



# 2023 MINISTRY IMPACT REPORT



*Dr. Guerson*



THEN / NOW

*Life Academy*



THEN / NOW

WE ARE DEVELOPING  
A CHRIST-CENTERED  
CULTURE



*Steven*



THEN / NOW

*One life  
at a time*



*Ghandi*

THEN / NOW





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# Friends of myLIFEspeaks,

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support of myLIFEspeaks. Your prayers, encouragement, and generosity have been instrumental in our mission to build Christ-centered communities and bring lasting change to Haiti. As we approach the end of 2023, we want to update you on our ongoing work and the urgent challenges we face.

Over the past four years, Haiti has experienced unprecedented difficulties. Inflation has skyrocketed, with prices increasing by over 45% each month since January 2023. Gangs have gained control of more than 80% of the capital, Port au Prince, leading to a wave of kidnappings and violence, leaving hundreds dead and over 25,000 people displaced in just one month this August. Even more concerning, individuals with disabilities are increasingly vulnerable as they are targeted by these gangs.

Haiti is in a state of turmoil, and the need for hope and change has never been greater. Despite these daunting circumstances, we remain committed to our mission of bringing the salvation of Christ to Haiti. We are guided by the words of Philippians 3:12-14, reminding us to press forward, focusing on the goal of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

In the midst of the darkness, we see glimpses of God's goodness and protection. Our community is growing stronger, education persists despite threats from gangs, and our public health initiatives continue to expand. By meeting the physical needs of our community, we have the privilege of sharing the true hope found in Christ.

Looking ahead, we are dedicated to equipping our Haitian leaders to spread this hope. We aim to empower them to expand myLIFEspeaks into new communities and areas, all while upholding the dignity of individuals and families created in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27).

We humbly request your financial support as we close out this year. Your partnership enables us to meet the urgent needs of the Haitian people and explore opportunities in the Dominican Republic to support displaced Haitians and individuals with special needs.

Thank you for being a cherished part of our myLIFEspeaks family.

With gratitude,

Handwritten signatures of Mike and Missy Wilson in black ink.

Mike & Missy Wilson | Co-founders, myLIFEspeaks

# WE FIGHT FOR FAMILIES.

## OUR VISION

Developing a Christ-Centered Culture, One LIFE at a Time.

## OUR MISSION

Fighting For Families by Building Christ-Centered Communities.

## OUR MOTIVATION

**An estimated 30,000 children live in 750 orphanages in Haiti.**

80 percent of these children are not actually orphans.

*(Faith to Action Initiative, 2023)*

## THE ORPHANAGE CRISIS

In a country where orphanages use relinquished children for profit, we equip and empower families to stay together.

**We are not an orphanage.**

Orphanages in Haiti were created for a combination of complex reasons – poverty, natural disasters, physical/intellectual disabilities, inadequate housing, and lack of health and educational services.

At least 140 Haitian orphanages are believed to have extremely detrimental living conditions where children are at severe risk of violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect. While well-intentioned foreigners send money to Haitian orphanages hoping to help the children, it is, in reality, having an adverse effect by propelling the cycle of broken families.

*(Lumos Foundation, 2017)*

CHILDREN BELONG IN *families,*  
NOT INSTITUTIONS.



## *Our Strategy*

### **Showing the Love of Christ and Making Disciples through Sharing, Teaching, and Serving**

**SHARE** Family is at the center of what we do at myLIFEspeaks. We work to educate parents in caring for their children and promote family unity. Additionally, we actively engage in evangelism and spreading a message of inclusivity and compassion for all individuals, regardless of their abilities. We aim to break down stigmatization barriers and foster compassion within the wider community. To further support families, we provide Biblically-based parent support groups (Bel Ewo), discipleship and vacation bible school opportunities, community Bible studies, and a community garden that helps feed the village with fresh fruits and vegetables.

