## Hope for Kidz



## **Hope for Kidz Community Impact:**

Hope for Kidz Child Sponsorship dramatically impacts on the life of the sponsored child, the sponsored child's family, and the school the child attends. Less commonly realized is the impact it has on the entire community where the program is present. As sponsorships grow, school books and materials are purchased. Haircuts are given. Medical needs are attended to. Tailors are called upon to sew uniforms and shoes are acquired. Additional groceries can be purchased with funds that have been freed up since the family no longer has to spend that money on schooling. Some families are even able to afford to send another child to school. As the school grows in attendance, the school building must expand. Building materials are purchased as well as local masons and labors hired in order to add on to the school facilities. Sponsorships also help to support the local church.

## **Other RMI Programs:**

- C3 Partnerships
- Food for Health
- Goats 4 Haiti
- Homes for Haiti
- SunTech Solar Program
- · Water for Health



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Hope for Kidz is a child sponsorship program founded by Reciprocal Ministries International (RMI) in 1999 to meet the educational and physical needs of Haitian children who are unable to attend school due to their severe poverty. RMI partners with schools that are part of the Evangelical Baptist Mission of Southern Haiti (MEBSH). MEBSH schools typically cover grades K-9. Children that need sponsorship are chosen based on their financial need by the associated church's pastor and the school administrator.

Sponsorship provides a child with a solid Christian education, uniforms and school supplies, a daily hot lunch (where available) and annual de-worming. RMI provides financial and educational accountability, a picture and profile for the child and the opportunity to send and receive 1-2 letters per year from the supported child.

- Almost every school is privately run; private schools need funding to keep the doors open
- Many Haitian children's ages do not match their education age (a 16 year old may only be in 4th grade)
- Many teachers are not actually qualified to teach. Most do not complete a grade higher than 9th
- Haitian kids that don't attend school usually become domestic servants instead
- Gender discrimination is prevalent in Haiti. Boys are more likely to attend school
- The education system is taught in French, but most Haitians speak Creole
- Haiti's literacy rate is only 61%
- Malnutrition effects students' ability to learn. Hot lunch programs have significantly improved students' health and focus.
- Enrollment rates have risen over the years thanks to US sponsorship programs like RMI's Hope for Kidz program
- In 2021, the average household income was equivalent to \$1050.00 US dollars