

BEYOND BORDERS



HELPING PEOPLE BUILD MOVEMENTS FOR LIBERATION IN HAITI

Fall 2019

MOVING TOWARD LEGAL JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN ENSLAVED

Sarah's Story: Determined Survivors Compel Authorities to Enforce Haiti's Anti-Trafficking Law

The house is full of playful giggles -- exactly what a house with two little girls living in it should sound like. Sarah, one of the two, laughs the loudest.

Her smile radiates joy. She is full of life, and her eyes sparkle. No one would guess that she was ever enslaved or that her case could lead to the first prosecution using Haiti's long-ignored 2014 anti-trafficking law.

Roughly one in six girls and one in 10 boys in Haiti is trapped in domestic servitude according to a 2014 UNICEF study.

Sarah, 12, isn't sure how many years she was enslaved. Her parents -- who like many rural families struggle to provide for their children -- sent her to live with a woman whom they thought would treat their daughter like her own.

Instead, Sarah was beaten, slapped, and kicked on a daily basis. There was no school, no time to play, explore, or make new friends. Unending, backbreaking work filled Sarah's days from before sunup to well after sundown.

Then last year her captor, in a rage, slashed Sarah's thigh open with a knife. Fearing for her life, Sarah ran away.

Thankfully, Sarah ended up in a neighborhood where she met Monique, a member of the Adult Survivors of Child Slavery network that Beyond Borders launched and supports.

These survivors are experts at identifying children enslaved in domestic servitude. Often, they risk their own safety to secretly initiate contact with children like Sarah

before things get so bad that they run away and end up in much worse situations of abuse and neglect.

As Sarah's case moves forward it may become the first instance in Haiti of a perpetrator of child domestic servitude being convicted and punished.

To protect children, survivors like Monique wait until an enslaved child is outside the house running errands or collecting water. When it is safe, survivors befriend the child and offer to find their mother or father so that they can come and rescue the child.

Too often a child's parents can't be found, though.

It is at moments like this that survivors become most frustrated by Haiti's justice system and its failure to ever provide reliable help to free children or pursue

perpetrators of child slavery.

Monique and her fellow survivors -- more than 700 in 33 chapters throughout Haiti -- are determined to change this.

In June, leaders of the survivor network -- accompanied by



Sarah (right) with her friend. Roughly one in six girls and one in 10 boys in Haiti is trapped in domestic servitude according to a 2014 UNICEF study.

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Beyond Borders' staff -- got their first-ever meeting with the Haitian National Police Commissioner in charge of child protection.

The survivors had one item on their agenda: a demand that the 2014 anti-trafficking law finally be enforced.

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Moved by their testimony, the commissioner pledged his support for this new, survivor-led effort, promising to immediately mobilize his officers to respond to four initial cases -- including Sarah's -- and appointing an official liaison to work with the survivor network.

"The commissioner even gave us his personal cell phone number so that we could reach him anytime we needed his help to push things forward," said Smith Maxime, who directs Beyond Borders' United to End Child Slavery joint initiative with Free the Slaves.

And as Sarah's case moves forward it may also become the first instance in Haiti of a perpetrator of child domestic servitude being convicted and punished.¹

Sarah is also one of the very first children in Haiti to be placed with a certified 'Welcoming Family' for interim care. This new government-recognized

structure places children coming out of slavery with a family that has been selected, trained, and certified for quality care.



Thanks to the work of survivors like Monique and others, since 2010 we've documented cases of 639 children who are now free from slavery.

These families provide the time that is needed for child welfare organizations to find parents or some other permanent, safe place for the child to live.

The efforts of Monique, her fellow survivors, and these 'Welcoming Families' compliment the work of more than 11,000 women and men trained by Beyond Borders to protect and defend the rights of children, and 108 Community Child Protection Brigades organized and launched by Beyond Borders since 2010.

In this time, we've documented cases of 639 children like Sarah who are now free from slavery, thanks to the work of people like Monique who believe that no child should ever be enslaved.

Equally important, thousands more girls and boys have been prevented from ever becoming enslaved in the first place.

