where there is despair, hope;
At Nos Petit Frères et Soeurs (NPFS) Haiti our team is continually trying to increase our quality and our growth by responding to the many and changing needs around us. NPFS administration has been improving as we have put into place a structure that demands the highest form of fiscal responsibility and improved checks and balances.

The school in our home, St. Helene, is run by the Salesian Sisters and we are happy to see the results are continuing to improve year by year. We also noticed that the behavior of the children and their attitudes toward school are also continuing to improve.

NPFS House Director, Ferel Bruno and the Social Work Department led a well-attended conference with the staff and administrators to discuss ideas on how we can continue to adjust and adapt to the needs of our children here in Haiti and how we can prepare them for life after the orphanage. Family Services continues to provide seminars, engaging our staff and giving them the tools and resources to better perform their jobs of rearing our children. We thank the fundraisers in all countries, and especially the sponsorship departments, who are so faithful in helping us achieve these goals.

In response to the hurricanes this year, NPFS has distributed over $413,000 worth of food, clothing and medical supplies. We are happy that many of our staff, administrators and even the children have been involved in delivering the relief supplies to those in great need. I was especially happy with the way our Home Director, Ferel Bruno, engaged the children at St. Helene in our efforts to reach those affected by the hurricanes with relief aid packages in Miragoane and Fonds des Blancs.

Two ex-pequeños, Julien and Nirva, have completed a training program in Italy where they learned to be surgical assistants. The two have returned to Haiti and are now working with Dr. Riitano to prepare the Surgery Center at St. Damien Hospital. Julien and Nirva are a tribute to the formation they received at St. Helene as children and the value of giving back that was instilled in them.

At present we have about 14 students studying in universities, among them are three in Monterrey, Mexico and two in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. We have started three language labs, with the hopes of using the “Father Wasson Forum”, as a way of getting Haitian students degrees from abroad, online.

The St. Luke program has continued providing to the poorest of the poor areas by offering educational opportunities in the street schools, water delivery, dignified burials, movies in the margins and disaster relief programs. St. Luke is a credit to the St. Helene Orphanage because it was formed and is continually run and operated by ex-pequeños.

We have been developing St. Francisville thanks to the generous

Kindergarten graduates: 14, Fundamental 9th grade graduates: 10, Students in the Extern Program 160, University students: 14
land purchase by NPH Italy Fonazione Francesca Rava in the name of NPFS. St. Francisville will provide opportunities for children for higher education and will provide the skills to children who can benefit from training in specific trades.

St. Damien Hospital has begun to more fully develop the hospital systems in order to maintain higher levels of treatments. We are also improving specific programs like cancer treatment in order to better respond to the needs of our patients. Through to the end of September we have seen 20,000 consultations, 1,900 admissions, and 980 emergency room visits. Thanks to NPH Italy, and NPH France, there is good dialogue and planning for improving general services in the hospital, cancer treatment, starting a surgery program and planning for neonatal care. We are also converting the volunteer house into rooms for children in the malnutrition program who are not yet well enough to go home, but do not necessarily need to stay inside the hospital.

The highlight of the year is we have opened our third location for helping children with disabilities, Kay Germaine in Tabarre! We refer to our whole program for disabled children as the St. Germaine Program, with three kays (homes): Kay Christine at St. Helene in Kenscoff, Kay Eliane at the Fr. Wasson Center in Pétionville and Kay Germaine at the St. Damien Hospital compound in Tabarre. We are thankful for the support of NPH Italy Fonazione Francesca Rava and Casa dei Piccoli Angeli for funding a large percentage of this project including the building and equipment. We were happy to welcome Paul Haggis and a group of Hollywood friends to the inauguration in December. And I would like to mention a very special thank you to Maestro Andrea Bocelli and the Marcegaglia family for the benefit concert offered to complete the project.

Goals for 2009:
§ Provide more resources for higher levels of education for the children and staff.
§ Continue to increase staff training and formation. This year we were able to send Ferel Bruno and several administrative staff for training on grants in Washington D.C. and for Navision training in Mexico.
§ Continue to offer training through Family Services.
§ Upgrade our facilities at St. Helene because after 20 years the homes need improvement to the sanitation and electrical systems.
§ Increase programs at St. Damien that fight against malnutrition and offer food assistance.

