

INTERNATIONAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

PROJECT 9005



Cross International

Delivering Food, Shelter and Hope in the Name of Jesus

Education for the Poor

— Worldwide —



Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew,
like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants.

Deuteronomy 32:2



We are a ministry

that serves the poorest of the poor internationally by channeling aid through existing churches or church-based ministries, cost-effectively helping the poor while advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Rather than create new institutions to distribute aid, we support existing ministries and churches already serving the poor. In addition to being the most cost-effective way of helping the poor, empowering these ministries allows us to support the Church's spiritual mission and its important position of leadership in poor communities.

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach.

We invite you to join with us as we seek to transform the lives of the poor materially and spiritually — ways that please the Father and glorify Him in Heaven and on earth.





Project Synopsis

Description

This project will empower Cross International's Christian ministry partners to provide education programs for the children of the poor.

Purpose

The goal is to lay a solid academic and spiritual foundation, so children can escape poverty and become pillars of their communities and witnesses to the love of Christ.

Our Partners

Pastors, missionaries and church members serving the poor in developing countries.

Location

Worldwide.

Highlights

- In developing countries, the poorest families are unable to send their children to school. As a result, children are deprived of the basic academic skills they need for future employment, and they become trapped in the cycle of poverty.
- Cross International partners with ministries throughout the developing world that strive to give the poor access to education. Our vision is to nurture children academically and also spiritually.
- With an education and knowledge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, poor children will be equipped for true success.
- Your generous gift is needed to fill critical funding gaps, so destitute children will be able to attend Christian schools and trade programs, and benefit from other life-changing educational initiatives.



How much better to get wisdom than gold,
to get insight rather than silver!

Proverbs 16:16



The Need

A quality education is often the best path out of poverty. That's why so many impoverished families are desperately trying to open that door of opportunity. They know the fate of their children depends on it.

Unfortunately — in spite of the parents' valiant efforts — this important educational advantage remains out of reach for many poor children. The cost of school fees, textbooks and uniforms is simply too high. Forced to choose between buying food or sending their kids to class, parents are compelled to focus on providing a meal to ensure basic survival. Caught in this impossible circumstance, their children never learn to read or write, and the cycle of poverty continues for another generation.

These children are the “least of these” Christ calls us to serve in Matthew 25:40. They desperately need a compassionate friend — not just to help them achieve their dreams, but also to enable them to dream at all. For many of these boys and girls, a life beyond subsistence level farming or begging on a street corner or scavenging a city dump is beyond their imagination. They expect to die as they were born — in poverty and squalor.

It's up to the followers of Jesus to give them hope! It's up to you to open the door of opportunity! With a quality Christian education, these children will be able to achieve more than their families ever imagined was possible.

Today, you can help Cross International answer Christ's call to serve the least of these by ensuring that even the poorest children can go to school and receive a solid academic and spiritual foundation for their lives. Cross International has a plan and a track record of success, but we need your help to make this dream a reality!



In developing countries, many children come from homes surviving on as little as \$2 a day and often have no money for education, as they struggle just to put food on the table.

“I tell the kids, there are two things you need in life: You need Jesus Christ, and you need an education. If you have these two things, you will make it in life.”

Pastor Henri Gaetjens, Cross International ministry partner in Haiti



Ministry Description

Cross International supports quality Christian schools and educational programs in developing countries around the world. These programs have the potential to make a huge impact in the lives of disadvantaged children, but they cannot achieve their full vision without help from benefactors like you. By funding teacher salaries, school lunches, student scholarships, tutoring programs and other educational needs, your support will keep kids in the classroom and free their families from having to make the painful choice between school or food. The opportunities you can unlock include everything from primary/secondary schools to technical training. Through this support, boys and girls in countries such as Haiti, Ecuador and Nicaragua will be nurtured and equipped for success, so they can break out of poverty and become role models in their communities.

Below is just one example of the many programs that depend on your support.



“My teacher is a good teacher. She loves me. Before I came, I didn’t know how to read and write.”

Dadoute Pierre, 16,
restavek student at an MEBSH school

MEBSH Restavek Schools

In Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, poor families struggle to provide for basic needs of their children. In desperation, parents will often send their child away to be a restavek, Haiti’s version of an indentured child-servant. These parents are hoping to give their child a chance at survival, but instead, it can turn into a hopeless and tormented life.

To shine the light of Christ into darkness, Evangelical Baptist Mission of South Haiti (Mission Evangelique Baptiste du Sud D’Haiti — MEBSH) gives students who are restaveks and other vulnerable children the opportunity to become literate by offering classes throughout southern Haiti. These Christian schools not only break the bonds of illiteracy, but they also share the love of Jesus with children desperate for purpose, healing and hope. For children who have long suffered hardship because of this long-practiced cultural tradition, the schools are an oasis from their troubles.

“We believe that the fear of God is the beginning of knowledge,” said Sincere Jean, a staff member at MEBSH. “Knowing how to read and write is the beginning of life. Almost 80 percent of children don’t want to stop going to school after they finish. The program ignites their interest and opens their eyes. We try to integrate them into church and society.”

In addition to providing education for restavek children, they are fed daily meals at school. For some children, this is the only meal they eat all day.

MEBSH is also taking steps to prevent children from becoming restaveks altogether. The staff and teachers are strategically placing new schools in rural areas, near the poorest families. The idea is to prevent children from becoming restaveks by placing schools in their villages that will allow them to receive daily nutrition and become literate. This allows MEBSH to build up poor communities, while strengthening individual families.



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Help Now!

Education remains an important key to open the doors of opportunity for poor boys and girls, and your gift toward that cause can change the lives of some of the world's most destitute children!

Please partner with us to show Christ's mercy to the poor through the provision of a quality education. Your generous support will help fill critical funding gaps and meet the most urgent needs of the academic programs we fund, so that vulnerable boys and girls will be empowered for a brighter future. For these children, access to an education can mean the difference between a hand-to-mouth existence and a life of dreams come true.

By supporting these academic outreaches, you will also advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ and advocate for the poor. Through transformative programs such as MEBSH schools, believers in Jesus can be a source of hope in impoverished communities, demonstrating God's love and revealing His Word to the next generation.

Join us today and help nurture the bodies, minds and souls of vulnerable children!

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 9:10

Our Promise to You!

Proceeds from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2019, the close of our ministry's fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.

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