



Since 1983

PROMISE UPDATE

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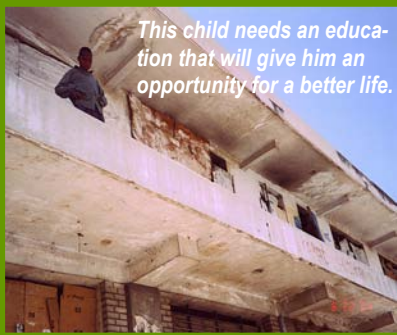


TRIBUTE TO A FAITHFUL SERVANT



Anil Joseph Dominique, a faithful servant in *Children of Promise International—Haiti*, went home to be with the Lord on September 22, 2005. Dominique and his wife, Nicole, began serving as home directors of the Girls' Home of Smiles. The girls in the home became like their own—they loved their Papa Do Do, as they called him. Caribbean Outreach Director, Wilson Cohoon, says of Dominique, "He had a contagious smile. Everything he did, he did as unto the Lord. He loved the children so much." Dominique was an industrious person and became the right hand of Joel Beaucejour, Haiti Director. At the close of his life, he was serving as record keeper, Love-In-Action director, construction supervisor/worker, and general fulfiller of need. One might say, according to Wilson Cohoon, Dominique lived a life of "never putting off until tomorrow what he could do today." *Well done good and faithful servant!* Dominique will be greatly missed as a co-laborer and friend. Please join us in extending sympathy to Dominique's family—his wife, Nicole, and his children, Nadage (22 years old and attending medical school in Dominican Republic), Hodelin (19), and Lastson (15).

FAMILIES CHOOSE RICE OVER EDUCATION



This child needs an education that will give him an opportunity for a better life.

The price of rice in Haiti is now \$30 per 100 pound bag, a 33% increase since the first of the year. The average wage in Haiti is equivalent to \$300 U.S. per year. With an 80% unemployment rate, there is no wonder that families must choose rice over educating their children, which has resulted in a 10% literacy rate.

Emmanuel Christian Mission School, operated by *Children of Promise* in Haiti, was started to educate the orphans and destitute children living

in our childrens' homes. Soon after opening, the neighborhood children were given the opportunity to attend for \$10 (U.S.) per year, which also includes one meal a day. The school is beginning their fall term and many of the children that previously attended are dropping out because their parents barely have money to buy rice, and certainly none to pay for an education, even at this meager cost. Their choice was made for them. One must survive. Unless help arrives, the literacy of Haiti will continue to plummet and these children will have no hope for a better life. For as little as \$10, donors can help feed one poor child of Haiti for one year with academic knowledge, knowledge of the love of Jesus, and wholesome food once a day.



Boys attending school.

COLOMBIA — Love In Action



The number of poor children in Medellin, Colombia, South America, continues to rise daily according to Naranjo Armando, Director of Love In Action—Colombia (at left). Colombia has the third highest rate of displaced people in the world due to a 40-year-old armed conflict in the country. At least 60% of those displaced are living in absolute poverty. The “guerillas and para-military” are killing and robbing the people of possessions and properties in the bordering towns and villages of Medellin. The people are moving to the larger cities for protection, yet there are no jobs to sustain their families and little government assistance available. Colombia has no resources to help as they use all resources for the war.

In 2000 and 2003 Colombia conducted a “national cleansing of the streets.” Hundreds of children were just killed to get them off the street. Today there are many boy and girl prostitutes in large cities of Colombia.

Love In Action, which helps elementary school-age children living in the slums of Medellin, has seen an increase in children needing their help. The program provides an after-school program with tutoring and snacks, Bible study, and projects. This provides safe care for elementary school children while the parent is working.

Gustavo (9) is one of the new children taken under Love In Action’s wing. He is one of three children in this single-parent home. Your prayers for this family would be greatly appreciated. Gustavo has a disease of his feet which produced cracks or cuts that prevent him from walking appropriately and will bleed. It is very painful and often prevents him from going to school as well as playing with friends. When he is healthy, his mother says he is a very helpful and happy little boy. Lack of funds prevents medical treatment. His four-year-old brother, Mateo, was recently run over by a motorcycle near the home resulting in two fractured legs. He lies prostrate on a bed with a cast up to his chest. While the mother worked, 11-year-old Jefferson or their aunt took care of the family until the accident. Although the insurance company of the motorcyclist is taking care of the hospital expenses, the mother must stop work and remain in the home to care for the child. The mother has a very positive attitude, trusting in God and continuing to hold her family together without fainting. Gustavo and his two brothers are available for sponsorship.



Above—Gustavo and Mateo suffering from disease and injury. Left—Gustavo, happy and helpful during a time of relief from pain. Please pray for healing of both children and for the ability of the mother to return to her current line of work (recycling tires) or another appropriate job with a wage that will be adequate for her family.