



Mondale Perkins Oscar, ICCM Haiti National Coordinator, Oct. 24, 2016

When Hurricane Matthew struck Haiti on October 4, it was our worst hurricane since Hazel in 1954. Matthew destroyed everything in its wake. Huge trees were uprooted. Roofs blew off. Churches, schools, businesses, hospitals and homes were submerged under water. Crops, gardens and tropical fruit trees were flattened. Livestock drowned. Almost 1,000 Haitian people were killed or injured and 1.4 million were left in need of aid. We are in crisis!

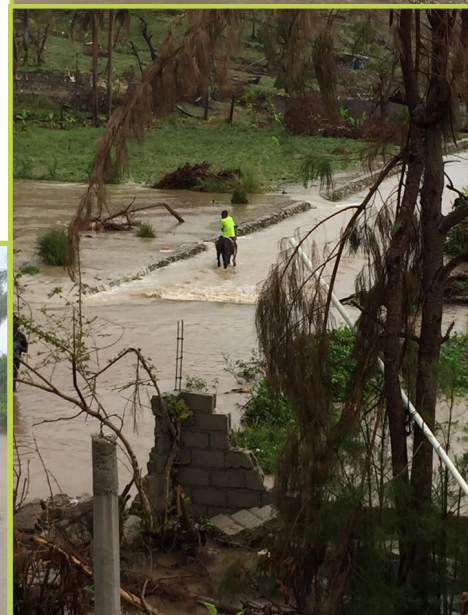
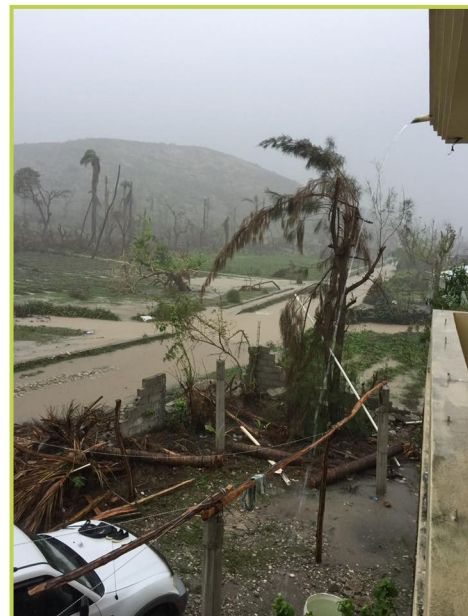
Before the hurricane, Haiti imported more than 70% of our produce, growing 30% on our own land. Now with all the devastation, the price of food is rising. The hardest-hit areas, Les Cayes and Jeremie, were two main agricultural centers.

Hurricane Matthew damaged several ICCM schools and demolished one. Bellevue Beaudin (HA514) has been completely destroyed. Uniforms, books and all of their belongings, their desks and blackboards washed away. Several other schools (HA501, 508, 510, 513, 516, 716 and 721) were damaged — mostly by having their roofs blown off. School has been temporarily suspended for these children.

So far, we have heard of no loss of life among our children. They were safe during and after the hurricane. The big issue right now is **FOOD** and **WATER**. Thousands of people are left without food or water.

Another big issue right now is cholera; it is an extreme danger to everyone in the country, especially in the south. Inundated cemeteries have filled rivers and streams with decomposing remains, poisoning the water. ICCM has sent 1,000 water filters. We're in the process of giving them out and training people on their use and maintenance. We want to thank those people who gave money to save one family or more. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Please don't stop praying for us. We need God's help to endure this latest catastrophe and continue to carry on our work with thousands of children all over Haiti.



YOU CAN HELP HAITI'S RELIEF AND RECOVERY IN THREE WAYS:



[*Haiti Relief and Recovery Fund \(schools, furniture, etc.\)](#)

[*Haiti Food Fund \(school lunches, emergency meals\)](#)

[*Water Filters \(\\$50 buys 3 filters for a limited time\)](#)



Progress Report from Haiti

Hurricane Matthew comes as yet another example of a massive challenge our loved ones in Haiti will manage to overcome. We want to let you know about some other obstacles and hardships that our intrepid team in Haiti is conquering by their faith and hard work and by our strong partnership and your generous giving.

In July 2015 we told you of the tragic death of ICCM's Education Director, Barthelemy Lucce. Since that traumatic event, his widow Carlyne, ICCM's Deputy Finance Manager, emigrated to Montreal with her three children. They have begun a new life in Canada and are in the process of healing from their grief and loss. They thank you for your many prayers.

Meanwhile, God has blessed us with two outstanding new team members. Dieusibon Fils-Aime began in July 2016 as Education Director for all Free Methodist schools in Haiti, includ-



Dieusibon Fils-Aime



Roodja Fleuranvil

ing ICCM schools. He arrived at the ICCM office two weeks before his start date so he could examine Barthelemy's computer and files so he would be ready to "hit the ground running" July 1. He comes with experience teaching education courses at the college level and overseeing multiple schools for two different NGO's. He is also the leader of youth ministry in the Haiti Free Methodist Church.

Roodja Fleuranvil is an accountant by profession and an active member of the Parc Chretien Free Methodist Church. She began as our Deputy Finance Manager on July 1, 2016, and has shown herself to be a competent book-keeper and a quick study for the enormous task of keeping ICCM's finances in order.

We thank God for these additions to our team in Haiti. They are handling huge responsibilities and would appreciate your prayers for their success.

Rex Bullock, ICCM Haiti Regional Coordinator, reports several notable signs of progress in Haiti's ICCM program. Teachers are working more closely with sponsored students to help them write their letters to sponsors on time and with more personal content. Our photographers have worked out a more efficient plan so children can be photographed every two years, strengthening ties with sponsors. In a major policy shift, the upper age limit for ICCM has been lowered from 25 to 21, improving our team's ability to track students' progress in school and get letters and photos from older students. This also motivates sponsored students to study hard and not be



required to repeat grades. (Haiti's educational system includes three years of kindergarten and 13 grades, so a child who begins at 5 would not graduate until 21 even without repeating one grade. Many children begin at 3.)



As our leaders continue their efforts on all these fronts, they never lose sight of the most important reality. About 20,000 children are being educated in Christian schools, forming lifetime friendships with other children and having the image of Christ formed in them as they learn and grow in all ways — spiritually, intellectually, physically and socially.