

2015 Annual Report



Growing Minds. Growing Sustainability. Growing Futures.

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Our Mission

The charitable, educational and humanitarian support of children of the developing world for a sustainable future.

LOVE Takes Root was founded with a mission of cultivating the future of children worldwide. The foundation's goals are to improve the lives of children through the provision of shelter, education and health with the goal of a self-sustaining community.

Current Project: La Concorde Orphanage in Jacmel, Haiti



Construction of the Secondary School continues, with the opening slated for September 2016

LOVE Takes Root is currently working on a project in Jacmel, Haiti, to rebuild La Concorde Orphanage after it was destroyed in the 2010 earthquake. We raised more than \$700,000 as part of phase one and purchase land, built two dormitories, staff housing, and a kitchen/dining hall on the new site.

Phase two of the project in Jacmel includes raising an additional \$350,000 to build two classroom buildings, a medical/dental facility, and an administration building with

a computer lab. Phase two was completed September 2014. Phase three and the final building phase was started in October 2015. This is a two story secondary school. The total cost of the school with furnishings is \$205,000. The funds will be raised throughout 2016 with school opening scheduled September 2016.

Celebrating our Success

LOVE Takes Root President Dr. Rick Wilkerson reflects on 2015



LOVE Takes Root founder Rick Wilkerson at La Concorde

The changes in the faces of each child at La Concorde over the last two years have been amazing. I look at the pictures from before the move to the new orphanage and now with the children sharing their report cards and I am grateful. I am grateful that so many people cared to provide food, water, a bed and education to children they did not know. The LTR Board belief in our projects becoming self-sustainable has been embraced. Our goal is for these children to be given the opportunity within their own culture to succeed in life by providing them an education, a sense of responsibility, and a family culture so they can lead a healthy, productive life.

Seeing the excitement of each child walking from their cottage at the orphanage to the school yard to learn is heartwarming. We still are short on shoes, clothes, and often pencils but there is never a shortage of singing, laughing, and joy. The accomplishment of this project is directly related to the LOVE so many have shared and continue to share. The challenges will continue but watching the children flourish makes it all worth it. The goal of a Secondary School opening in 2016 is within reach. Thank for joining LOVE Takes Root.

Growing Minds

LOVE Takes Root moved more than 50 children from a 3,000-square-foot piece of property ravaged by the 2010 earthquake to a 3-acre parcel of land in September 2013. The 7.0-magnitude earthquake destroyed everything at La Concorde Orphanage in Jacmel, Haiti, leaving 52 children to learn, eat, and sleep under improvised tents.

LOVE Takes Root opened the Primary School at La Concorde in September 2014. The first year 42 children from La Concorde orphanage and 45 students from the surrounding community attended the Primary School. In September 2015 enrollment had increased to 140 students.

The school teaches Haitian curriculum with the addition of English and computer skills. Both of these added skill sets will provide greater job opportunities for the children in their futures.

LOVE Takes Root has started the building of a two-story Secondary School to allow children at La Concorde and the surrounding Jacmel area to attend school through High School. The goal is opening the Secondary School at La Concorde in September 2016.

Growing Sustainability

Each of the 52 children at the orphanage has a sponsor. As much as clean water, shelter,



Volunteers interact with the children during visits to Jacmel.

and healthy food make a difference to a child, stable relationships are also important. LOVE Takes Root finds 2 sponsors for each child, and both the child and the sponsor are encouraged to keep in contact with one another. Through this relationship, the children can find a sense of family, even beyond their family at La Concorde.

Beyond making a difference in the lives of 52 children by giving them a safe place to learn and grow, LOVE Takes Root worked with the orphanage staff to teach them how

to build and run a sustainable business. For example, volunteers introduced the ledger system to orphanage staff and now they can keep an accurate record of their finances.

LOVE Takes Root hosts weekly mentoring meetings using onsite technology and has a partner visit every two months. We are different from other NGOs in that most international organizations have someone from the nonprofit act as a director on site. We don't. We work with the staff to foster understanding on how the business truly works, creating a huge sense of achievement for the orphanage staff when they succeed.

Growing Futures

Another unique component of LOVE Takes Root projects is our hope and expectation that each project, upon attaining self-sustainability, provides whatever financial support it can to the next LOVE Takes Root project. In this vein, we expect the La Concorde Orphanage to be self-sustaining within five years. The five-year goal toward independence began when the school opened in September 2014.