Soon, Sarah will be reunited with her father in the south of Haiti, who is anxiously awaiting her return. Sarah's mom left for Chile in search of work as so many Haitians have.

The physical scars on Sarah's body remain as a daily reminder of her enslavement. The invisible scars of verbal and emotional abuse are the ones we cannot see but know are there.

But Sarah -- like Monique -- is a survivor, a slave no more. She is free now to live the life she was created to live: to play, to wonder, to go to school, to make new friends.

It is a life that adult survivors like Monique are fighting to ensure every girl and boy trapped in slavery in Haiti can live one day.

Back at the home of the 'Welcoming Family' Sarah is staying with, her infectious laughter once again fills the air. She and a friend play, whispering into each others ears, then run off giggling. This is a small slice of what freedom looks like. ✨

The names of those featured in this story have been changed to protect their privacy.

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GENEROSITY

Since 2010, you and people like you who share our mission to end child slavery in Haiti have accomplished the following:

**11,489 Child Rights Activists Trained,
108 Child Protection Brigades Formed,
700 Adult Survivors of Child Slavery Network Members Trained, and;
639 Children Freed From Slavery...and thousands more children
prevented from being sent away in the first place.**

¹Perpetrators of child domestic servitude have been convicted in the past not for exploiting the labor of children but for physically abusing a child when clear physical evidence is still visible on the child's body. But many enslaved children are badly exploited and even abused without having wounds that can be clearly traced to a perpetrator.

You Can Empower a Family to Escape Extreme Poverty for Good

You can empower a family in rural Haiti to permanently escape extreme poverty. Beyond Borders' Family Sponsorship Program is an 18-month asset-building initiative proven globally to equip families with the resources and skills they need to provide for themselves, send their children to school, and live with independence and dignity.

Your sponsorship of \$100/month for 18 months provides a family with assets to earn a living with -- livestock, or goods to start a small store -- training to manage the assets and start a savings account, initial cash support to reduce the need to sell their assets in an emergency, weekly coaching visits to reinforce skills and build confidence, and access to healthcare so they can stay healthy and work.

Most of these are women-led households with young children and no means of support.

They are often isolated from their neighbors, with hardly any shelter and little or no means to feed, clothe, and educate their children.

Since 2016, 231 families like these have graduated from Beyond Borders' Family Sponsorship program. ✨



Since 2016, 231 families have graduated from Beyond Borders' Family Sponsorship program, including Nahomie (center) and her family, who graduated last fall.

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Succia: A Model of What's Possible in Haiti



Succia is a model of what's possible with opportunity. As a child, Succia excelled in school, but her parents -- unable to provide for her -- sent Succia away to live with others. She became enslaved. Succia became pregnant at a young age and, unable to provide for her child, they ended up homeless. In 2016,

a generous Beyond Borders supporter sponsored Succia's participation in our Family Sponsorship program. Today Succia is a success story: she and her daughter live in a new home that Succia helped build. She joined the local Child Protection Brigade, and she went back to school and is now a teacher. ✨

Succia Success, who graduated from the Family Sponsorship program in 2018

You can help a family permanently escape extreme poverty and reclaim their dignity.

Visit <https://beyondborders.net/sponsor-a-family/> to learn more or contact Brian Stevens, Beyond Borders' Donor Engagement Director, at (305) 450-2561, b.stevens@beyondborders.net.

A JOYFUL AND FUN FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

20 New Schools Join Beyond Borders' Schools Not Slavery Network

The first day of school on Lagonav Island was a joyful and fun day for more than 3,000 girls and boys at 23 schools -- 20 of which are brand new to Beyond Borders' Schools Not Slavery Network.

Children who aren't in school face a greater risk of being sent away and becoming enslaved. We've added these new schools and expanded the reach of our work to educate and protect every child -- thanks to the support of people like you.

Teachers at these 20 new schools are now being trained in the use of Haiti's native language - Creole - for classroom instruction, how to manage their classrooms without the use of violence, and how to use participatory teaching methods to engage students as active learners, encouraging their creativity, curiosity, and leadership. It's a methodology proven to deliver

higher student reading scores.

