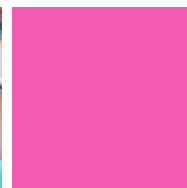
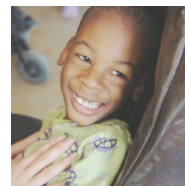




Without Economic Empowerment, There is No Freedom  
Without Spiritual Empowerment, There is No Real Freedom



## Who We Are

Development for Freedom International (DFI) is a Christian based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to restore fragmented and dysfunctional families while serving underprivileged women and children of all religions and ethnicities. Our organization is based within Canada and United States and currently operates in Haiti.

## What We Do

Family fragmentation is a recurring social concern around many parts of the world. With this issue, not only are members of the family alienated from each other physically, but they may also suffer from spiritual and emotional poverty. Moreover, members of such dysfunctional families have a higher chance to encounter desperation, child-abuse, abandonment, teenage pregnancy, prostitution, domestic violence, and gang participation.

The role of the family is crucial to the foundation of community and most of all, to the church. DFI is dedicated to re-establish the relationship within families and for them to reconcile with God by mending their broken hearts into full and joyous ones. With this, we believe that His kingdom will reign furthermore.

## Our Goals

- ▶ Delivering the Gospel for lost souls to reunite with God
- ▶ Empowering men and women with basic economic means to support their own family
  - ▶ Providing medical treatment and care for women and children
  - ▶ Assisting women and children to learn and receive various skills and education
    - ▶ Healing individuals through art education
    - ▶ Serving disabled children for self-sustainability and rehabilitation

## Our Current Work

Our first operational mission field has been set in Haiti. The following initiatives are set for family restoration, and the objectives of each initiative method are unique and specific for the Haitian community.



In Haiti, there are approximately 2,500 to 6,000 children in need of cardiac surgery for rheumatic heart disease and 2,000 to 5,000 for congenital heart disease. These statistics will not reduce anytime soon because of the utter lack of local facilities and cardiovascular surgeons to perform such operations in Haiti. As a result, foreign intervention must ensue for these suffering children to receive appropriate aid. Currently, the project links medical partners to our three main objectives and by doing so it will reduce the family's financial and emotional distress caused by tending their loved ones.

## The Saving Lives Project: Heart Surgery Program



*"TREATING THE HEARTS OF HAITI, ONE LIFE AT A TIME"*



4500 to 11 000 children in Haiti are in need of cardiac surgery

Our long-term  
objectives are as follows:



In 2012, we have successfully treated 8 Haitian children in South Korea. We are aiming to treat 21 Haitian children abroad as well as locally in the future. We are now in process of installing a cardiac center in a Haitian hospital.



1) To build a local cardiac center in Haiti: This center will provide necessary equipment and post-operation care required to treat patients with common heart diseases.



2) To connect doctors and hospitals to patients with severe heart disease: Currently, receiving proper heart surgery in Haiti is virtually impossible. For this reason, we connect those in need to doctors and hospitals abroad, who can provide service to treat patients in dire need of surgery.



3) To train local Haitian medical professionals: In order to diagnose and treat heart disease by an early stage, we will attempt to educate local Haitian doctors, as there are no cardiovascular surgeons and only a few cardiologists in Haiti. We are looking at approximately 10 years of training in order for Haitians doctors to perform heart surgery locally.



# the WESES PROJECT

Women are underprivileged comparing to men in Haiti. Statistics state that 44 percent of Haitian breadwinners are women, and of that number, 60 percent are living in extreme poverty. 83 percent of economically active women work within the informal sector, and the majority of them earn only 1 to 2 USD per day. 60 percent of women are illiterate, and 26 percent of women from ages fifteen and up have been sexually abused and/or violated of their gender rights (UN Office of the Secretary General's Special Advisor Report, 2010).

This situation is exacerbated by Haiti's gender biased culture, which causes shameless repetitive discrimination and violence against women. Women are often left with no choice but to sell themselves in order to receive money and food. Some of them barter intercourse ("survival sex") to support their children's education ([www.thenation.com](http://www.thenation.com)).

