



Annual Report

2024

Provide. Protect. Prepare.





Table of Contents

→ Our Children's Accomplishments	02	→ Employee of the year	07
→ Our Children's Challenges	03	→ Employee of the year (cont.)	08
→ Our Donors	04	→ What we are working on for 2025	09
→ Our Leadership	05	→ What we are working on for 2025 (cont.)	10
→ 2024 New employees	06	→ Contact us	11

Our Children's Accomplishments

This year, we welcomed two-year-old Samuel and 15-year-old Mackenzie from Port-au-Prince, 14-year-old Malaika from St. Louis du Nord, and 13-year-old Jeffly. Jeffly only stayed with us for two days. All three children adjusted to their new home and are doing well. Two-year-old Samuel came to us, unable to walk. We hired a physical therapist to work with him at the house. One month into the therapy, he began gaining strength in his legs and was able to take steps with assistance without crying. In our next annual report, we look forward to reporting that Samuel is walking alone.

Two of our young ladies, Angella Lartigue and Jenifer Toussaint, took the eighth-grade national exam in the fall. Jenifer passed, but Angella missed the mark by just a few points. We celebrated both since it was a great accomplishment for these two young ladies to have taken this exam and performed well. Both Angella and Jenifer will transition out of our program in 2025. Jenifer will work as one of three tutors at the orphanage. At the same time, we search for other employment opportunities for Angella.

Since July 2023, our longtime partners and friends, the Zehring family, have supported our children's vocational program through our sister organization, Sonje Ayiti. This program taught the children to sew, paint, artisan work, English, computer, and dance. Several of the children have excelled so much that they were able to assist in making their uniforms for the 2024-2025 school year. *(Pictures of activities at CHO AIDS & CIMA)*



Our Children's Challenges

All our children's HIV disease is under control; that is, they are all undetectable. Still, one of them, 16-year-old Ricardinho, developed asthma-related symptoms, which led to him being hospitalized for two weeks at the New Hope Hospital. Though there was no medical cost to his hospitalization, we spent much on medications and transportation. In addition to his HIV, Ricardinho is being monitored for asthma but is doing better now.

Other challenges our children encountered were the need for dental and mental health care. This year, several of our children struggled with dental issues, and despite our limited financial capacity, we sent six of the children to a dentist for acute dental care. Due to severe trauma experiences prior to coming to CHOIDS, several children needed to see a mental health professional. Our social worker, Ms. Denjina, became overwhelmed in her work with the children, along with assisting some of the staff members in processing mental health issues. In late 2024, a part-time psychologist was hired to assist.

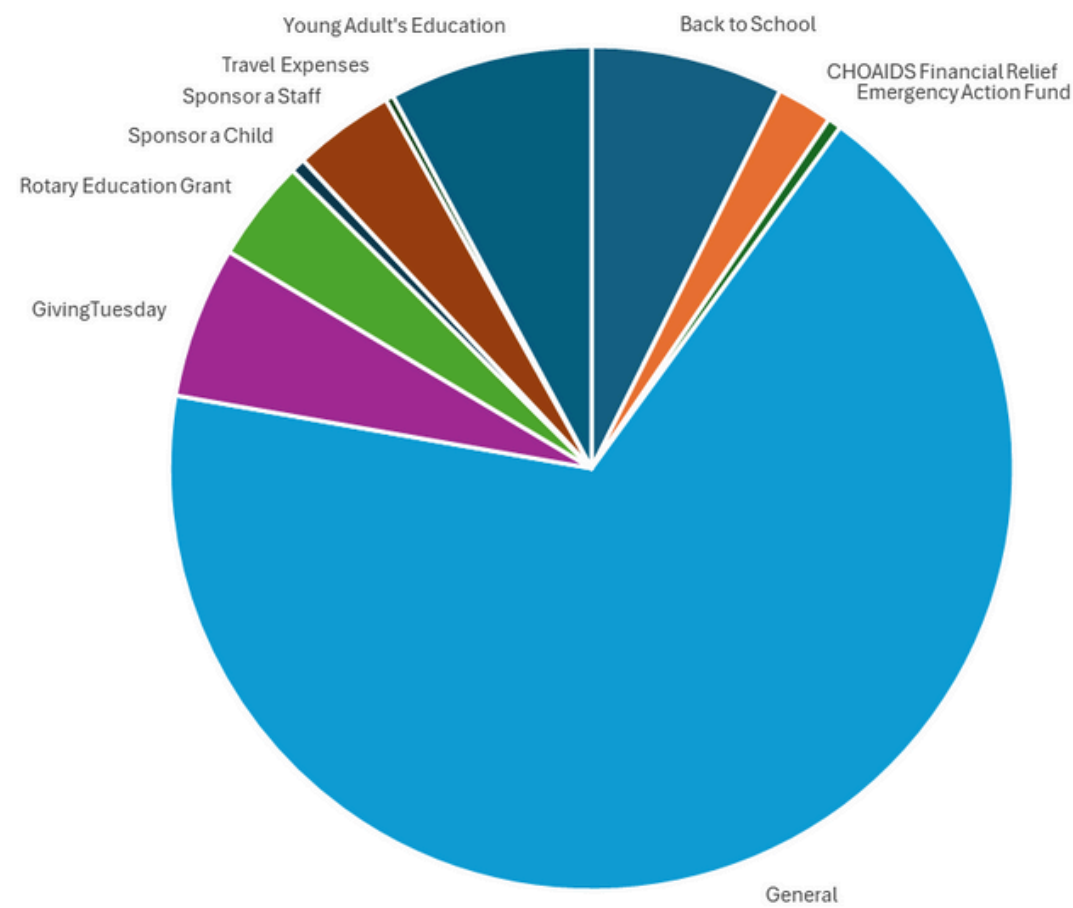
As one of the three public health professionals on our board, Dr. Rita has reminded us that dental and mental health care are part of basic healthcare we should strive to provide for our children.