The 20 schools that graduated this past academic year from the Schools Not Slavery teacher training program now join a network of 30 other schools that previously graduated and are promoting this methodology across Lagonav Island. Thank you to everyone who is supporting the movement to guarantee universal quality primary education to girls and boys in Haiti. ✕



Students at the Bwa Nwa Community School take a break from recess to pose for our camera.

POWER TO GIRLS

Dev Cezile, of Beyond Borders' Rethinking Power Team, Empowering Girls



Above: Students at St. Paul's Catholic School in Jacmel use Beyond Borders' Power To Girls programming.

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"Most of the time, girls do what other people want them to -- their parents or friends. That means they do not usually have the power to decide what they want to learn, or what they want to do."
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Celebrating Four Years of Partnership with the School Sisters of Notre Dame

Beyond Borders and the Atlantic-Midwest Province of the School Sisters of Notre Dame are celebrating four years of partnership on Lagonav Island. It's a partnership that is leveraging the power of grassroots leaders. These leaders are organizing their communities to ensure that no child is enslaved or abused, every child is in school and the quality of those schools is unmatched; more families are able to lift themselves out of extreme

poverty, earn a dignified living and provide for themselves; and more women and girls are living free from violence and inequality, sharing power equally with men and boys in their communities.

This September, as we mark the start of our fourth year together, Sister Charmaine Krohe, SSND, provincial of the Atlantic-Midwest Province, visited Lagonav Island with Beyond Borders' Executive Director David Diggs and met with grassroots leaders,

parents, and families whose lives have changed for the better thanks to this partnership.

"I do believe God meant for us to be in partnership with each other because we have so many of the same values and philosophy," Sister Charmaine said. David agreed: "I, too, feel that God has drawn our communities together. I am eager to see what is ahead for us and trust that we will be amazed by what unfolds and blooms in the garden we tend together." ✕



Borders', , Talks About



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"One of the objectives of Power To Girls is to help girls take their power in the community; so, it is important to give girls that power, in groups, in their homes, and in the schools. That will help girls get used to deciding for themselves what is best for them. It will help them to protect themselves instead of risking their futures to please others."



(L to R): BB's David Diggs, Freda Catheus and Sister Charmaine Krohe, SSND, with Family Sponsor Program graduate Elanise Ajuste, who told us: "My children are in school, we live in a sturdy house, I am earning income and saving money!"

Honoring Their Legacy of Generosity: Robert Hadley, Albert Pinter, Jr., and Kimberly Petersen Siméus

We want to mark the recent passing of two longtime supporters and one board member whose legacies of generosity, care, and concern for the people of Haiti will live on.

For more than 20 years, both Robert Hadley and Albert Pinter, Jr. generously supported the work of Beyond Borders as an act of faith, compassion, and justice in the name of God.

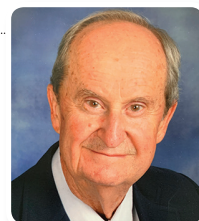
Their families each told us that both men gave thanks for the blessings in their lives by serving others, particularly

the less fortunate and marginalized. We are grateful for their generosity, their solidarity, and their commitment to Haiti.

Kimberly Petersen Siméus served with distinction on our board, building the capacity of Beyond Borders staff and leadership through her wise counsel. Beyond Borders is a stronger organization thanks to her guidance. We miss her dearly.

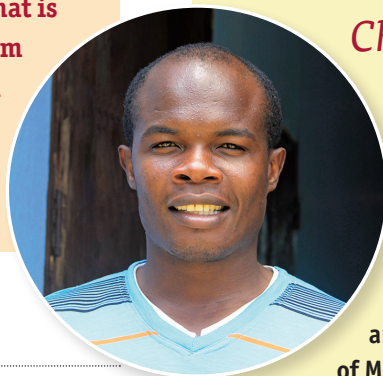
Thank you again Robert, Al, and Kimberly, for your great gifts to the people of Haiti. ✕

(L to R): Robert Hadley, Albert Pinter, Jr., and Kimberly Petersen Siméus.