**TEACH** Through LIFE Academy and other programs like our Elderly Program, Zanmi Pou Lavi (Friends for LIFE), and Night to Shine, we teach the good news and shine a light on the hope we have in the Gospel as well as the value and inherent dignity of every person, as they are created in the image of God, regardless of ability, disability, age, wealth, or status.

**SERVE** We strive to meet both the physical and spiritual needs of the people we serve, as Jesus did. Some of the tangible ways we do this and serve our community are through our medical clinic (LIFE Clinic), physical and occupational therapy services (LIFE Therapy), pregnant and nursing mother programs, preventative health seminars, and feeding programs for vulnerable children, families, and the elderly.

## OUR WORK WITH FAMILIES

myLIFESpeaks tackles the Haitian 'orphanage crisis' by empowering families to stay together. Our Family Empowerment program offers vital services like healthcare, therapies, nutrition, Christian discipleship, and more, ensuring parents can care for their children without resorting to orphanages out of desperation.

We firmly believe that every child belongs in a family. For orphaned or abandoned children, including those with special needs, we place them in loving forever family homes, not institutions. Partnering with Haitian Child Services (IBESR), we've created our own Haitian foster care system to prevent children from slipping through the cracks.

myLIFESpeaks Family Empowerment is committed to providing the best care for children and supporting families. We're passionate about raising awareness of the challenges facing Haitian children and families, cautioning against financially supporting for-profit orphanages, and promoting ways to genuinely help vulnerable children by strengthening their families.

### *What's next?*

- Financial and budgeting training for families
- In-home family Bible study and devotional curriculum for local communities
- Sharing the integrated family-based care model to new regions within Haiti
- Exploring opportunities to empower families in the Dominican Republic to care for special needs family members

## FAMILIES OF MYLIFESPEAKS



# Meet Imaya Ruth!

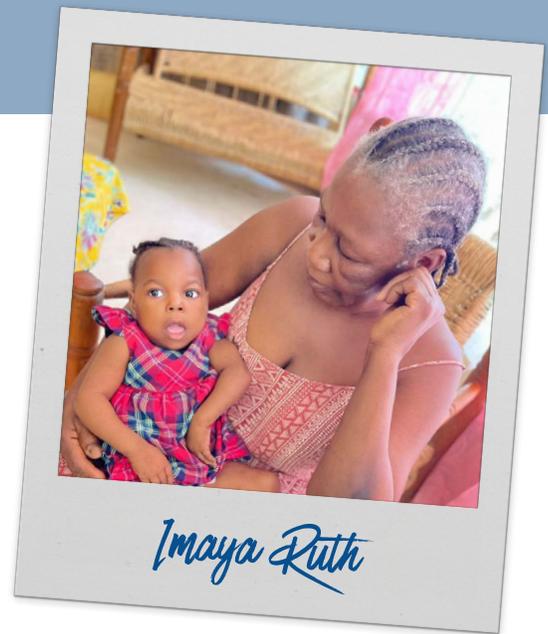
## myLIFEspeaks Starts 7th Family Home To Accommodate Newest Addition

Meet the newest addition to the myLIFEspeaks' family! Imaya Ruth is two years old and came into myLIFEspeaks forever care after she was abandoned at a Sanatorium in Haiti in August 2023.

Her biological mother brought her to the Sanatorium and checked in for services but then disappeared leaving Imaya all alone. Haitian Child Services (IBESR) was contacted and worked to track down the mother but had no luck. IBESR then reached out to us and asked us if we would see if we could place her in one of our forever Family Homes at myLIFEspeaks.

Upon evaluating Imaya, we determined she has Cerebral Palsy. Sadly, her special needs' is likely a contributing factor to her mother abandoning her. We prayerfully decided that we would adopt Imaya and provide her with a forever family who would never leave or abandon her again.

In evaluating our current six Family Homes' capabilities, our Director of Family Empowerment, Benjamin, felt it would be best to start a seventh family in order to place Imaya.



