



*Supporting the Haitian ministries of Sam Rice, R.N.*

Gospel Growers, Inc.  
P. O. Box 968  
Smithville, TX 78957

Attention:  
Bob & Angie Brannan  
(512) 237-5427

Email:  
GospelGrowers@aol.com

**Board of Directors**

Angie Brannan

Bob Brannan

Wanda Cervenka

Mark Miles

Billy Proske

Becky Walker

Advisory Director  
Bruce Wharram

March, 2005

*Dear Sponsors and Friends,*

*It's always comforting to get back into a routine—at least it is for me! When I got back to Haiti in September that routine was disrupted by the violence in Port au Prince. Most of my medicines come from the capitol so when gangs there went wild my supply was cut off. No one wanted to travel to the downtown area which resembled Bagdad. Shootings were a common occurrence. Finally in December the government got the upperhand and a semblance of order has been restored. Anyway, I was able to get meds. I'm back in business since the end of December and the clinic has been busy—it's flu season in Haiti. Here we are in March and colds, fever, and coughs are still the predominant complaints. I suppose it's the lack of good nutrition which weakens their immunity to viruses. Also because of the fact that Haitians are crowded together in the home, market, school, and everywhere! Even I have a constant cold from being coughed on all the time.*

*Things livened up here at the end of January when we had a work-team from Zion Mennonite Church in Souderton, PA visit Dariol. The group was made up of 4 men, 3 women, and 3 teenage girls. During the week they were here they mingled with the people, ate Haitian food, attended Church services with an interpreter, did VBS, and worked alongside Haitian Christians to build an altar platform in the new Church. This was their first short term missions experience outside the U.S. They say they want to come back! What about you? Why don't you consider bringing a work-team from your church?*

*Thanks to generous donors Radio Semence has badly needed equipment that enables it to broadcasting clearly the Gospel of Jesus Christ in South Haiti. The number of listeners grows and grows. A new English program has been added on Sunday afternoon from 5—6 pm called Sunday Joy. I was able to donate some of my CD's to this end. Haitians love Southern Gospel music and Black Gospel music. I also had a little Jamaican Christian music to liven things up. We finally got the retransmission equipment which will permit us to do mobile relay from different venues. Radio Semence is giving all these mountainous churches a greater sense of being part of the overall Christian community. Your support of this ministry has added a new dimension to evangelism here. Please pray for our staff of volunteers as Satan will no doubt seek to attack this fantastic ministry tool.*

*(continued on back)*

Brother Obriant's family has grown by one—a little girl. He was able to hold an inter-demoninational youth conference during the 3 days of Mardi Gras celebrations. This helped keep youth away from this event where many are killed each year. The theme of the meetings was "Greater Christian Commitment to the Gospel". Obriant will be using the new motorcycle obtained from donations by Elmslie United Church of Grand Cayman to visit approximately 140 churches to see how they are using the Sunday School materials we were able to distribute in January for 2005. Before Gospel Growers started this ministry, these churches were without any organized materials to teach their congregations. Now these Christians have a chance to be Biblically educated.

While the schools in Port au Prince were paralyzed by the violence at the beginning of the year, our schools didn't miss a day. 370 students of 9 Christian schools in our area get budgetary assistance through the child sponsorship program. Both parents and teachers are glad because the schools have funds to operate. Pray for the teachers who give so much for so little compensation. The average teacher's pay is anywhere from \$30 to \$50 (U.S. currency value) a month. The annual income average of Haitians is \$300—\$400 per year (U.S. currency value). This makes Haiti still the poorest country of the Western Hemisphere. Without your help things would be worse still!

We need many Bibles and Hymnals still! As the number of literate people grows so does the need for Bibles and Hymnals. Can you imagine trying to serve the Lord without these essential spiritual weapons?

Many thanks and sincere gratitude to you all who are making Gospel Growers an active player in getting the Gospel to all the people of South East Haiti! Thank you for my personal financial support, gifts, and prayers.

Sincerely,  
Brother Sam Rice

A NOTE FROM THE BOARD:

We have closed out the Post Office Box in Lake Jackson—so please mail all donations and correspondence to the Smithville address:

Gospel Growers, Inc.  
attn: Bob & Angie Brannan  
P O Box 968  
Smithville, TX 78957

If you have packages to send to Sam in Haiti then please mail them directly to:

Sam Rice - **M. F. I.**  
P O Box 15665—GGI  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416