Our Donors

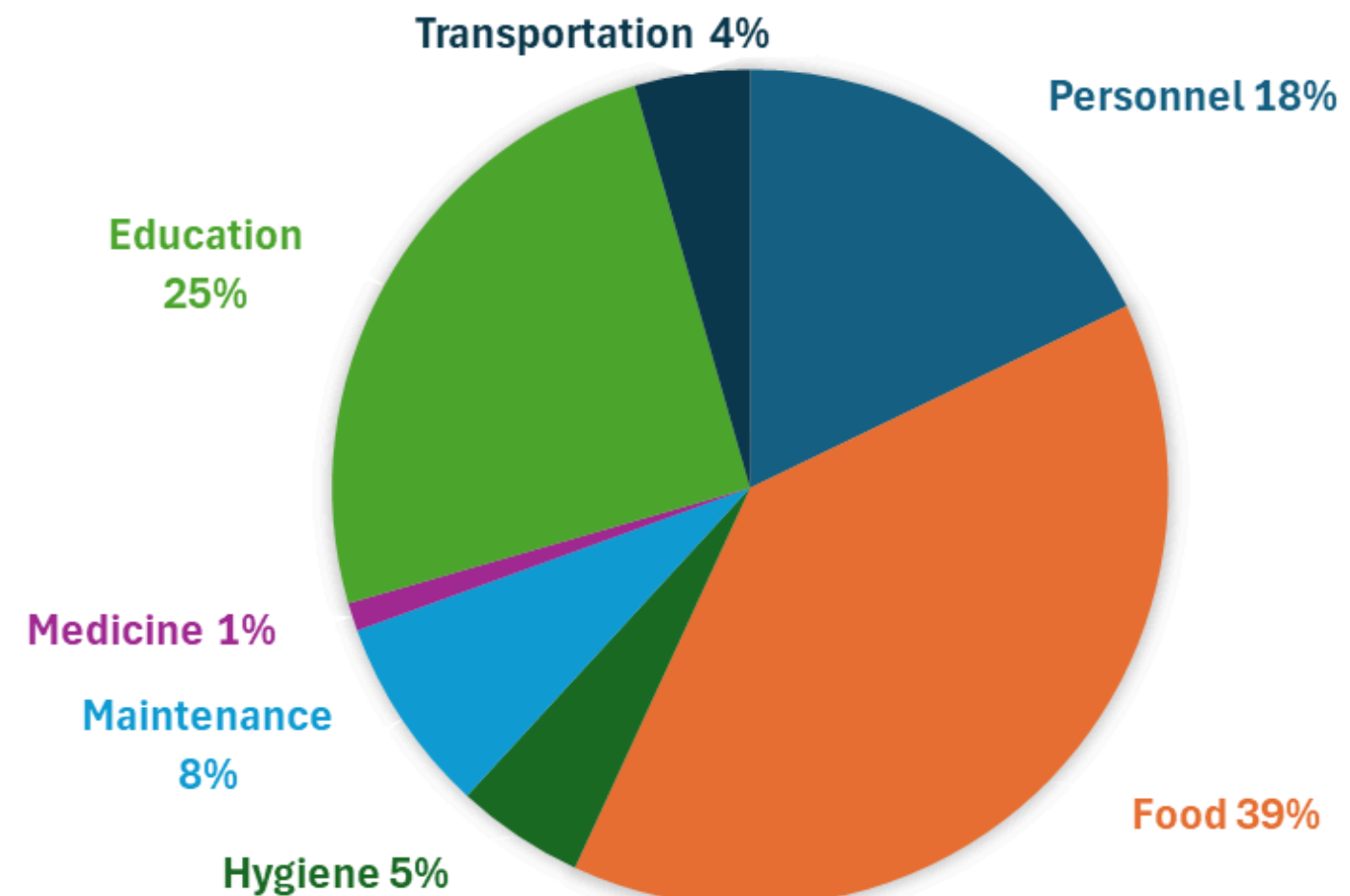
Thank you to everyone who donated to CHO AIDS in 2024. You are among 108 people who contributed toward the **\$206,302** raised to support the 24 children in our care. We do not receive any funding from the Haitian government or international funds designated for organizations within Haiti. We truly appreciate your commitment and dedication to CHO AIDS; without your support, we would not have been able to provide for the children in our program. Below, you will find pie charts that illustrate our campaigns and how we utilized the funds raised.