DFI works to empower Haitian women and girls for their self-economic sufficiency by providing job opportunities, vocational training, accounting classes, international trade courses, and introducing them to microcredit projects.



Women  
Empowerment  
Self  
Economic  
Sufficiency

## Providing Education for Children to Combat Against Modern Slavery & Abandonment

In Haiti, about 380,000 to 600,000 children are abandoned at an orphanage as it is common for Haitian single mothers to be unable to support their children's living and learning expenses. As a result, 70 percentage of the children are not actually orphans suggesting they have at least one living parent. Additionally, about 300,000 children are sold as a Restavec, Haiti's modern form of slavery.



***380 000 to 600 000 children are abandoned at an orphanage.***



Children who are left at such facilities receive food, housing, and sometimes education in exchange for doing chores. Parents leave their children to these facilities assuming that they will be well-fed and attain good education. Yet, many orphanages and hosting families do not provide essential nutrition or education, as they are also often suffering from poverty. Sometimes these children are abused, beaten, and even raped. Our goal is to eradicate this inevitable cycle at the root of the problem by sending children and young adults to school so that children will no longer be a burden for the family and young adults will mature to sufficiently maintain their own family.

In 2012, we have supported 5 adolescents to study at secondary schools, and this year we are supporting 5 adolescents and 7 children for proper schooling.



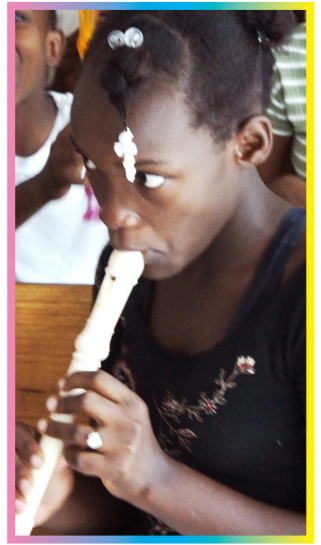
## Jars of Clay Arts Center

The Jars of Clay Arts Center is specially designed to provide art education to Haitians for creative expression. Creative expression is a key component in developing self-confidence and exploring one's God-given talents and interests. Particularly, learning the arts is an important part of one's growth in the creative mind.

DFI believes that art is a healing mechanism, which helps release suppressed emotions and provides an avenue of relief through difficult times. Currently we are providing classes in art, painting, music lessons in theory and instruments, and dance and we are striving to open a center solely dedicated to art education for all children including disabled children.



*"But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted but not forsaken; stuck down, but not destroyed" 2 Corinthians 4:7-9*







Due to the extreme poverty levels in Haiti, numerous disabled children are being abandoned on the streets, orphanages, garbages, and hospitals by parents who cannot provide economic sustenance for the family. Most of the abandoned children are handicapped, mentally challenged, past the legal age of adoption, or have terminal illnesses.

Although many orphanages exist in Haiti, few are dedicated to support disabled children. As for rehabilitation services, economic barriers make it difficult for most Haitians to access them. Only high-income families that can afford such service are able to use the facility. Therefore, it is critical that parents and children connect with professionals to learn about the world of disabilities in order to support their child with respect and dignity.

Currently, we make scheduled visits to disabled children orphanage to show love, give affection, and provide care to all children. Nevertheless, we have an ambitious goal that is called the 3R project.

## Rehabilitation

- 1.To build a new rehabilitation center exclusively devoted to children with mental or physical disabilities
- 2.To provide wheelchairs, orthopedic surgeries, braces, walkers, lifts, hearing aids, eyeglasses, medical equipment, and physiotherapy for physical disabilities

## Reunification

- 1.To train parents of disabled children to take care of their own children
- 2.To provide income generating tools to the parents to raise disabled children at home

## Restoration

- 1.To restore skills and functional abilities in the earliest stage as possible
- 2.To provide art education to the disabled children
- 3.To facilitate spiritual restoration through the Word of God, worship, and prayer
- 4.To give emotional restoration through counseling services to both parents and disabled children



the  
**3R** *ehabilitation  
 eunification  
 estoration*  
 Project for Disabled Children



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