We had already been training more Haitian couples within our community to be potential foster parents with us in the future. One of these families was our Director of Community Development, Adam Pierre, and his wife, Jolène. The Pierre's have been next on our waiting list, having already passed training, and they are thrilled to be welcoming Imaya into their family!

Imaya is starting physical therapy at LIFE Therapy Clinic and our Head Therapist, Bergedia, believes that with consistent therapy to work on muscle tone it is very likely that Imaya will be able to eventually be weight bearing and God-willing even walk someday!

We cannot wait to see what amazing things God has in store for sweet Imaya's LIFE! Once abandoned, Imaya is now chosen and loved by a forever family and entire village community.





## OUR WORK IN EDUCATION

At LIFE Academy, each school day commences with prayer, worship, and the Haitian national anthem. Our devoted teachers impart a Christ-centered, hands-on curriculum, prioritizing not only academic growth but also spiritual development. Problem-solving, critical thinking, and creativity are the cornerstones of our educational approach.

Prayer is woven into the fabric of our day. The entire school unites in prayer at noon, and teachers offer prayers for students as needed. Our vibrant classrooms encompass diverse subjects such as math, science, art, language, and reading, all infused with joy, dance, and educational songs. Jesus Christ and the Gospel are the bedrock of our teachings, preparing our 200 students with vital life skills and knowledge for a promising future.

Our 36 teachers extend their guidance beyond the classroom, discipling our students and nurturing their spiritual growth. We hold hope for Haiti's future, as these compassionate, confident, Jesus-loving children and teachers not only carry these teachings into their homes but also embody the promise of a brighter tomorrow.

# 200

**# OF STUDENTS PRE-K3 – 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

*started with 1 Special Education class in 2013*

# 36

**# OF TEACHERS/ASSISTANTS**

*1 teacher and 1 assistant per grade*

# 4

**# OF SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSES**

*with 14 students per class & 12 on a waiting list*

# 25

**# OF STUDENTS IN PRE-K3 CLASS**

*new class started this year*

# LIFE Academy Is Expanding

## Working on Accreditation As National Testing Center

LIFE Academy provides high-quality, integrated, Christ-centered education to children both typically developing and special needs; making it one of few schools in Haiti to do so.

What started with one Special Education classroom and four students in 2013 has now multiplied and expanded into an integrated learning environment for 200 students and 36 teaching staff. Every year since the school's inception we've added another grade level to accommodate our inaugural class. However, this 2023-2024 school year we added two grade levels: a 7th-grade class and a Pre-K3 class for 3-year-olds.

Among the fourteen classes at LIFE Academy are four Special Education classes specifically catered for children with intellectual, developmental, cognitive, or physical disabilities to have the opportunity to receive a Christ-centered education and LIFE skills.

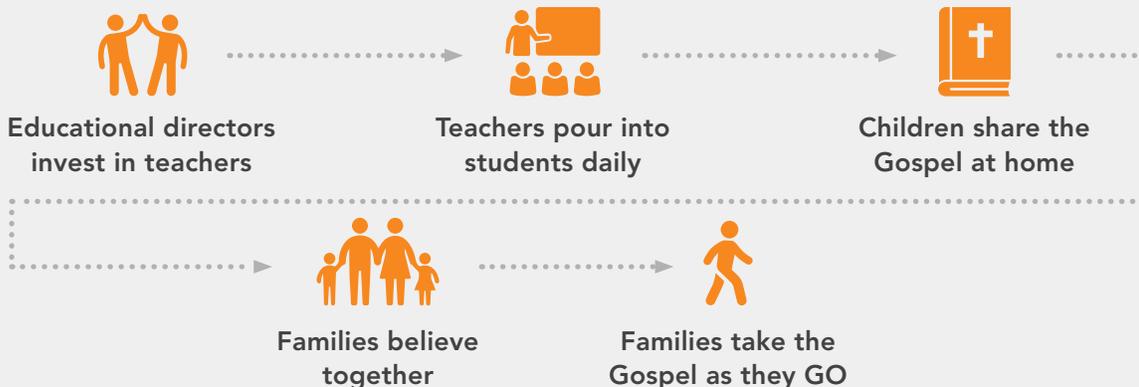
This school year we have 25 new Pre-K3 students and are adding 10 new Special Education students across our four existing SPED classrooms. The addition of a Pre-K3 class specifically was to fulfill a requirement towards our goal of becoming a national testing center for our region of Haiti within the next few years. We are working closely with the Ministry of Education in Haiti to make this possible.