2024 Donations by Campaign

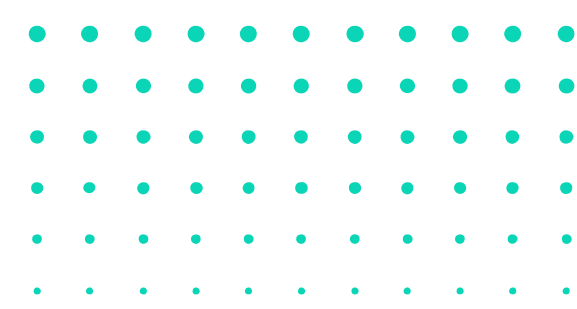


- Back to School
- CHO AIDS Financial Relief Emergency Action Fund
- Emergency Action Fund
- General
- GivingTuesday
- Rotary Education Grant
- Sponsor a Child
- Sponsor a Staff
- Travel Expenses
- Young Adult's Education

2024 EXPENSES



Our Leadership

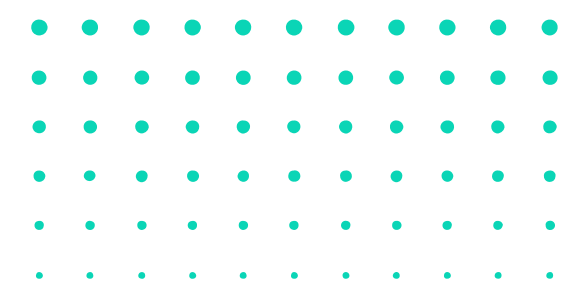


Our leadership changed in December 2023, and **Dr. Rita** became our board chair. As a public health practitioner, she helped us with more than just meeting our children’s basic needs. In addition to giving monthly, on several occasions, she did not hesitate to give toward specific efforts, including setting up and funding dental and mental health care for our children and making sure we attended the Children Alliance For Orphans (CAFO) conference in Nashville, TN, in September. We celebrate Dr. Rita for moving us together as a cohesive team toward a holistic care model for our children.

Our seven-member volunteer board has been crucial in supporting CHOAIDS's mission, vision, and values through their time, talents, and financial contributions. However, **Mr. John Hill**'s dedication and love for the children are truly unmatched as our longest-serving board member. John traveled to Haiti in 1998 and was involved with International Child Care before joining CHOAIDS through Grace Children’s following the devastating earthquake in Port-au-Prince on January 12, 2010. His unwavering commitment to the children is extraordinary and inspiring. John's incredible fundraising efforts have successfully brought in resources from individuals we would never have met otherwise.



