

What If? Foundation 2006 Annual Report

May 2007

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The What If? Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation established for the benefit of hungry children in Haiti. All donations are 100% tax deductible.

The What If? Foundation experienced another year of solid growth in 2006. Financial support from donors in the United States, Canada, and abroad provided the resources that resulted in a remarkable expansion of our food and education programs. This generosity, combined with the loving and dedicated support of members of St. Clare's Parish in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, made it possible for us to add one more day to our food program and to nearly triple the number of students we sponsor.

Sadly, political and economic instability continued in Haiti throughout 2006. Fr. Jean-Juste, the priest of St. Clare's Church, received treatment in Miami for leukemia throughout much of the year. In September, his doctors announced that his leukemia was in remission! Despite his absence and the challenges of daily life in Haiti, our programs ran smoothly.

2006 was our seventh year of serving meals to the children, our fifth year of providing education scholarships, and our fourth year of sponsoring our very popular Summer Camp. The members of the St. Clare's community who guide these programs are experienced, committed and inspired. Thus, our work continues despite a tumultuous period in Haiti's history. Our growing donor base has seen to it that there are resources to sustain their dedication to the children. Together we are making a difference that supports life, hope and possibility.



*"There are a lot of people in need. We appreciate everything you are doing. The food program is a lifesaver because when I am leaving school and I am hungry, I can find something to eat."
Samuel August, 14 years old*

2006 Financial Report

Income:	\$239,143
Program Expenses:	
Food Program:	\$142,985
Education Program:	32,490
Summer Program:	<u>7,500</u>
Subtotal	\$182,975
Administrative Expenses:	\$ 10,943
<small>(Includes \$5,250 for an administrative assistant whose salary was paid for by a grant from the Irene S. Scully Family Foundation)</small>	
Total Expenses:	\$193,918
Reserve for emergencies and 2007 programs	\$ 45,225

The board of directors is proud to report that the What If? Foundation spent less than 2.5% of income in 2006 on administration (after the grant for our administrative assistant was deducted).

Food Program

In March 2006, we added a fifth day of serving meals. Now, every Monday through Friday, children gather at the St. Clare's rectory after school to receive a hot meal, including meat, rice, beans, and vegetables from the farmers' market. Some of the children walk for miles to participate in the food program at St. Clare's. If there is food left over, adults are served. On average, 5,000 meals are being prepared each week. The cost of providing a meal has remained at about 50 cents. Fourteen cooks prepare, serve, and clean up after each meal. We are happy to be able to provide stipends to our cooks and to several others who are giving janitorial and security support to the program. In addition, some resources were used last year to purchase pots, pans, stoves and plates for the kitchen and to construct a composting toilet on the rectory grounds.



Education Program



Only 10% of Haitian children are able to attend public schools because there are so few schools available. Since the average Haitian earns less than \$1/day, most families cannot afford to send their children to private schools. In 2006, the What If? Foundation provided 102 students with full scholarships to attend private elementary and high schools (approximately \$250/pupil/year). Students were selected on the basis of financial need, a desire to learn, and good character. The scholarships covered tuition, books, uniforms, and other miscellaneous expenses. This represents an increase in 67 scholarships over 2005! We have two Education Coordinators in Port-au-Prince who help identify and enroll the What If?

scholars, meeting with them throughout the year. Their leadership is what has helped make it possible for the program to expand so significantly. The What If? Foundation also sponsored two college students last year.

Summer Program



Our four-week arts camp was the highlight of the summer for over 400 children in 2006. The camp was held at the rectory of St. Clare's Church. In a neighborhood without organized sports or other child enrichment activities, attending the camp offered the children lasting and unique opportunities for friendship, personal growth, and the development of important skills and confidence.



The board and I thank you for all of your support over the years.

Margaret Trost
President, What If? Foundation