If all goes well, this will be a huge advantage and blessing to our students and students throughout our southwest region who would be able to come to LIFE Academy for testing instead of gang-controlled Port Au Prince. The growth and expansion of LIFE Academy continues to blow us away as we make great strides toward making high-quality, accessible, affordable education more widely available to Haiti's children.



## Discipleship in Education

### HAITIANS TEACHING HAITIANS





## OUR WORK IN PUBLIC HEALTH

In the heart of Haiti, myLIFEspeaks is dedicated to building public health in the community. Through two integral components, LIFE Clinic and LIFE Therapy Clinic, we provide essential care, healing, and support.

### LIFE CLINIC: A BEACON OF HEALING

Annually, LIFE Clinic extends its healing touch to over 5,000 patients. Our Haitian medical team offers specialized care, lab work, treatments, and essential medicines. But our mission goes beyond medical care. Every patient who walks through our doors receives something extra - a personal touch of prayer and the message of hope in Jesus Christ, the Divine Physician and Healer.

Moreover, we believe in empowering our patients to participate actively in their healthcare. They contribute a small fee and a percentage of the overall costs, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility while ensuring that quality healthcare remains affordable and accessible.

### LIFE THERAPY CLINIC: REHABILITATION AND RESTORATION

LIFE Therapy Clinic is where children and adults from both myLIFEspeaks' care and the surrounding communities find support. Our Haitian therapy professionals and assistants cater to individuals of all ages and abilities. From children with intellectual and developmental disabilities to adults dealing with post-stroke symptoms, fractures, or chronic conditions; LIFE Therapists focus on rehabilitation and enhancing the quality of life for their patients.

In addition to physical rehabilitation, the LIFE Therapy staff offers spiritual support. They engage with every willing patient, sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the One True Healer.

Together, LIFE Clinic and LIFE Therapy Clinic work hand in hand, not just to treat ailments and injuries but to foster a holistic approach to public health in Haiti. Through medical care, prayer, and therapy, we aim to uplift and heal both the body and the spirit, one patient at a time.

# LIFE Clinic Doctors Save Teen's LIFE

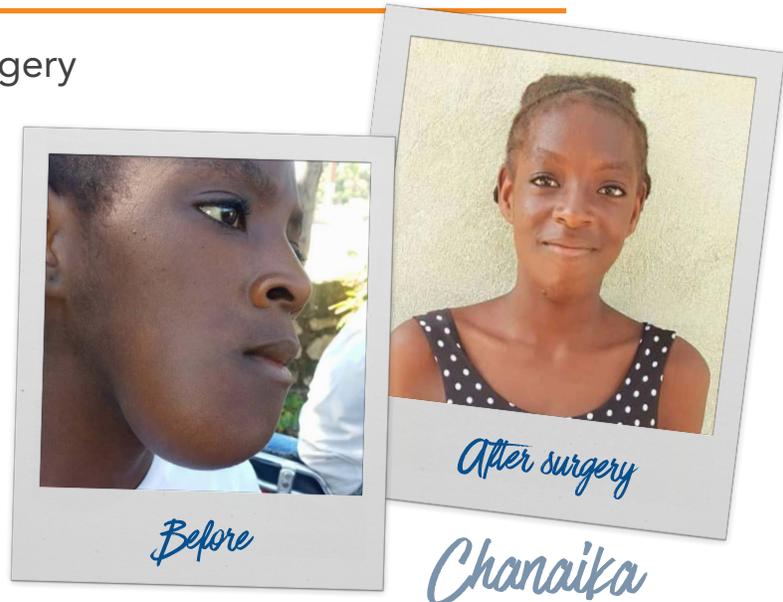
## myLIFEspeaks Covers LIFE-Saving Surgery

Chanaika is a 14-year-old girl from Bossan, a small town in Leogane about an hour drive from LIFE Clinic in Nepl, Haiti.