May God continue to bless each one of you and your families.

Fr. Rick Frechette
National Director

Year of Service youths: 24, New children at Ste. Helene: 4, Children that received their first communion: 34,
NPFS has three distinct locations with numerous programs.

**St. Helene located in Kenscoff**
St. Helene is a home to over 430 children and is located on 14 hillside acres with 22 residential cottages, varied by age and gender. A preschool through secondary school is located onsite and operated by the Salesian Sisters. Kay Christine is home to 35 children and adults with special needs inside St. Helene.

**St. Damien Pediatric Hospital located in Tabarre, Port-au-Prince**
St. Damien is the only free pediatric hospital in Haiti. The program began in 1989, but the new facility was opened in December 2006. The outpatient clinic attends to 100 children daily. The average stay for a child who is admitted is two months. The hospital currently has 120 beds. Other hospital areas include a surgery, cancer and emergency ward, pharmacy, radiology, critical care, isolation room, infectious and non-infectious disease wards, and a dental clinic. Also on hospital grounds, Kay Germaine, a rehabilitation and education center for disabled children is now up and running.

**Kay Pere Wasson (Father Wasson Center) located in Pétionville**
This five-story building, formerly St. Damien Hospital, is the administrative hub of NPFS and the home to social workers who manage new cases and the Extern Program. Kay Elaine is located on the premises and, much like Kay St. Germaine, is a rehabilitation and education center for disabled children.
St. Helene

Our home in Kenscoff, St. Helene, is proud of the year our children had. We saw many children graduate with many thanks to the hard and dedicated work of Sr. Altagrace Mathias and her staff running our school. Each day our school welcomes 200 children from the neighborhood to study alongside the children who live in our home.

Ferel Bruno and his team have been working with the staff to ensure we are responding appropriately to the changing needs of the children at St. Helene. A two-day conference was organized with staff and caregivers to talk about the philosophy of Fr. Wasson and to discuss ways we can improve the way we care for the children. The meetings included breaking into groups to brainstorm ideas and offer solutions. We are looking forward to the implementation of the great suggestions from this conference.

St. Helene is also seeing some positive changes to the grounds. Foyer George, our outside gathering area, is in the process of having a roof constructed over it to protect the children from the elements. This will be a wonderful improvement when it is finished because this area is where we have mass, where meetings with the children are held, and where the dance and song programs are performed.

Each year the children look forward to the summer program where they have the opportunity to learn about painting, woodworking, knitting and embroidery. This year they also had the opportunity to learn English with volunteers Jean Paradis and her friend Kathy Porter. The children learned Italian from Caterina Bonino.

The photo to the left is some of the art that the children made in the summer program. At the end of the summer, just before school started, the children put on an excellent dance and singing program for each other, the staff and volunteers. It is always so wonderful to see the joy the children have in performing their talents for others.

Family Services

The greatest success of our Family Services Department is that we finally have a local team that includes key personnel such as psychologists, social workers, childcare director, house director, and education personnel.

This past year, one of our goals was to work on reviewing the Family Services Childcare Manual with the
team. We have had several seminars to introduce the manual and talked about what Family Services seeks to provide for the children and the staff. We spoke about the importance of being good role models for the staff and the children. The seminars were based on Fr. Wasson’s philosophy and his book The Sermon on the Mount. I am happy to share that the staff at St. Helene understands the purpose of our mission and is receptive to the work of the Family Services team.

Family Services had meetings and leadership seminars with four main groups: key personnel of St. Helene, childcare workers, the older pequeños who are either in their year of service (24 year of service youth) or are responsible enough to hold positions as house assistants, and youth in the external program or recent graduates who show interest and potential for leadership.

This year, the focus for all groups has been on leadership. We discussed leaders that we admire in order to define what a good leader is, what leadership is about and how we can apply the principles of being a good leader to our present roles at NPH. Emphasis has been placed on the idea that the caregivers serve as parents and they have been encouraged to read Fr. Wasson’s books and the Family Services Childcare Manual to gain a deeper understanding of the NPH philosophy and to encourage increased commitment to the programs we have at NPFS.

