



**Feed My Starving Children**

401 93<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NW

Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Nonprofit Org

U.S. Postage

PAID

Impact

**June 2018**

*the*  
**Scoop**

*Serving up amazing  
FMSC stories just for you!*

# Haiti's future: filled with hope

READ ALL ABOUT IT INSIDE »





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## EXTENDING YOUR REACH

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is constantly exploring strategic ways to make the greatest difference in the hardest-to-reach places. We are currently working on several special programs to build self-reliance and food security in communities where our food is served.

One such program is the Direct Distribution Depot (3D). Through your generosity, FMSC pays for shipping costs, which allows small FMSC food partners to receive a consistent supply of food they couldn't otherwise afford, due to high transportation costs partners typically cover themselves.



Children attend classes at FMSC food partner School of Choice, where they receive nourishing meals, quality academics and caring support from their teachers.

## SCHOOL OF CHOICE:

### A DIRECT DISTRIBUTION DEPOT (3D) RECIPIENT FEATURE

In Haiti, School of Choice (SOC) is dedicated to providing high quality education for nearly 300 children living in poverty. They receive FMSC meals through the 3D program, which enables them to provide nourishing meals every school day.



communities, their country and the world. The kids go through a rich leadership development program, participate in diverse athletic programs, after-school academics and learn Creole, French and English.

#### BEFORE SCHOOL EVEN BEGINS

The first students arrive at SOC early in the morning. They peek inside SOC Campus Director Lone's office and say quietly, "Bonjour, Madame Lone." She says, "Good morning!" and greets each child by name.



Many of FMSC's food partners tell us the main reason children come to school is to eat.

Many of the children experience intense hunger pains because they haven't eaten since their school lunch the day before. Lone takes care of them and makes sure they have a snack.

"Our students trust us," she says. "They share when they are uncomfortable or face a challenge.

Everything they experience, we experience right alongside them."

**FMSC MEALS ARE TREASURED RESOURCES**

For the kids, nutrition is just as important as learning how to read and write. Most SOC students live in extreme poverty. Nearly 20 percent experience severe food insecurity and are at great risk of undernutrition. The children in this area are among the lowest in height and weight ratios in the world.

"Students are unable to succeed in school if they do not receive nutritious food each day," lone said.

Your support enables FMSC to operate a program like 3D so smaller food partners like School of Choice can provide essential meals to the precious ones they serve – and give children in deep need a helping hand toward a brighter future, not just for themselves but for their communities and country.

"Our students are extremely happy and grateful to be eating a much needed meal," lone says.

## SHE DREAMS OF BEING A BUTTERFLY

When six-year-old Eloune first started school at School of Choice (SOC), part of her head was balding. Her stomach was slightly distended and very painful. She was very undernourished and small for her age.

Because her family couldn't provide adequate nutrition for Eloune at home, it severely impacted her ability to learn in school. She would often fall asleep during class. She struggled to concentrate.

SOC quickly began feeding MannaPack Rice to Eloune every day. Just weeks later, she became more alert and was able to concentrate on her lessons. Soon her grades improved!

SOC Campus Director lone gratefully said, "We are thrilled to report that Eloune has gained three pounds in the past three months and has grown a full inch! It is because of the FMSC volunteers and supporters that Eloune and others just like her can grow and thrive."

Eloune recently told lone she dreams of becoming a butterfly when she grows up! If that doesn't work out, she says she'd like to have a garden where she can grow flowers.

What a beautiful dream – inspired by creativity because of the strong foundation of nutritious food you provided.



You're the reason Eloune can dream of becoming a butterfly.

Read more of Eloune's story at [fmsc.org/eloune](https://fmsc.org/eloune).

**You're  
packing  
365  
MILLION  
meals in  
2018!**

**That's enough meals  
to feed 1 million children  
every day this year. Shine  
hope through food in  
Jesus' name. Sign up to  
pack meals today!**

**[fmsc.org/volunteer](http://fmsc.org/volunteer)**



**FEED KIDS  
FOR YEARS TO  
COME**

**Make FMSC a beneficiary of  
your will, estate plan or life  
insurance policy. Provide  
long-lasting Hope for  
Tomorrow.**

**[fmsc.org/plannedgiving](http://fmsc.org/plannedgiving)**

## **ONE LITTLE BOX**

Mary Jane Journey and her husband Bill are steadfast MobilePack event hosts from Texas. They are generous FMSC supporters. In April 2017 they traveled with FMSC to Haiti, where they experienced an amazing gift from God.

### IN THEIR WORDS

"We have been MobilePack hosts for several years. In February 2017, our MobilePack volunteers packed just over 1 million meals. 4,645 MannaPack boxes. Our boxes were shipped out – except for one lonely little box that didn't fit on the pallets. It was left for another shipment.

We traveled to Haiti last April to see FMSC food in action. We wanted to see firsthand the incredible impact this food has on these precious children, to see it changing lives, changing families, to see the hope it gives.

We headed to one of FMSC's food partners which distributes the food to a variety of ministries. Out of curiosity, some of the FMSC MobilePack staff who were with us searched for boxes from an event they had coordinated. All of the boxes were from permanent packing facilities – not MobilePack events. Except two.

One of the two was our one little box of food! The little box that was put together by Mary Jane's hands two months prior.

God wanted to show us that He wants to use us, His servants, and that He cares about the details. He wanted to show us that every person can make an impact on the lives of others."



"Finding our one little box of food was God's gift to us," said Mary Jane and Bill.

## CHANGING HEARTS

Jim Willey, director and president of Help for Haiti (HFH), is one of FMSC's food partners. He gets meals to HFH by asking his community to volunteer and pack meals through a MobilePack event. Jim shares what MannaPack meals mean to the children they serve.