She came to LIFE Clinic seeking help for a painful growth on her right jaw line that was causing extreme pain, discomfort, and difficulty eating. She was becoming sicker each day.

At LIFE Clinic, Dr. Mesilien and Dr. Peter were able to conduct lab work and diagnosis her with a jaw tumor (ameloblastoma). They then advocated on her behalf to find a surgeon at The Bucco Facial Clinic in Petionville, who could perform LIFE-saving surgery. The problem then was then the cost of the surgery: 150,000 Haitian gourdes. A price she nor her family could ever afford.

Through myLIFEspeaks' Emergency Medical Fund, we were able to cover the surgery and give hope to this family who was previously desperate.



Without LIFE Clinic's proper diagnosis & advocating to connect Chanaika with a good surgeon, Chanaika would most likely have died.

Today, Chanaika is healed and her tumor is gone. She is able to go back to living her LIFE as a healthy teenager.

## What's next?

### LIFE THERAPY:

- Expansion of services for more patients from outlying areas
- Expanded partnership with the local University's Physical and Occupational Therapy programs

### LIFE CLINIC:

- Increase community awareness for all clinic and therapy services
- Adding a radiology (x-ray) department
- Increasing lab capabilities
- Increasing hours to 24 continuous availability

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



## OUR WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

CommUNITY to us at myLIFEspeaks means coming together in UNITY for a purpose greater than ourselves. Whether Haitian or American, old or young, typically developing or special needs, rich or poor; we all bring something unique and unrepeatable to the table. We each have a role, that only we can fill, in God's Work here on earth. We are many parts, yet one body (1 Corinthians 12:12).  
One human family.

CommUNITY for us, is an extension of the Body of Christ. Our differences are what make us strong. Without each unique part, the whole won't prosper. We believe that every person is made in God's Image and has a unique purpose and calling on their LIFE. We believe that every LIFE matters to God.

### WE BELIEVE THAT IN *community...*

- We are **living examples of the Gospel**
- We are **stronger**
- We are **unbreakable**
- We are **most alive**
- We are **an unstoppable force for good**
- We are **God's Hands and Feet on earth**
- We are **one**

*"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." – Galatians 3:28*

**We are made for LIFE and for commUNITY in Christ.**

#### BÈL EWO (BEAUTIFUL HERO) PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

**40+** attendees meet weekly

#### ELDERLY PROGRAM

**65** attendees meet weekly

#### NIGHT TO SHINE

**300+** participants this year

#### IN-HOME FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**27,720** meals for children

**17,160** meals for elderly

#### SCHOOL LUNCHES

**24,600** meals

# Blind Elderly Woman Finds Community, Belonging, and Friendship at myLIFEspeaks

Tililine is a woman from LaSalle, a neighboring village to Neply where myLIFEspeaks is based. Tililine is blind and lives alone with no family nearby to help her.

She was told about myLIFEspeaks' Elderly Program by current participants and she started to attend. At Elderly Program she found a renewed sense of worth, purpose, and belonging.

Her peers made us aware of her rent situation and myLIFEspeaks was able to assist in covering that for her. Some of the program participants even gave of what little they have to pool together money to help their new friend in need.

Tililine finally felt like she was part of something again. She had a family; a community of friends who would be there for her when she needed it. She went from being all alone to now having friends and people in Neply who love her, pray with her, and remind her of her worth and value as a beloved child of God.