The groups participated in thought-provoking activities focusing on changes they would like to see in the home or what they feel is missing in the organization and how they can help turn their ideas into reality. For example, the groups talked about how to appropriately direct the children, increase recreational activities for the children, cooperate with each other, look for areas in which to improve the lives of the children, like making sure they are sleeping properly, and then apply those ideas when they are with the children.

I am proud of the group of external program children who suggested that we create a library at the Fr. Wasson Center in Pétionville. They want to promote reading and a love of books, and they also want to help look for funds to support the library so it can grow.

Goals for next year include continuing the leadership training and helping staff to become aware of the correct procedures such as those involved when a youth decides to leave the home. I would like to find help with the translation of the Family Services manual from Spanish to French or Creole and follow up with distribution of translated materials.

Needs:
A projector for presentations during trainings
A video camera to give audiovisual reports

Alfonso Leon
Family Services Coordinator
Social Work

The annual report is always good for us to evaluate the work we did over the past year, which we are happy to share with our sponsors, donors and benefactors. Ferel Bruno and the social work team, Welchel, Whilerne and I, are making efforts to improve our program and also to continue to work with the children in the external program. The social work team and psychologist have worked closely this year to develop strategies on how we can continue to better serve the children of NPFS.

The external children are happy because we continue to work with them and offer guidance while they are studying their secondary education. Our department oversees and offers food, housing and medical and moral support to the external children. These children also like to participate in the activities we offer such as excursions to the beach, movies and visiting museums.

Many of the children are interested in the language laboratory that we are working on with Fr. Rick Frechette. This will allow the children to expand their knowledge and increase their education. We also have several children interested in helping us create a library for use by all the children in the external program.

The Social Work Department does not have any volunteers, but 24 children who are doing their year of service help in this department. These children are in secondary school and give their service to the home on the weekends. Because the economy and job situation is so bad in Haiti, youth at NPFS give their year of service on the weekends while they are in the five years of secondary school and not after they graduate.

The school year 2007-2008 was good despite the trouble in the country. All the children in the last year of secondary school graduated! And we had one graduate in a professional program.

We have 14 students at the university level and in 2009 we anticipate two graduates from university and six graduates from professional programs. We look forward to the coming years when many more of our NPFS children will have the opportunity to reach the university level of their education.

Leopole Cherry
Social Worker

Sponsorship

One more year is ending and thanks to the Lord everything is going well. This is a great opportunity to thank all offices in the United States and Europe that have put their strengths together to find godparents for our children, and for that we are very grateful.

Here in Haiti, my two assistants, Guerda and Michelle, and I worked
together to maintain communication between our godparents, the offices and our children. We continue to strive towards quick delivery of correspondence, Godparent Day cards and Christmas cards. This has been possible because of improved dialogue among us and the fundraising offices. From January 2007 up to now we received many new godparents and most of our children now have six godparents, meaning that the offices are working hard.

Once again we thank you for your help, generosity and your kindness. Without caring people like you it wouldn’t be possible to move onward. We are looking forward to keep working together.

May the Lord bless you and your families.

Rhau Nadine Dede
Sponsorship Coordinator

HIV/Public Health Programs
The HIV program succeeded in screening for HIV almost 98% of new children and their parents seen at the clinic. The program succeeded in encouraging more than 75% of parents to attend support group meetings: those meetings help people to cope with HIV and keep compliant to the follow-up care of their children. Also the program succeeded in securing free medications and lab tests for all the HIV+ children at St. Helene for the last three years.

The Public Health program participated in the last national immunization campaign and exceeded all the objectives planned in terms of numbers of children and women vaccinated. We did an excellent job at educating adolescents and other people in the community against STI and AIDS.

We did some renovation of our building to better accommodate new staff and to have a better flow of patients and parents coming for immunization. At the end of 2008 we will be able to finalize the work and enjoy better working conditions.

In the coming year we will work to improve the TB service, a service done at the hospital level but linked with the HIV program. We will also offer training at our site to other health care providers to help expand the pediatric AIDS treatment in the country. This will keep our staff motivated for continuing education, indispensable for good level of care. Also, we want to improve the immunization coverage of the children in our target area, close to the hospital. We need to train our midwife in sonography to offer this service on site to the pregnant women seen at our prenatal clinic. We will also work to improve the management of human resources to keep the staff motivated. By doing this we will be able to better achieve our goals: to improve children’s health and help the parents prevent common diseases in their children.

