 35 of 40 passed

12 Grade — The results are still pending for 3 of 4 students.

Congratulations to Abel Joseph (featured in the September 2013 newsletter) who passed his 12th grade exams.

We are so proud of all the students at the school and are celebrating with those who passed their exams and will be moving to the next grade.

## Clinic of Hope: new staff

Earlier this year, Haiti's Ministry of Health asked to place seven government-paid health workers at the Clinic of Hope for the purpose of treating HIV positive pregnant women.

In addition to caring for those patients, these full-time health workers will also work alongside medical staff to treat all patients at the clinic.

With the addition of these new medical staff members we have more than doubled the number of professional staff at the clinic and

therefore greatly increased our ability to reach those in need of medical care.

*Read more at [haitifoundationofhope.org](http://haitifoundationofhope.org).*



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Read inside to find out how the school in Terre Blanche is making a difference. You can help by donating online. Our donation page now accepts AMEX along with VISA and MasterCard.

