



Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.

(Edward Everett Hale)



LEADERSHIP COUNCIL 2023

Coordinator Amanda Cox Chairperson Heather Nozea, Rapha

International

Julie Brouwer, Hope Community Project Morgan Wienberg, Little Footprints Big Steps

Megan Boudreaux, Respire Haiti Erika Charles, Espere Community Counseling Center

Spencer Reeves, Child Hope International

A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR Amanda Cox



What a delight it has been to watch the Haiti Family Care
Network connect, collaborate and grow throughout Year Two.
The only way that an idea develops into something tangible is
through the commitment of each person involved. In 2023 the
Network Leadership Council moved beyond the creation
phase and became an established and trusted partner in the
sector of family based care. My sincerest thank you to the
volunteers (300 hours given), conference sponsors, funders
and our backbone organization, Rapha International, for
helping to shape our goals into reality.



ABOUT H F C



Our Mission

The Haiti Family Care Network is an educational catalyst and advocate for the shift towards family based care in Haiti.

Our Vision

To see all Haitian children and youth given the opportunity to thrive in families.



SUMMARY

This report serves as an overview of the second full year of implementation (2023) of the Haiti Family Care Network. Activities reported on relate to strategic objectives outlined in our ten year Strategic Plan.

The following report is divided into four sections covering the four strategic objectives spelling C.A.R.E. (Collaborate, Advocate, Resources, and Educate).

It is important to note that the Haiti Family Care Network seeks to shape behavior related to the care of children, youth, and families in Haiti by engaging with the organizations, individuals, missions, and donors serving Haiti. We do not have a physical location in Haiti and do not implement programming on the ground in Haiti; however all of our resources, workshops, and materials can be freely accessed from any location.



COLLABORATE



By collaborating and communicating openly and without competition we can all learn from one another's successes and challenges. This allows everyone to work in a way that promotes best practices and breaks down barriers between government, donors, NGOs, and ministries working with children, youth, and families in Haiti.

ADVOCATE

We seek to lift up and amplify excellence by sharing stories and examples from Network participants. Our voices are better heard and partners attracted when we use them collectively to advocate for family-based care both on a national scale and within broader global movements.



RESOURCE



All resources offered by the Network are free of charge and accessible to anyone. Resources are shared widely via social media, workshops, newsletters, community conversations, and on our website. We are working to identify gaps in tools and research and hope to fill those gaps in the future.

EDUCATE

We offer one collaborative training each quarter focused on topics specific to participant interests, using the skills of competent and experienced practitioners working in Haiti. In 2023 we began offering an annual US-based conference as well.



Objective 1: Collaborate

Collaboration underpins all successful collective impact movements focused on social change. Historically NGOs, mission organizations, individuals, multilaterals, and donors involved with child, youth and family programming in Haiti have not moved in unison towards "best practice" in care reform. Lack of relationship building, different ideologies and unequal access to information, trainings, or funding have contributed to lack of collaboration.

To improve collaboration and create opportunities for connection and learning, the Network hosted three online workshops, three community conversations, and the first annual conference in 2023.

With collaboration in mind, the Network continued its engagement with Transforming Children's Care Global Collaborative Platform, connected regularly with Changing the Way We Care and the Faith to Action Initiative, participated in collaborative discussions with other Networks through the Christian Alliance for Orphans, and participated in the Collaborative Communications working group hosted by Faith to Action.





Objective 2: Advocate

Through participation in the broader care reform movement as well as in the "orphan care" movement, the Network is able to advocate for the inclusion of Haiti in trainings, funding opportunities, and research.

This broader connectivity strengthens the Network's credibility and ability to advocate for family based care. It also ensures that the Leadership Council members are aware of and contributing to new learnings, global best practice, and publications and trainings.

In 2023 the Network strengthened connections with:
Christian Alliance for Orphans
Faith to Action Initiative
International Conference on Missions
Holistic Haitian Alliance
Global Collaborative on Transforming Children's Care

2023 ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS
1.253

WEBSITE SESSIONS 2,279

AVERAGE WEBSITE SESSION 6+MINS

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS 80+

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS
369





Objective 3: Resource

The care reform or family based care sector is not a new sector and many excellent resources exist to guide global reform, support faith-based audiences, and offer roadmaps for transition relevant to governments, donors, decision makers and implementers. The third objective of the Haiti Family Care Network is the free sharing of these global resources as well as resources representing the Haitian context. Many organizations have adapted tools, translated documents, or built and implemented something new to meet the needs of their communities. Locating all of these resources and hosting them on one platform reduces duplication efforts and ensures access to all.

The objective of providing resources was accomplished in 2023 via the delivery of two family care newsletters promoting best practice in disability care and also social work linking a variety of free tools, resources and videos.

Additional resources offered were 3 thematic online "Community Conversations" open to the public with guided discussions and follow up on the topics of: Orphanage Migration as a Response to Urban Violence, Social Work, and Combatting Trauma (offered in Creole and English.)

Social media twice each week highlighting child protection standards, emergency programming, child rights, family strengthening and promoting the many resources and trainings provided by like-minded family care advocacy campaigns and organizations.