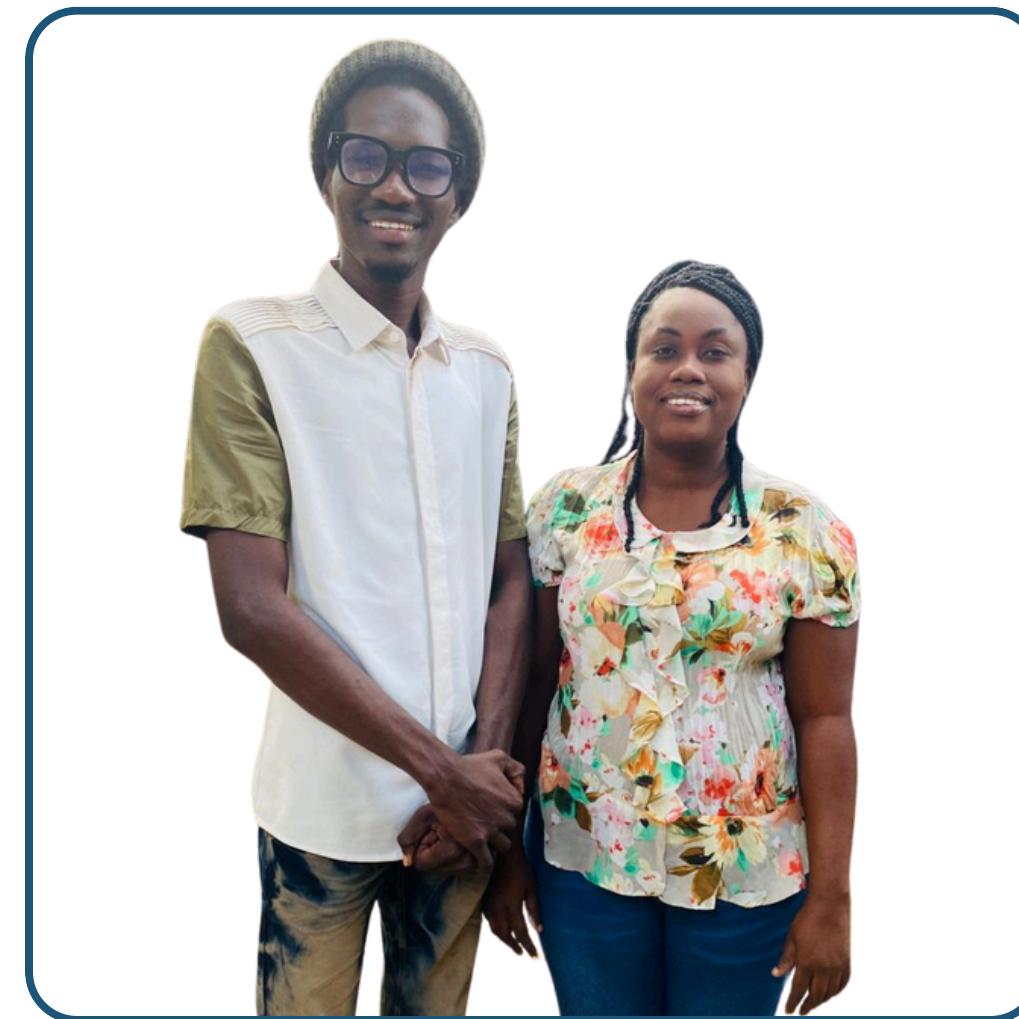
2024 New Employees



In 2024, we welcomed three new professionals to our team: a full-time nurse, Ms. Mexandra Prejuste, a part-time psychologist, Mr. Vertho Cadet, and a part-time on-site director, Michelin Etienne. Each individual brought skills that our organization needed for years. Ms. Prejuste's role at CHOAIDS is unmatched. Like the nurse before her, she has expressed much love for the children and assumed her role in meeting their medical needs. We thank our board chair, Dr. Rita Smith, for financially supporting Mr. Cadet. Michelin's position is our first shared position between us and another organization. Since being in his post since September, he has helped us get our name into circles that were not familiar with our work. We look forward to growing with each individual as an organization in 2025.