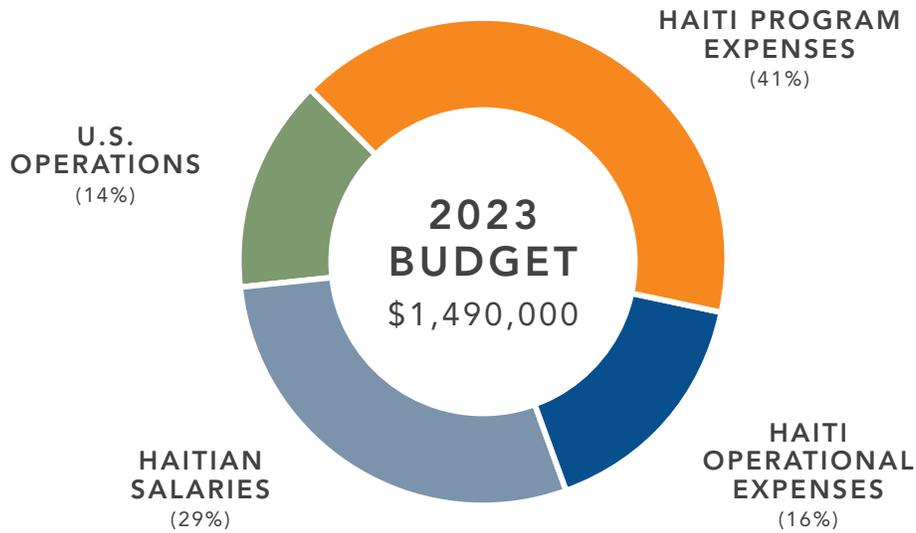
Her home village community has even taken notice. They've said that they see Jesus through myLIFEspeaks and in the way this community has cared for Tililine. That this is a tangible way by which they see the Gospel at work today.

## What's next?

As we look ahead to 2024 and beyond, our commitment to making a lasting impact on our community and the surrounding areas remains unwavering. Through initiatives such as Bèl Ewo, our Elderly Program, the Feeding Program, Zanmi Pou Lavi, Night to Shine, and a host of other endeavors, we are poised to continue serving as a beacon of hope.

In the face of the profound challenges facing Haiti today, we stand resolute in our determination to expand our programs into other communities within the nation. Our ultimate mission is to share the transformative message of the Gospel of Christ, illuminating the path to hope and redemption, one life at a time. With your support and partnership, we look forward to a future where the light of compassion and faith continues to shine, guiding those in need towards a brighter tomorrow.

## 2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



### CURRENT REVENUE:

(as of 11/1/2023)

**\$1,077,100**

### AMOUNT NEEDED TO REACH 2023 BUDGET:

**\$412,900**



## 2023 vs. 2022

- Food inflation was **38%** in Aug. 2023
- **6.519 MILLION** people (out of 11.8 million) are at acute levels of hunger or worse (Source: *Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Index*)
- An unprecedented **30%** increase in the number of Haitian children suffering from severe wasting (Source: *UNICEF*)
- Transportation is up **91%** in Aug. 2023
- Healthcare is up **24%** in Aug. 2023
- Education is up **12%** in Aug. 2023
- Minimum wage in Haiti is **540 HTG** (Haitian Gourdes) per day (\$3.72/day, as of Oct. 2023)
- The exchange rate HTG to USD is **145:1**

**Inflation was 49% in January 2023 has continued on an upward trend since.** (Source: *U.S. Department of State*)

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The resilience, dedication, and resourcefulness of the Haitian staff in the face of challenging economic conditions and rising inflation in Haiti are truly commendable. By ensuring that not a single program has slowed, decreased, or stopped in the last 12 months, they are making a significant impact on the community.

The empowerment of Haitian leaders within myLIFEspeaks is a crucial aspect of sustainable development. By entrusting them with leadership roles and supporting their growth, the ministry is enabling the Haitian staff to take ministry in Haiti to new heights. The fact that myLIFEspeaks has been able to expand its reach despite limited resources is a truly “God-sized” achievement. It speaks to the innovative thinking, strategic planning, and unwavering commitment of the Haitian staff. Their ability to make the most of every dollar invested in Haiti is crucial in creating disciples and ensuring a brighter future for the communities they serve.