Dr. Jacqueline Gautier
Director, HIV and Public Health

Employees: 22 (ARV) 9 (Public Health), Currently we are following a cohort of 300 children infected with HIV, with 143 receiving Antiretroviral Treatment.
Kay Christine, Kay Eliane and Kay St. Germaine

We are nearing the end of 2008 and I am happy to say that at Kay Christine we have had a good year. The kids have been well and have enjoyed a healthy year. This means everything when you consider that they face many difficulties in their everyday lives. The purpose of our rehabilitation programs is to work with special needs kids that have families and to help their parents take care of them. By so doing we hope they will not abandon them.

Kay Eliane operates out of the building that used to be our hospital in Pétionville and Kay St. Germaine is a beautiful new building that just opened in September 2008. It is really very special to see how happy the children and mothers are as they bring their children for treatment. For sure life is not easy for them, as Haiti is never easy, but at least they feel they can get help from us.

The children make a lot of progress and this is most rewarding for those of us working directly with them. In each of the programs we have a school for special needs kids and this is fantastic as so many of these children had never been to school before. They are very eager to learn and very proud of their uniforms.

Up the hill, at Kay Christine in Kenscoff, we have had many successes also. In September three of our older “kids” moved onto a new stage in their young lives. Clothaire, Darlene and Nadege are now working in our program in Pétionville – Kay Eliane. So they have to get up early and be ready for the car at 6:30am. Clothaire and Nadege are assistants in the school and Darlene is in our gift card program. All three are very happy with their new responsibilities.

In March, Darlene was in the US along with Pascal, Xiomala and Mania. They were part of the horse riding group and this group included Genet from Kay St. Germaine. All the kids did very well, with Darlene winning both her events. In June, one of our staff got married and we were able to take a lot of the kids there and it was great. Innocent got a great laugh out of the part where the groom can kiss his bride! You can see him in the photo and he does look like an angel, but believe me he has his moments when his behavior does not at all match his name.

We had eight children receive their First Communion. They were all very excited and enjoyed their day. Jean (bottom left) is one of our more fragile children. Luckily for us he is doing well and is generally healthy.

A few weeks ago we had five athletes competing in the first ever National Sports Day for the Handicapped. Clothaire came home with a medal for third place in the 100 m. He was very happy.

We are looking for volunteers in Special Education, Speech Therapy, Music Therapy, Hydrotherapy, Art Therapy, and indeed any other related therapy. We also need to somehow
help educate the general population in Haiti so that children with disabilities are treated with respect and dignity.

On a more practical level, we need to find a way to get proper wheelchairs. This is one of our biggest difficulties and without proper chairs it is hard for our children to make good progress.

What are our dreams for 2009? We hope to achieve as much as we did in 2008 and that we are all healthy and still alive by this time next year. Best wishes to all and many thanks to those who support us!

Gena Heraty
Director, St. Germaine Programs

Home Correspondence
Volunteer/Visitor Coordinator

I am very excited to have joined the team in NPFS Haiti. The past two months have been filled with information gathering and learning new faces and a new language. The time I have spent here has helped me to fall in love all over again with the NPH programs and especially our children at NPFS. I am looking forward to the next year and increasing our efforts in getting projects on the intranet in order to help our wonderful fundraisers seek out funds for our programs in Haiti, and I’m excited to play a small role in seeing those projects realized.

This year was filled with many hellos to new friends and several tear-filled goodbyes to long term volunteers. 2008 brought with it the departure of Adele Lawler who started volunteering with NPFS in 1990, when she would come for three months at a time, until 2000 when she came on full-time. Not enough can be said about the impact Adele had and continues to have on children, staff and volunteers. Saying her name in Pétionville around children who grew up with her, brings a multitude of smiles and voices asking when she will be coming back. Her influence on the children will last their entire lifetimes because she so graciously loved everyone she touched. She taught the children life skills, talked to them about setting goals and how to achieve them and often times just listened when they needed someone to confide in. Her presence is missed and the children are anxiously awaiting the day she returns to visit.

