



## Institution Mixte La Trinite Chretienne and the ARM Connection

After an initial trip to Haiti in 2000, Dr. Bert Rappole (Jamestown, NY) began to serve as team leader for numerous short term medical mission teams. The enthusiasm and excitement of team members was contagious. Soon others were eager to participate in mission experiences.

ARM was incorporated in June 2003 and gained 501(c)(3) status in August 2004 as a multi-denominational volunteer organization with a mission focus on medical, education and construction ministries.

ARM was introduced to Pastor Bernato and his community through mobile medical missions and Vacation Bible School ministries. ARM learned that Pastor Bernato advocates for the foundation of sustainable improvement in his community is through good health and education.

Approximately 78% of Haitians are poor, surviving on less than \$2/day. More than half (54%) live in extreme poverty (less than \$1/day). Today, 50% of school age children do not attend school due to high tuition costs.

ARM realizes that if any culture is to make a sustainable improvement from its current conditions it must come from the people themselves. We, as supporters, strive to consider the fine line between providing relief and supporting development. Relief, while important for immediate care, it creates dependency, inhibits growth, creativity, and self-sufficiency.

Development offers the chance to create/support a self-sustaining foundation in those assisted. It is ARM's desire to empower the Haitians. ARM is not building this school – this new school will be built by Haitians. ARM, with donor provision, will provide financial support and encouragement as the village of Galette builds their future in cement and in hope.

### Investing in lives for eternal benefit

Please make donation checks payable to:

**Allegany Region Missions**

**PO Box 274, Randolph NY 14772**

**Allegany Region Missions is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization**



For additional information and updates please visit the ARM web site - [www.ARMissions.org](http://www.ARMissions.org)



## Institution Mixte La Trinite Chretienne Galette, Haiti



*Architect's rendition of new construction*

Institution Mixte La Trinite Chretienne is a Christian education school in rural Galette, Haiti. It was founded in 1960 by Pastor Jean Charles Bernato's father. After a brief period of closure, Pastor Bernato, with the help of his church, reopened the school in 1992. It provides education for grades Pre K through grade 6 and is accredited by the National Education Ministry. Despite financial challenges and local conditions, the school continues to serve this ever growing area twenty miles east of Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

In 2005, Allegany Region Missions (ARM) instituted a Teacher Sponsorship Program for the school. This enables ARM to provide financial assistance for the educational staff and for educational supplies (books, paper, pens, crayons, etc.).



Additionally, ARM supports a professional development program for the teachers and the classroom aides. Initiated by a program from Ohio State University, professional development continues through the efforts of dedicated volunteer educators who meet with the teachers and aides annually. As of 2015-2016 school year, there are 11 teachers, 2 classroom aides and 1 director for approximately 300 students.

## The Current School

- Serves 300 students Pre K - grade 6
- Utilizes open pavilion structures
- Some classrooms conducted outdoors
- Limited storage capacity
- Receives some financial aid from the Haitian National Education Ministry



## The New School

- Cement structure with individualized classrooms
- Provides adequate spacing for all grade levels
- Reduced noise interference
- Classrooms will be protected from the elements
- Classrooms will be fitted with secure doors to protect books & supplies
- Provides for growth in student body and/or development of secondary education program



Construction  
as of April 2016

## New Beginnings

In the fall of 2008 an Ohio State University professor who was working with the teachers at Galette challenged ARM to pray about a new school in Galette. After much prayer, the members of ARM met with Pastor Ben and the school board in August 2009. The discussions focused on how to improve the learning environment along with vision planning - increasing the student population, offering a secondary education and vocational educational programs.



Building site

Following the devastating earthquake in January 2010, ARM focused on the immediate needs of Galette and the Haitian people. Conversations about the school project resumed in 2012. By 2013 Pastor Bernato and his school board identified land near the existing school. The purchase was finalized in 2014. This was a major accomplishment given the complicated process of land purchase is in Haiti.

The initial construction phase began in December 2014. The property was secured with a chain link fence; a shipping container was purchased to be used as a secure storage depot for construction supplies. A local contractor was identified. Local labor will be used throughout the construction phases.

Blue Ridge Missions donated a well. Following the installation of the well, the construction crew installed the septic system.

ARM continues to raise donations to finalize the construction of the new building and to fund the on-going teacher support.

BUDGET – CONSTRUCTION	
Land Purchase	\$22,500
Fencing	4,000
Secured Storage	4,000
Classrooms	150,000
<b>Construction Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$180,500</b>
Annual Operating Expenses	
Salaries (11 teachers, 2 aides, 1 director)	\$21,360
Educational supplies	7,000
<b>Operating Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$28,360</b>

**GOAL: \$180,500**

Total cost of Construction:

**\$180,500**

Total expenditures as of 04/16

for land, site development

and 10 classrooms: **\$82,500**

Balance needed to complete:

**\$98,500**

On-line giving available at:

[www.ARMissions.org](http://www.ARMissions.org)