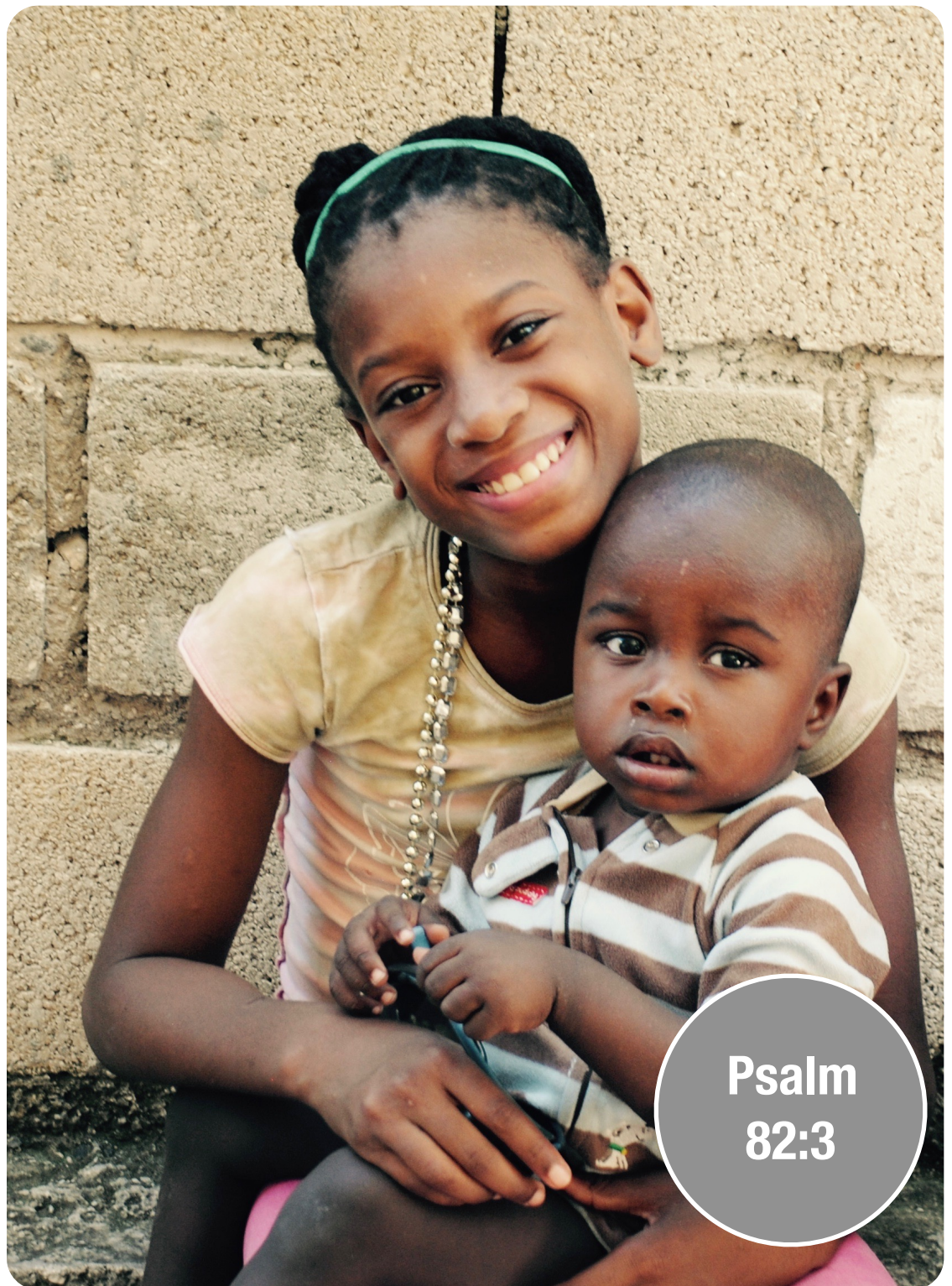


January
February

CHOIDS



Psalm
82:3

CONTACT

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Charleston, SC
29422

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NEEDS

- rent
- financial support
- medical supplies
- clothing
- internships
- prayers

PSALM 82:3

"Defend the weak
and fatherless;
uphold the cause
of the poor and
the oppressed."



