

# EDUCATION MEANS *LIFE!*

*One child. One scholarship.  
Unlimited opportunity.*



Dear Friends,

September 2025

**T**his is our fifth consecutive year of reinforcing the simple but profound truth that **Education means LIFE** in Haiti. We continue to place a keen focus on the power of education because history has proved that the limited access to quality childhood education in Haiti is a major factor in sustaining the country's ongoing cycles of generational poverty and dependency. **It is no secret that education is the key to building Haiti stronger.**

We have witnessed firsthand the sharp contrast between Haitian children who have access to education and those who do not. Children who attend school are much more likely to remain with their family, realize a productive future and obtain a natural desire to contribute to the improvement of their community. Those who do not attend school often experience neglect and other harms from being raised in an orphanage, living on the streets or becoming involved in criminal activities.

**That's why, this September, we invite you to join us in transforming the lives and futures of 200+ Haitian children through the gift of educational scholarships. Our goal is to fund 200 scholarships by September 30, and we can't do it alone. Together, we can and will build Haiti stronger through education!**

**FACT:** The majority of Haitian children living in orphanages are not orphans at all. Most of them actually have living parents or families. So how do they end up in the orphanage? **It is critical to remember that the primary reason children are relinquished to orphanages in Haiti is because their parents cannot afford school tuition and materials.** Misguided parents often make heartbreaking decisions under the false pretense that their children will receive an education and better care once at the orphanage, but this is seldom the case. Unfortunately, the results are much different. Children who live in orphanages are certain to experience emotional trauma, neglect and other harms that produce behavioral and learning challenges.

When you invest in a child's scholarship at \$500 per year, you're not just funding an education. You're literally making the difference between a child being relinquished to the orphanage or remaining in the care of their family. Your gift today protects vulnerable children from exploitation, and it also creates meaningful employment for educators, administrators, staff and others working in the schools. **Simply put, scholarships keep families together, they sustain schools and they are building Haiti Stronger—one child, one family and one community at a time.**

Beyond academics, Overture scholarships also provide access to trained social workers who support the mental, emotional and behavioral needs of both students and their families. This kind of support is rare in Haiti, but it's absolutely essential. Our scholarships allow for professionals to work alongside schools to offer training for staff, counseling, assessments and activities to address trauma and ensure children who are struggling with trauma or other learning challenges receive the care they need. When psychosocial services are available to families and in schools, a holistic support system is created where children can thrive. **Your investment in scholarships today is an investment in the transformation of a child's life and their family's life. And it's an investment in the future of Haiti itself.**

Bottom line—in a country where poverty and lack of resources often force families to relinquish their children to orphanages, **scholarships serve as a powerful intervention that keeps families together and provides a foundation for stability and hopeful futures.** For families recently reunified or at risk of separation, the ability to afford school fees can be the critical difference that allows a child to grow up in the security and love of their family, ultimately changing the trajectory of their future. **That's why education is about more than just academics. It's a preventative measure that has the power to break generational cycles of poverty and dependence for good.**

**Join us today as we build Haiti Stronger together—one child and one scholarship at a time.** Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

God bless you and keep you,

Lisa Hyatt  
Executive Director, Overture International



**OVERTURE**  
INTERNATIONAL



# Two Sisters. One Journey. *Home at Last.*

Meet sisters Roodjina (age 15) and Francesca (age 13). These young girls were brought to the Overture crisis center after being rescued from an orphanage that was attacked by gangs. Upon arrival, the sisters struggled with emotional trauma, physical health challenges and educational delays. They spent just over one year at our crisis center during which time their educational abilities were assessed and their needs identified to create short- and long-term support plans for success. Their short-term plan included continuing their education while living at our crisis center to bridge their educational gaps, which they both accomplished with flying colors. Their longer-term plan included finding a two-parent foster family for the girls where they could remain together under the loving care and safety of a home environment and where they could continue their education.

Overture encouraged the girls to play an active role in choosing their foster family, and by God's sovereign grace, Roodjina and Francesca found their perfect match! Earlier this year, they were welcomed into their new home with open arms and open hearts by parents who are fully committed to the deep responsibilities of parenthood, including supporting their ongoing education.

“*I have been waiting for this moment since September 2024. Ever since we were first told about the foster family program and agreed to become a foster family, I've been looking forward to it. It took a long time before we were able to bring these two girls into the family, but all that time allowed everything to work out wonderfully well.*”

Today, Roodjina and Francesca are thriving with their new family and their life trajectories have been forever transformed. The girls are continuing their studies and thriving in their new home.

“*Today, we feel very good and grateful because we've needed a father and mother for a long time...to always be there for us, to give us an education and affection and a safe place to live. That's what we've found today by being welcomed here into this family. We are so happy!*”



## Keep Kids in School and *Families Together!*



Roodjina and Francesca are just two of hundreds of children who are desperately awaiting an education that will allow them to remain in their homes while providing opportunity for meaningful futures filled with hope and promise. That's the power of scholarships. **Join us today as we strive to secure scholarships for 200 children in Haiti by September 30th.** Because education means LIFE and it is everything. Without it, the future of Haiti cannot change.

**200 CHILDREN. 200 SCHOLARSHIPS. INVEST TODAY!**



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**[www.overtureinternational/back-to-school](http://www.overtureinternational/back-to-school)**