We hope to be able to provide more resources translated into Creole in the future.





Objective 4: Educate

The most common concern raised in relation to transitioning towards family based care in Haiti is "how will we protect children if we close the orphanages"?

Providing free or mostly free education that offers supportive, empathetic and clear examples of transition decision making, planning, assessment and reunification as well as all of the pieces of the "puzzle" that ensure children, youth and families are healthy and preserved is one of the most important ways to protect children.

Care reform/family care is not simply about the moment of placement of a child with a family. The Network promotes the linkages to all other community sectors and protective programming that are necessary to prevent family separation and promote healthy and thriving families.

To support this education effort, the Network offers 3-4 online workshops with experts each year and one in person multi-day conference.

Online Education in 2023:

January: Working with Children and Families in Conflict Zones

April: Why Every Program Needs a Social Worker

October: Making the Invisible Visible (Disability Care)

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." **Barack Obama, former US President**



The Haiti Family Care Network hosted its first US-based conference on family care in Haiti from July 20-22, 2023 in Nashville, Tennessee. The conference brought together 50 participants representing many areas of care and protection programming for children, youth and families including: economic strengthening, residential care, family strengthening, disability care, social work and more.

Throughout the two and a half day conference, participants were provided with a mix of presentations of best practice from specialists and experts as well as guided table conversations, group networking opportunities, time to mingle over lunch, and the coordinated formation of thematic support groups.

Expert speakers (with a focus on elevating Haitian voices) were invited and most were sponsored financially to present as well as participate throughout the conference.

Immediately following the conference an anonymous electronic survey was shared. 29 survey responses were received, allowing the Network to measure several indicators of interest including content, engagement, topics for future focus, comfort with the experience, speaker relevance, and return on investment.

The Better Together Conference was a critical moment in Year 2 for the Network to prioritize the building of audience trust and demonstrate the professionalism and benefit of participation in Network activities (both being high value strategic objectives for the Network).

Significant Outcomes Included:

- High engagement and high scores on survey
- Linkages created between Haitian speakers and organizations needing information or referrals
- Free printed and online resources provided to all participants
- Operational thematic groups created
- Decision to produce annual conference

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The work of the Haiti Family Care Network is supported through a combination of annual financial contributions from each Leadership Council organization, the donation of overhead costs from Rapha International, grants from foundations, and sponsorship of the annual conference.





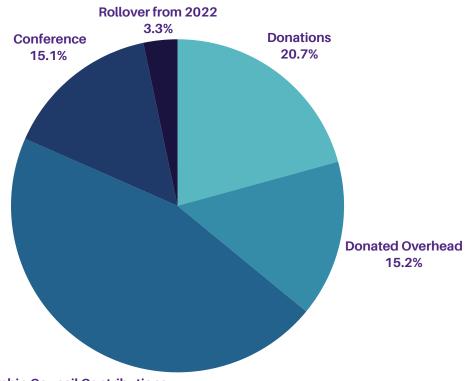








Income

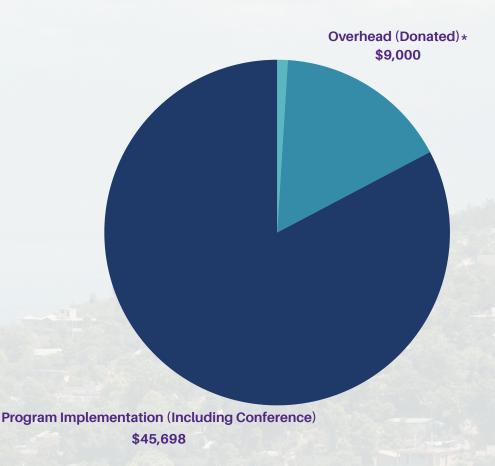


Leadership Council Contributions 45.6%

FINANCIAL INTEGRITY

The Haiti Family Care Network is committed to financial accountability and transparency. Our team cares deeply about pursuing this mission with excellence. Our backbone organization, Rapha International, has earned the highest status by Candid (previously Guidestar) as a Platinum Participant in addition to receiving accreditation from the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.

Expenditures



*In 2023 the Haiti Family Care Network used no incoming revenue for overhead expenses.

**Smallest slice of the expenditure pie represents \$548 in technology services.





Become A Partner

Support the operations of the Network with an annual unrestricted donation.



Support A Project

We have many project activities each year that require support.



Participate

We host workshops, trainings, discussion groups, and other events throughout the year.



Stay Updated

Sign up for our quarterly email newsletter to receive announcements, new resources, and requests for input.



Sponsor An Event

We are currently seeking sponsors for our US-based conference in 2024.



One Time Special Gift

We depend on one-time gifts to fill gaps in our annual budget.

CONNECT WITH US



@HAITIFAMILYCARENETWORK

WWW.HAITIFAMILYCARENETWORK.ORG

QUESTIONS? EMAIL US!
CONTACT@HAITIFAMILYCARENETWORK.ORG



"For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it, if only we're brave enough to be it."

Amanda Gorman, Poet



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