### HAITI AFFECTED HIM DEEPLY

"When I first arrived in Haiti, I was hit hard by the poverty," Jim said. "I had just left highly affluent Naples, Florida, and in less than six hours was in the poorest place in the Western Hemisphere. It just broke me up that we were this close to so many people living in such overwhelming poverty."

He told his church what he'd seen. They responded quickly by raising money to provide rice and beans to Haitian communities in need.

### THEN THE 2010 EARTHQUAKE HAPPENED

Jim and his family knew they needed to do more. They decided to start supporting two schools in Haiti to provide education for 500 children. Their vision: support the children past the age of 18 to make sure they could get a good job.

When Jim heard of FMSC, he quickly set up a MobilePack event through his local church (Bethany Church in Greenland, New Hampshire). 600 volunteers showed up! The kids loved it. Every year they would raise money for meals through lemonade stands and other projects. Amy, an 8-year-old, sold flowers at the end of her driveway and raised \$200!

"The food pack itself wasn't always about the food," said Jim. "It was about changing hearts in our community. It joined kids and families together around the world."



Students make up a surprising percentage of Help for Haiti (HFH) MobilePack volunteers. HFH MobilePack.



Help for Haiti feeds around 500 children a huge serving of FMSC food every school day.



Two cooks feed students in school. They are washing bowls as children finish their meal for the next class.



Kids generously donated their time to help pack over 130,000 meals at the 2017

**“MANNAPACK MEALS ARE THE BEDROCK”**

*In Jim’s words*

“The first school we built began as a building with four walls and no roof in the mountains near Marmelade, Haiti. After we built a new school on the site, it had a limit of 250 kids, but 300 came. At lunch time, mothers brought their very hungry kids to the school because they knew there was food and told them, ‘Stand in line with the other kids.’

The kids show up. They’re hungry! We feed them. Food is fundamental to the education process! It is the beginning of it all. If we don’t feed kids, they don’t learn.

**GOING BEYOND THE BASICS**

We teach the kids about business. They receive skills training. They learn how to be responsible with money and give back to their communities. Now their parents come to us and also want to learn.

This year, we’re building our second school in Haiti. Since 2011 we’ve hosted seven MobilePack events and distributed more than 1.3 million meals. This is just a God thing! And FMSC is at the very center.”



shifts throughout the afternoon, wash so they can fill them up again

**HAITI**  
 FMSC CURRENTLY SERVES  
**37** FOOD PARTNER MINISTRIES  
**IN HAITI.**

**FACTS**

- » The poorest country in the Western Hemisphere
- » 11.6 percent of children under 5 years old are underweight
- » 59 percent of Haiti’s population live below the poverty line

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**MEALS SHIPPED = HOPE**

- » This calendar year: 36+ million meals
- » Since 2009: 617+ million meals

# HAITI: NOT WHAT YOU'D EXPECT

## OUR CEO'S HEART FOR HAITI

FMSC CEO Mark Crea has traveled to Haiti more than 30 times. He feels deeply blessed to know the country and its people so well. He wanted to share a few insights about Haiti with you.



FMSC CEO Mark Crea has met thousands of children and hundreds of ministry leaders who have gratefully received MannaPack meals.

Q: WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF HAITI?

A: When I landed in Haiti the first time, the flight attendant looked at our group and said, "Welcome to hell," but what I found were passionate missionaries, beautiful children and resilient people.

Q: WHAT DO YOU FIND FASCINATING WHEN DISTRIBUTING FMSC MEALS IN HAITI?

A: I love going back to visit a school, village or a family for the second time after they have been eating our food for a while. Seeing the transformation physically, emotionally and spiritually is amazing. Life and hope are restored!

Q: WHAT CONTINUES TO SURPRISE YOU ABOUT HAITI EVERY TIME YOU VISIT?

A: There is always a child who grabs my heart and sticks in my mind after I get home. Feeding one more child is why we all keep doing what we're doing, right? Haiti keeps me close to our mission like no other place, "Feeding God's Starving Children."





Shop and support artisans like Marie Denise at [fmscmarketplace.org](http://fmscmarketplace.org).



## FROM INJURED AND STRUGGLING TO JOYFUL AND THRIVING

### MARIE DENISE'S MARKETPLACE ARTISAN STORY





In Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Marie Denise was horribly injured in a severe car accident. Her leg had to be amputated. For several years after the accident, she struggled to provide for her five children. One day she met the founder of FMSC MarketPlace partner Three Cords. Marie Denise was invited to come to their clinic, get fitted for a prosthetic leg and offered a job as a seamstress. Marie excitedly accepted. She began sewing beautiful totes by hand. She finally had a reliable income to support her children and send them to school. Today, Marie Denise loves to joke with her co-workers and spreads joy through her contagious smile and inspiring love.



Marie Denise enthusiastically enjoys her work at Three Cords.

**YES, I WANT TO FEED MORE KIDS!** Tear along perf lines. Insert in supplied envelope.

#### Donate online at [fmsc.org/newsletter](http://fmsc.org/newsletter)

- \$50 provides one box of 216 meals      \$365 feeds a family for a year      Other amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$80 feeds a child for a year      \$1,800 provides a pallet of food  
 Check enclosed      Cash enclosed     Please bill my credit card:      
 See reverse side for my contact information        

CARD NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_ SECURITY CODE (3 OR 4 DIGITS) \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT CHARGED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder's name (on card) \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder's signature \_\_\_\_\_

JUNE18NEWS

*We respect your privacy and do not rent, sell or exchange our mailing lists.  
Thank you for your tax-deductible gift. Donations exceeding needs in a particular country are reallocated to operations elsewhere.*



*The inside dish from FMSC*