BEYOND BORDERS STAFF MEMBER AND SURVIVOR

Christnel Brivard Now Organizes Adults to Protect Children from Slavery and Abuse



My name is Christnel Brivard and I am from the community of Matènwa. I am a member

of the Model Community Initiative team on Lagonav, where I am a community organizer working to end the practice of child slavery.

There are many things that motivate me in my job. First, as a survivor of child slavery I am compelled to do all that I can to fight against this practice so that no child ever suffers what I did.

The Child Rights Training I received from Beyond Borders gave me the tools and the vision to do this work. Knowing how deeply committed Beyond

Borders is as an organization to ending child slavery, and the resources the organization has committed to this effort, motivates me even more to do this work.

I began working to organize adults to protect and defend the rights of children in my hometown of Matènwa. What gives me the greatest satisfaction in my work is seeing more and more people become engaged in the movement to end child slavery, and seeing more and more children freed from slavery and returned home to their families as a result of this work.

Every day more and more people are joining this movement and that makes me very happy. ✕

No Child A Slave

BEYOND BORDERS

We see a Haiti free from slavery and full of hope – where...

- Every child grows up safe in a loving home & community
- Every child is fed with basic needs met
- Every child goes to a good school close to home

YOU have the power to End Child Slavery in Haiti.

WE ARE LAUNCHING OUR NEW CAMPAIGN SOON.

Follow us on     for campaign launch, updates and ways you can get involved.

#EVERYCHILDFREE

Expanding Our Work with Local Elected Officials

While Haiti is caught in a political struggle because of government corruption and dysfunction at the national level, **Beyond Borders** is forging productive relationships with local governments on Lagonav Island. Local elected leaders are much more accessible and accountable to the people they serve than national leaders and are eager to collaborate and develop new ways to address the pressing challenges their people face. ✂



Beyond Borders' Smith Maximé (standing) and Freda Cathéus (seated bottom right) meet with local government leaders on the island of Lagonav in June to leverage government involvement in the expansion of our work there.

Escaping the Loan Shark

What do you do when the only one who will offer you credit for your tiny business is the local loan shark? The lack of affordable credit makes it that much harder for enterprising people to escape poverty in Haiti. Since 2016, Beyond Borders has helped organize more than 100 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) in marginalized communities like Tipalmis. Volunteer members (pictured above) elected by other members of the VSLA manage the loans and repayments. Instead of lining the pocket of a loan shark, the modest interest collected is distributed proportionately to VSLA members, while the credit fuels new local businesses and jobs for the poorest. And each VSLA has an emergency fund that members can vote to draw from for when a member family is facing a crisis. ✂



Members of a village savings and loan gather for a meeting in the community of Tipalmis on Lagonav Island.

We've Earned Charity Navigator's Highest Rating

Charity Navigator – the nation's largest and most-utilized evaluator of charities – has once again awarded **Beyond Borders** a 4-star rating – their highest.

"Beyond Borders' exceptional 4-star rating sets it apart from its peers and demonstrates its trustworthiness to the public," Charity Navigator CEO Micheal Thatcher said. "Only a quarter of charities rated by Charity Navigator receive the distinction of our 4-star rating. This adds Beyond Borders to

a preeminent group of charities working to overcome our world's most pressing challenges. Based on its 4-star rating,

people can trust that their donations are going to a financially responsible and ethical charity when they decide to support Beyond Borders."

We're humbled by this recognition, but we're even more humbled by the trust

and confidence that you place in us. Thank you! You can read our full review online at www.charitynavigator.org. ✂



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CONNECT WITH US!



Beyond Borders Haiti



BB_Haiti



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BEYOND BORDERS helps people build movements to liberate themselves from oppression and isolation. In Haiti and the United States, we are bringing people together for just and lasting change. We support movements in Haiti to:

- ✂ End child slavery
- ✂ Guarantee universal access to education
- ✂ End violence against women and girls
- ✂ Replace systems that oppress the poor with systems that support dignified work and sustainable livelihoods

Board of Directors: Serge Bellegarde, Yasmine Cajuste, Jayne Engle, PhD, Robert Fatton, Jr., PhD, Anne Gibbons, Corey Hastings, Ruth W. Messinger, Claude Keran Rowland, Sister Catherine Sarther, SSND, Nadia Todres

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