NPFS also said goodbye to Sr. Lorraine Malo this year. Sr. Lorraine is remembered for her ever positive and cheerful attitude and willingness to always lend her help and hand. She left behind a legacy of not wanting to leave any child without the opportunity for education as she was responsible for starting the classroom at the St. Damien Hospital, where she welcomed children who were well enough to participate in activities of play and learning. Her ability to relate to others is unprecedented and she is truly missed on a daily basis. We wish her many blessings in her new path.

Carlo Diy returned home to California after 18 months of dedication at the hospital. On top of carrying the volunteer and visitor coordinator role, Carlo so graciously took on many
administrative responsibilities at the hospital until he turned them over to Romuald Cauvin earlier this year. This fall we also said goodbye to Erin Kloos as she returned home in the hopes of attending medical school. Erin jumped right into her volunteer time at the hospital and played a pivotal role with the kitchen staff.

We welcomed Maeve Bracken to Kenscoff this year as she started her two-year commitment as a volunteer in Kay Christine. She has taken so easily to life here in Haiti and at St. Helene that she has also now taken on some administrative roles.

St. Damien Hospital is happy to have surgeon Guiseppe Riitano from Italy with us this season. Guiseppe is responsible for heading up the surgery room along with Sr. Judy Doehner. We have graduates, including Julien and Nirva who grew up at NPFS, from a training program in Italy who are working with Guiseppe each day to prepare the surgery room.

This fall Juliette Salmon has joined us from NPH France to facilitate a project with hospitals from Paris.

We had several returning visitors/volunteers throughout the year, including Christi Smith and Norma Lopez who came in the summer to help with therapy in Kay Christine and Kay Eliane. Vicky Hernandez Leon has been with us for several months and has done a remarkable job with the older girls and a micro-finance project to help them start businesses. Caterina Bonino has continued to come to NPFS every three months. Caterina is someone who knows all of our programs and lends her hand and talent wherever she is needed to close the holes. Ron and Ronnie Pruhs were with us again and after years of hard work and preparation, they proudly handed the Dental Clinic over to our first full-time dentist!

The Kay Germaine opening brought many guests to stay with us and celebrate including Paul Haggis and many friends from Hollywood, former U.S. Senator John Edwards, Mariavittoria Rava and her staff from NPH Italy Fondazione Francesca Rava, and many wonderful sponsors and supporters.

Robin Schwartz
Home Correspondent
Visitor/Volunteer Coordinator
I would like to highlight some of our dreams that turned into reality in 2008 and some of our goals for 2009 and the years to come. We focused more on education than anything else because we believe that the future is in the hands of the youth. There is no future without education and education is life. We still have a long way to go and it is not an easy task, but with God’s help and the help of our fundraisers and donors we will be able to go further.

We have made many accomplishments in the past year. Apart from the 14 schools we have in Cite Soleil (a slum in Port-au-Prince) we started a new school named St. Patrick. In Beudet we also opened a new school, Notre Dame du Rosaire. This year we purchased the property where one of our schools, St. Martin de Porres, is located in Wharf Jeremie.

We organized seminars for our teachers and reassigned some teachers to assure we had them in the right classrooms. We now require all the teachers in our schools to be certified. We added a canteen/cafeteria in some of our schools that did not have one before. As a result of these few changes, more of our students are passing their elementary school proficiency examination. The percentage of students passing this equivalency test has risen from 65% to 85%. With the opening of our school, St. Patrick, we were able to offer educational opportunities to 146 more children.

We opened two healthcare facilities, one in Tabarre named Kay au Bois where we take care of malnourished children and another one in Delmas 24 named St. Luke Social Service where we care for disabled children. Most of the time malnutrition brings with it some other diseases. Sometimes, the children need surgeries. It’s amazing to witness how many lives can be saved, just by feeding the children. We are working and trying to do whatever is in our power to make these children’s lives better.

We have added a sport center behind the Kay Germaine building on the St. Damien Hospital grounds. There, we have different types of activities and organized sports. Things are going very well. Our teams already competed against many other sport teams and are showing a winning streak.

