

MAKING ROOTS



Thank you for taking the time to think about serving with Making Roots.

Making Roots got its name from the verses: "I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God." (Ephesians 3:16-19)

Making Roots' mission is to see holistic transformation in the lives of the Haitian people through sustainable relationships that serve and empower them. Currently, we work towards this mission through Camp Hope, Community Mural Projects, Planting Project, and Mercy Relief. You can find out more about each branch on our website (www.makingroots.org).

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your interest in traveling with us to Haiti. We want you to be fully aware of what a trip would entail as you fill out the application.

Haiti is one of the world's poorest and least developed countries located in the Caribbean. The hardships of living in Haiti can quickly be seen as one walks down the dirt, chaotic roads--women carrying heavy loads in baskets on their heads, children carrying gallons of water to their homes, and men working for their wage of 2 dollars per day. However, people's spirits are so warm and embracing in the midst of their hardship.

We would also like to take the time to address safety concerns with traveling to Haiti. We are aware of the posted warnings about traveling to Haiti. We have taken the time to view them, however we also believe that God's leading has both carried and protected us in our travels to Haiti. We have traveled to Haiti since 2006 and have never felt threatened in any way. To ensure safety, Leah Beidler registers each traveler with the US Embassy.

Camp Hope was started in the summer of 2008 by Leah Beidler. Since then, it has served approximately 170 children per summer, and it has created jobs for approximately 8 Haitian adults or youth each summer. Camp Hope focuses on art, sports, music, and recreation.

If you are joining the team to help with Camp Hope, you are asked to give a month of your summer for this project. During the time in Haiti, we spend one week preparing and closing up camp, and three full weeks of camp for the kids, ages 6-15. A typical camp day would be getting up at 7:00 am and doing camp from 8:00 am-1:00 pm during the weekdays. In the afternoons, you are free. This is an unpaid position but an experience that we guarantee will change your life, encourage your heart, and impact the lives of children in Haiti through the love of Christ.

Each individual that travels to Haiti with us is expected to raise \$850.00 for his/her plane ticket and needed shots. Other costs, such as accommodations, food, and travel in Haiti are covered by the funds that are in our budget for Camp Hope. Other people that have served with us have written support letters and have been able to raise the needed funds. That is a personal choice.

Prior to our travel it is recommended that you speak with your doctor and get the recommended shots for traveling to Haiti. We recommend Tetanus, Hepatitis A, and Typhoid. We do not take medication for malaria, but that is a personal decision that you might want to discuss with your doctor.

This year we will be going to Haiti in August. Prior to traveling, we prepare you by exchanging emails, suggesting preparation needs and educating on the Haitian culture.

We ask that you fill out the attached application so that we might know better on how to guide you in your decision to serve with our team in Haiti. We would also like you to tell us about your heart and passion. We want to know how you would best serve our team and Haiti.

After viewing the application, we will contact you with any questions and our decision. If we feel you will be a good fit for this summer, we will begin to discuss plans for serving with our team in Haiti. We will give you more information about travel and programming for camp.

We recognize that your beliefs might be different from ours, so we ask that you take the time to reflect on if you want to participate in this mission if our beliefs are different. During our time in Haiti, we will be teaching the children from a biblical worldview, and we will be praying together as a team. Ultimately, we need to be a team that is unified.

We look forward to hearing from you, and we thank you for your time. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Leah. Please take the time to fill out the application, and send it to Leah Beidler via email at admin@makingroots.org or mail it to:

Leah Beidler

PO Box 255871

Dorchester, MA

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We are excited with what God is doing in Haiti, and we know that if you are supposed to join us, He will make a way!

Because His Love Reigns,

Leah Beidler, Caitlin Beidler

If you would like to see more pictures and read stories of past trips please visit our blog at:

<http://camphopehaiti.blogspot.com> or www.makingroots.org