



St. Luke

St. Luke was initiated by Fr. Rick Frechette in 1999 as a response to the need of what he witnessed in the slums and on the streets. As he cared for the sick and dying, he realized the true reality of the deplorable conditions that the youth of NPFS faced once on their own.

“If we don’t help our children integrate into society then it’s our failure. We need to look for solutions to help the poorest children and create employment for the ex-pequeños that incorporate dignity and compassion,” explained Fr. Rick. Currently there are over 130 ex-pequeños employed in the St. Luke programs alongside 190 staff.

All of the NPFS and St. Luke programs have a required ratio of ex-pequeños versus staff. This helps create a healthy competition and interaction plus develop relationships with colleagues from other settings. Some pequeños have a sense of arrogance and entitlement that everything is owed to them, so mixing their interactions with the outside public creates a richer environment and helps them understand the reality of life.



St. Luke Ex-Pequeño Support and Outreach Programs

Burials for the Indigent

It is an ancient Jewish belief that charity toward the dead is the highest charity. There are two components to this program, one is preparing the bodies of the 200 children who die at the St. Damien Hospital and two, burying the destitute from the general hospital morgue. Children have the first priority resulting in 15 to 20 children per paper mache coffin. The coffin also includes a hand-made rosary. They are transported to a cemetery which is located on rented land owned by the government.

2,000 children per year and 500 adults = \$52,000

St. Luke Ex-Pequeño Support and Outreach Programs



Many people in the developing world have access to only 5 liters of water per day, whereas the average American uses 80 times that amount.

Water Truck

The children and families in the Cité Soliel slums have little to no access to water. 21,000 gallons of water are delivered daily in a truck donated from an Italian foundation. It fills up with water at the municipal city service station for \$25. The truck then drives into the slums and parks while people form a line. Once the valve is opened it takes about one hour to empty. The water services 2,500 families per day, 1,400 loads a year, 4,320,000 gallons per year. Two employees (one ex-pequeño) work distributing the water and they also perform crowd control when fights break out which is during every delivery. People are that desperate for water.

Estimated budget \$36,000

Food Distribution

Distributing food to the poor is becoming more difficult with the raising food costs. Rice is now up to \$60 for a 1 kilo bag. One bag is divided between 10 people. 150 bags of rice previously cost \$3,000. Now it is \$9,000. Areas for food distribution are identified by workers and rotated throughout the year.

12 distributions per year

100,000 beneficiaries per year

Estimated budget \$240,000



Disaster Relief

In a country so deforested and lacking infrastructure, when a natural disaster occurs, it affects every aspect of the NPFS programs. The St. Luke team immediately moves into action and delivers food, water, supplies and medicines. Long term investments such as building or rebuilding homes, materials for replanting gardens and replacing livestock are other options. Funds that are sent after media coverage of disasters is directly applied to these projects.

Relief in the wake of four hurricanes \$82,000





Only a little over half of primary school-age [Haitian] children are enrolled in school. Less than 2 per cent of children finish secondary school. Source UNICEF.



Street Schools

The 16 primary schools that St. Luke operates are in various stages of development. One is a tin building with pews and a dirt floor while another is a cinder block building with secure roofing and numerous classrooms. There is a governing committee that decides everything related to the schools. 4,000 children were enrolled last year and half of them receive a daily meal. These schools are in the worst slums in Cité Soliel, where children do not have the luxury of going to school.

Estimated \$576,000



The Street School Program offers one meal a day to 2,000 children. The worst, most violent locations are chosen to receive the meals. For the majority of these children, this is the only food they will receive in a day.

Estimated \$45,000

Movies in the Margins

Exposure to good things can change your perspective. Imagine all the horrific acts that the children of the slums see every day. Two groups of ex-pequeños bring quality films to these marginalized children and their families a few times a week. Their equipment consists of a DVD player, generator, projector and sheets sewn together to make a screen.

Estimated budget \$20,000





St. Luke Ex-Pequeño Support and Outreach Programs

Sports Program for Disadvantaged Youth

Instead of playing in the garbage (photo left), this Sports Program develops organized games and soccer camps for disadvantaged children. A soccer field has been developed on the Kay Germaine property (photo above). St. Luke has its own soccer team and they practice a few days a week. On the same property, there are plans for a small sport complex to include a cement slab and cement stadium seating, plus a small restaurant. These facilities will be used for excursions for the street schools and the NPFS orphanage.

Start up budget \$20,000



Charitable Help for Personal Tragedies

NPH/NPFS or St. Luke employees typically support themselves and their family. If a personal tragedy strikes such as a death or an illness, then financial assistance is offered. An average funeral cost is \$1,000.

Estimated budget \$12,000