Every Thursday, we gather the unnamed dead from the morgue at the General Hospital (County Hospital) and St. Damien Hospital. We have a religious burial ceremony so they can have a dignified funeral. In Haiti, the cost of a funeral is high and not everyone can afford it. The dignified burial program adds many jobs because we employ people to make the coffins, crosses for the graves, rosaries, play the music during the ceremony and to transport the deceased from the morgue to the cemetery.

The St. Luke Street School program has grown from 3,354 to 4,500 children.
We now have a virtual university where our people who hope for trainings overseas, can start studying languages like, French, Spanish, English, German, and Italian. We hired a teacher to monitor the students and oversee the room with all the necessary equipment to make it a real classroom.

St. Luke has a rent program for the families of HIV positive children. Because someone is infected with the disease it does not marginalize him. Most of the time the parents cannot afford to pay rent, so they have to resort to living on the street where the children are more vulnerable to other diseases.

Some of our goals for the next year and years to come are:

- Develop a campus, where we can help people learn a profession and advance their education.
- Computerize the street schools.
- Open some schools in the countryside.
- Provide transportation for our four school zones for academic and explorative trips.
- Establish a clothing factory in Beudet to help with the cost of school uniforms, creating jobs for some disabled people and others in the area.
- Establish relationships between our street schools with schools abroad.

To achieve these goals, we definitely need God’s help and people like our donors and fundraisers who are willing to help us realize these goals. We are thankful for all the help we receive. Our major necessities for the coming year are furniture for our schools and the enlargement of the street school St Jude.

God bless you all!

Jean Augustin Nebez
Director, St. Luke Outreach Programs
A Big Thank You

On behalf of Fr. Rick Frechette, Ferel Bruno and everyone at NPFS, we would like to thank all the offices for their hard work and dedication to St. Helene Orphanage, St. Damien Hospital, Kay St. Germaine and the St. Luke Outreach Programs. Even in the midst of our changing world economy, the fundraising offices continue to seek and receive funding allowing us to serve the ever increasing number of children and adults in Haiti. We value our relationships with each and everyone of you and look forward to continued collaboration in 2009 the Year of Grace!

Kay St. Germaine was made possible because of those who understood Gena Heraty’s dream and made it happen. In addition to generous funding previously mentioned from NPH Italy Fondazione Francesca Rava, we would also like to mention planning of the project was made possible by an Italian volunteer engineer, Alessandro Cecchinato and Ennio Antonello who oversaw construction management early in the project. Kay St. Germaine is home to beautiful ceramics which were generously donated by Massimo Tognon. The children of Kay St. Germaine will benefit from our services because of the generosity of NPH Spain and AECID - Spanish government. The support we received for this project from our constant companions, Hope for Haiti, will not be forgotten.

The hurricane relief we provided was made possible by the overwhelming response from all the offices including UKBS Germany, UKBS Austria, NPH Spain and the Roviralta Foundation, Amsala Association, Renta Corporation Foundation, NPH Italy Fondazione Francesca Rava and EXPO 2015, Friends of the Orphans US, the Passionists, Hotel Villa Creole, the Diederich Family, Espoir pou Haiti, and Sisters of St. Joseph. We were able to provide a vast amount of relief because of the many in-kind gifts and hard work of Friends of the Orphans Miami, Action Medior, Catholic Medical Mission Board, and Humedica.

Our St. Luke street schools continue to offer the poorest of children a place to come for a meal, to earn an education and hopefully keep them away from a life of crime. We would like to thank NPH Italy Fondazione Francesca Rava and NPH Germany for the constant support for the street schools.

St. Luke is also able to offer water delivery into Cite Soleil thanks to Piccolo Fratello and Fondazione Mediolanum. Dignified Burials for countless unnamed deceased were made possible largely in part because of WereldOuders, Netherlands.

St. Damien has received continued generous funding from OKW Belgium. The hospital is in the process of improving general services in the hospital, cancer treatment, starting a surgery program and planning for neonatal care thanks to NPH Italy Fondazione Francesca Rava and NPFS France.

NPH Spain has continued to contribute to our nutrition programs and our AIDS programs at St. Damien because of the generosity of the following donors: Roviralta Foundation, Netri Foundation, Amsala Association, Creatia Foundation, Renta Corporation Foundation, Cofares Foundation and the AECID Spanish Government.