MOVING FORWARD

2017 is a new year full of new opportunities to shine God's light. As we enter into the new year please consider how you can give whether it be financially, with supplies, prayers, support, etc.

Christelle is one of the original five children that took refuge at CHOAIDS (second to the right). We have had the pleasure of watching her grow and develop into a young adult. Now she has reached 19 years of age. In January, Christelle contacted her grandmother and brothers who were invited to the World AIDS Day event. The family enjoyed the celebration with all of the children and staff. After visiting CHOAIDS, her family convinced Christelle it was time for her to move on. While her family has not been a part of her life until now, we are happy that Christelle will have the opportunity to connect with her relatives and build meaningful relationships with them. Respecting Christelle's decision to leave we said our goodbyes and were able to contribute a small financial gift to aid her in her new life.

The CHOAIDS family was sad to see her go, but we hope and pray that she will continue to grow and live the life that God intended.

Moving forward it is important for the staff, advisory committee, donors and sponsors alike to consider how we need to prepare the children and young adults in our care for a future outside of the CHOAIDS house. Currently, the advisory committee is seeking internships for the young adults who are ready to take on responsibilities in the community among other activities to empower all the children in our care no matter their age.

We welcome suggestions of how to help our children be strong and self-confident adults with the appropriate tools to do great work in their communities in Haiti as adults.



Best wishes Christelle!

This lovely, shy and charming young lady will be sorely missed, but we wish her the best!

Health Report

We are happy to report that most of the kids are in good health! Guenson, Jennifer, Ruth L., Ruth C. and Wilkar do not have to visit their infectious disease doctor at the hospital until late March for a check-up. Anaika, Harold, Esther, Stanley, Jordany and Valentina were also found to be in good health. They were informed they would not need to return to the hospital for another two months.

Rose Michelle is struggling to overcome a rash that has been identified as herpes zoster. The rash began on her head and has spread all over her body. We have tried to do what we can to control the rash while we are searching for options to treat it. Her head is kept shaved (bottom right) so the rash can be treated by medication applied every week. Little progress has been made.

In addition, Rose-Michelle had her CD4 count measured in July 2016. The results are 91 cells/mm3. Unfortunately, her ARV medication regimen has not been changed by the hospital staff. As a result, her medication does not positively affect her CD4 count. Her viral load was tested again on February 27th.

Mr. Hyppolite (staff social worker) identified that Gerline has been losing weight, though her appetite has not changed. Mr. Hyppolite believes Gerline may be suffering from depression. An appointment has been scheduled with the Grace Children's psychologist for Gerline to get the support she may need.

Operation-Go

Our longtime financial supporter, Michelle Bertram of Operation-Go, paid a visit to the CHOADS house this past month. With her she brought hugs, donations and much needed medical supplies (see top right picture). Michelle made arrangements for our 5 young adults to participate in a 3 day personal growth training forum led by Pastor Renes and U.S. collaborators.

The Operation-Go team brought the CHOADS children and the children from 3 other orphanages together (bottom left) at the beach for some fun on the beautiful Haitian beaches! Upon her return, Michelle shared encouraging thoughts about the condition of the children. We are always grateful for her and her team's feedback, contributions and kindness! Thank you Operation-Go!

BEGINNINGS



April Trip to the Port

Marie Denis-Luque (Executive Director) and an advisory committee member will be traveling to Haiti in April. There are many goals the travelers hope to accomplish during their short stay in Port-au-Prince. One of the most important details includes officially obtaining non-profit status in Haiti, which will cost approximately \$350. In addition, the team will be bringing medical supplies and other necessities with them. The kids will be very excited to see more familiar faces in April!

Please consider keeping those who are willing and able to travel to Haiti in your prayers. We hope this trip will be productive and a great time for both the team and the children at CHOADS.



BEACH DAY 2017