LOVE Takes Root will raise \$205,000 to build the Secondary School. The tuition from the school, and fees from the medical and dental practices will generate revenue for the site, helping them toward their goal of financial independence. Once finished, the tuition-based, English-immersion school will attract students because it will offer American teachers and a computer lab, the only school of its kind to do so in south Haiti.



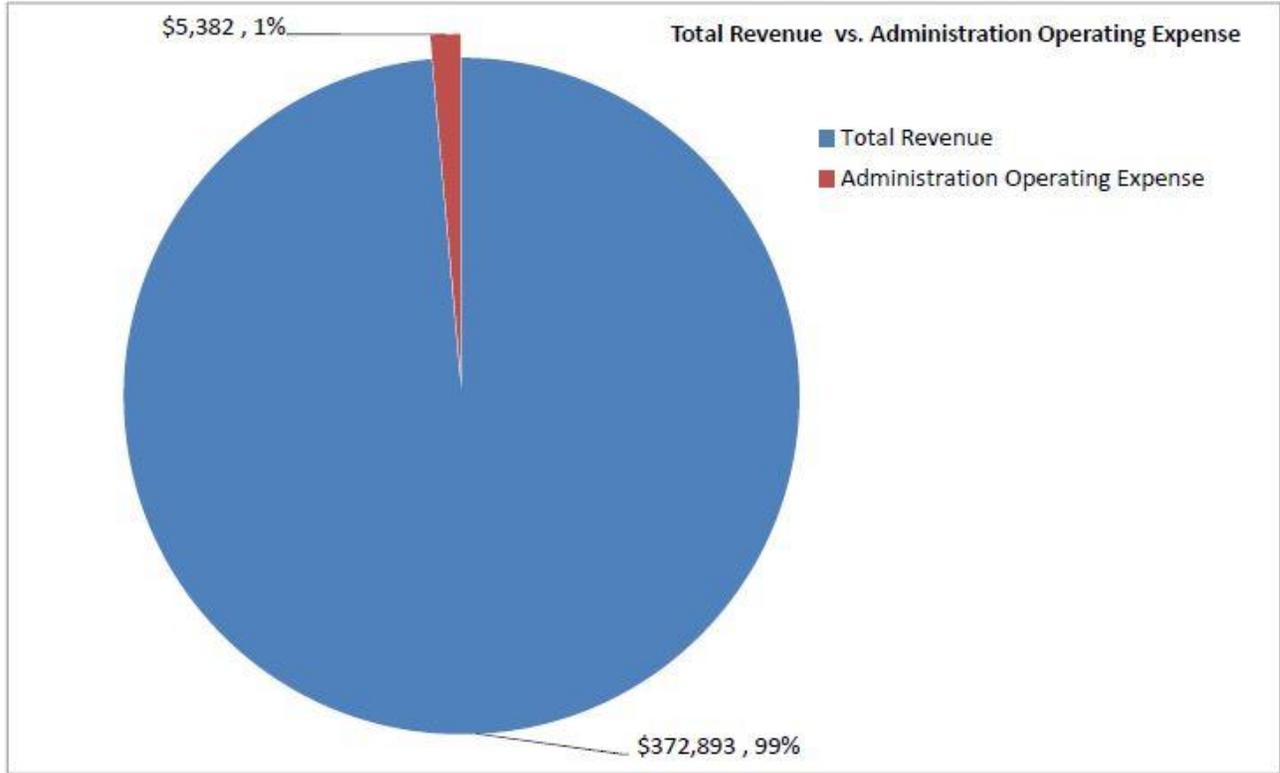
A rendering of the Secondary school, currently under construction.

La Concorde School will partner with American Universities to supply two student teachers for eight-week periods. The American student teachers will help the Haitian teachers and students develop their English language skills while completing their student teaching requirements toward graduation.

A similar relationship with the University of Notre Dame's nursing program in Jacmel is in place for the medical facility. American nurses and doctors can complete a clinical rotation by doing work in Haiti. For a small fee, local residents can receive care, which will also go toward sustaining the facility. The medical clinic opened in March 2015. The Dental Clinic will open in March 2016.

The following chart presents the revenue & administration operating expenses of LOVE Takes Root in 2015

LOVE Takes Root Revenue & Administration Operating Expenses for 2015



LOVE Takes Root would like to thank all those who worked with the organization in 2015. It was a year with so much success and love shared by so many people. Each of you made a difference. It is possible to change the world for others with compassion and focus. The future of the children touched by your gifts has been changed. It is with this that a generation can change – one life at a time. LOVE Takes Root Board of Directors thank you with gratefulness.

For more information about LOVE Takes Root, or to learn how you can get involved with our organization, visit us online at www.lovetakesroot.org.

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