



HOPE HEALTH ACTION

# HAITI SUMMER APPEAL

## HELP US TO RE-OPEN OUR CHILDREN'S RESPITE CENTRE FULL TIME



➔ Maison de Benediction has been forced to reduce its operating hours by 50%. This summer we need your help to change that.

## ➔ THIS SUMMER, WE NEED YOUR HELP

**We are launching an urgent appeal to seek additional funding of £17,000 to re-open MdB full time for the next year and fulfill it's life-transforming mission.**

2020 was a year like no other. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected all of our lives in some way. Recent studies have found that those with disabilities have been consistently, disproportionately affected by COVID-19 across the globe, something that continues to be felt significantly in Haiti.

Children with disabilities in Haiti face severe discrimination, making them some of the most vulnerable and marginalised people in Haiti. It's a sad reality that we're passionate about changing. The Maison de Benediction is a leading disability centre in northern Haiti. It provides life-transforming care for children with disabilities and their families, offering day and overnight residential respite care for children whose parents find it hard to provide the full-time specialist care their children need.



A shortage in funding due to the impact of COVID-19 forced us to make the heartbreaking decision to shut the Maison for 50% of the year. Currently, the Maison remains closed for 2 weeks of each month, significantly reducing the level of life-transforming care these children receive.

Aside from the impact this has had on the children, families have also struggled with the reduced respite support. We've responded by providing monthly food rations and home respite support for our foster families, but this isn't enough.



## → LOUDGE

Loudge is almost 2 years old and has been diagnosed with Microcephaly - a condition where a baby's head is much smaller than expected. Microcephaly can occur because a baby's brain has not developed properly during pregnancy or has stopped growing after birth. Loudge was an outpatient pediatric patient at HCBH hospital until her mother abandoned her; she is now cared for by her foster mother who relies on the support of Maison de Benediction.

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*"Loudge has responded extremely well to the care she has had at the Maison because she is exposed to so many caring staff. If the Maison could be open full time the additional specialist help and support would continue to benefit her development. There would also be more opportunities for the foster mothers to meet and talk, share experiences and help and support each other, which gives them strength."*

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Thanks to the Maison's efforts within the wider community since its creation in 2009 we've seen stigma against children with disabilities decrease. Schools have enrolled children with disabilities for the first time and children are receiving life-transforming mobility aids like wheelchairs and much more. Help us to maintain and develop this pioneering programme. Together we can get MdB back to full time.

***Turn the page to see some of the ways you can get involved...***



Scan here



Visit [www.hopehealthaction.org/benisponsorship](http://www.hopehealthaction.org/benisponsorship) or scan here to start your Beni sponsorship today.

## HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS APPEAL

### FUNDRAISE

Despite lockdown in the UK, we have seen incredibly creative fundraising ideas from so many of you. With restrictions now lifting, opportunities to fundraise through personal challenges and community events at church, school or clubs can be extremely effective in raising money once again!

### BECOME A BENI SPONSOR

By becoming a Beni sponsor and giving **£27** a month, you will help provide sustainable, life-saving respite care, rehabilitation and education for children in need who may otherwise be neglected or abandoned. Our BENI sponsors are the backbone of this work, 52 new regular sponsors committing just **£27** a month will allow MdB to open and stay open full time!

### DONATE

If you already support HHA with a regular monthly gift, please consider making an additional, one time gift towards the **£17,000** we need to re-open the Maison full time for the next year. MdB is entirely funded by donations and relies on the generosity of our supporters. A donation of...

- **£15** can support a weeks worth of physiotherapy for the kids
- **£100** can fund our MdB teacher for one month
- **£1,300** can sponsor one of our amazing child care workers for a whole year

Your support will be used straight away to support the Maison and it's life-transforming mission.

### PRAY

For those of you who pray, please join us in praying for the families and staff of Maison de Benediction affected by its reduced hours. Pray that they have the courage and protection to safely care for the children and their families and that we'll be able to re-open at full capacity soon.

## CONTACT HHA

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