## 2024 EXPANSION

As we come to the close of 2023, we are humbled and excited for what God has done this year, and we excitedly look forward to all that we believe He is preparing us to do in 2024 and beyond. We know that God has allowed us to work in Haiti for eleven years and see the fruit of this labor; now, we believe He is adding to that. As we pray about the future, two things weigh heavily on our hearts for our Haitian family and beyond.

### MINISTRY MUST CONTINUE

For the past eleven years, myLIFEspeaks has worked diligently to complete the work God has put before us. With obstacles and barriers springing up constantly, the temptation is to give up and walk away because it is difficult. We simply can not do that. We see the Hand of God moving in Haiti each day.

We have had to get creative in every aspect of ministry. We have air-dropped supplies onto the field outside the village, transitioned completely to Haitian leadership on the ground, and watched our Haitian leadership share the Gospel in every area of our community.

Now we watch as disciples grow and go!

**We simply can not stop. We must continue.**

### MINISTRY MUST EXPAND

As we continue forward with our Haitian leadership at the forefront, we see our empowered leaders seek to expand the work that we are doing to new areas of Haiti.

Today, we have expanded from the 3000 person village of Neply into the villages nearby, and our reach has expanded to over 15,000 people. This is happening because of our Haitian leadership's prayers and commitment to the ministry.

Also, 2023 has allowed us to explore ministry in the Dominican Republic. As we look at ministry opportunities, we see God opening doors for us to share the Gospel through working with special needs individuals and their families and also in helping create Christ-centered communities where individuals with special needs can receive assistance and grow up without stigma or discrimination.

### MINISTRY SAVES LIVES

The ministry God has called myLIFEspeaks to saves lives both physically and spiritually. Whether it's a child who survived multiple abortion attempts, a child discarded on a trash pile because he was different, a woman bleeding to death after an accident, a special needs individual needing medical attention for seizures, or a teacher's assistant who wants to know more about the Gospel she hears about every day, we believe the only true hope for our community and beyond is Jesus.

## MEET THE TEAM IN HAITI



**HECTOR MATHURIN**

Accounting/Business Director



**REGINAL DECAIETTE**

Assistant Director



**CLAUDY ANTOINE**

Human Resource/Communication Director



**BENJAMIN ST JEAN**

Family Empowerment Director



**JEAN YVES GUERVIL**

LIFE Academy Director



**DAVID DECAIETTE**

Director of Security



**ADAM PIERRE**

Community Involvement Director



**CARMELA PIERRE-PAUL CELESTINE**

LIFE Clinic Director



**BERGEDIA GILES**

LIFE Therapy Director



**JUDITH ANTOINE**

Special Education Director

# IN MEMORY OF CAMMIE

*In Loving Memory*

## CAMMIE

2001-2023



SCAN TO READ  
CAMMIE'S STORY



## 2 WAYS TO GIVE TO MYLIFESPEAKS:

- 1. GIVE ONLINE.** Scan the QR code below or visit the website to give electronically: [mylifespeaks.com/give](https://mylifespeaks.com/give)

We accept credit card, bank transfer, Apple Pay, Paypal and Venmo.



- 2. GIVE VIA PERSONAL CHECK.** Please make all checks payable to:

MYLIFESPEAKS  
PO BOX 100972  
NASHVILLE, TN 37224

Reminder! To be credited for 2023 IRS giving, all donations must be made online or postmarked by 11:59pm December 31, 2023.

"Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well."

1 THESSALONIANS 2:8

# THANK YOU!

This life-changing work couldn't be done without the faithful partnership of people like you.

P.O. Box 100972 | Nashville, TN 37224

855-541-LIFE (5433)

[myLIFEspeaks.com](http://myLIFEspeaks.com) | [@myLIFEspeaks](https://www.instagram.com/myLIFEspeaks)