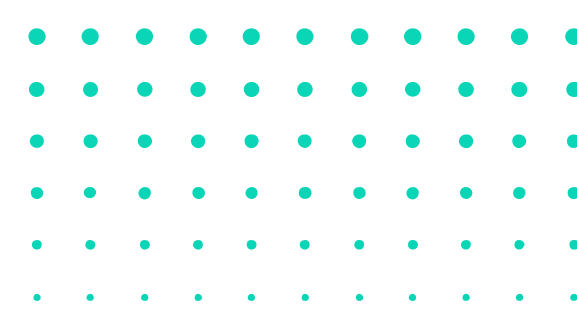


Michelin Etienne



Mr. Vertho Cadet and Ms. Mexandra Prejuste

Employees of the Year

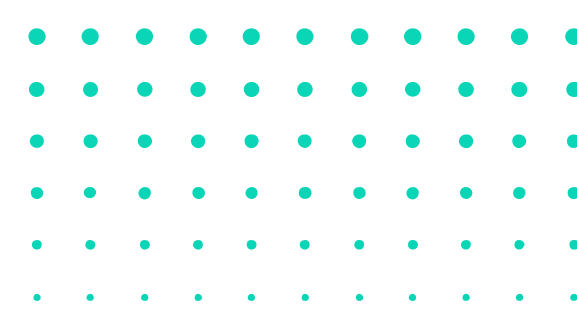


Since 2023, we have initiated a program to recognize two staff members each year by awarding them an additional \$50 on top of their annual bonus in appreciation for their contributions to our organization. This year, we are pleased to spotlight our social worker, Ms. Denjina Placide, and one of our caretakers, Ms. Venise Louis, for their outstanding work.



Denjina Placide is a dedicated individual who, from the moment you meet her, seems destined for her work at CHOAIDS. She is a trained social worker who graduated from Université Roi Henri Christophe in Limonade, Haiti and was the first employee we hired in Cap-Haïtien. Denjina has been with us since June 2023 and has taken on multiple roles in the lives of the children we serve. As the children's social worker, she has acted as a mental health counselor, caretaker for the children and staff members, and a confidant for many. In September 2023, she stepped into the role of social media specialist, where she has truly excelled. Denjina, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for everything you have done for our children, and we hope you will continue this journey with us for many years to come.

Employees of the Year



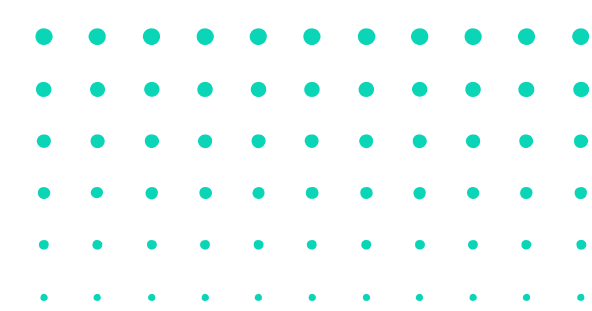
Venise Louis is one of four women who provide direct care to children aged infants to seven. She joined us at the age of 13, having already endured significant hurt and rejection from her family due to her HIV status. In June 2016, Venise became our first internal hire to help launch our transition program, assuming the caretaker role for the younger children.

As one of the live-in mothers, Venise takes the children to and from their doctors' appointments and attends to their daily needs. She is also one of the two women responsible for administering ARV medications. In recent years, she has demonstrated exceptional dedication to ensuring that our children take their medications on time. Our team credits Venise for the children's HIV status being undetectable, a result of her commitment to their health and well-being through consistent medication adherence.

We are deeply grateful for Venise's contributions and hope she continues to thrive with our organization for many years. Learn more about Venise here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y10fvLpYZaA>



What we are working on for 2025



One of the former graduates and employees, **Zacharie Vilme**, will enroll in a four-year college to study social work in February 2025. As an organization, we are thrilled that one of the children is heading to university. After exiting our program in February 2022, Zacharie remained on our staff as a teacher but still studied for the national high school test with the dream of going to university, even though he was not sure what he wanted to study. After watching our social worker, Ms. Denjina Placide, and seeing how much she loves her job with the children, Zacharie was inspired. Ms. Denjina and Mr. Cadet worked with Zacharie to prepare for the entrance exam last November. Among 149 potential students who took the exam, he was one of 35 accepted into the program. We look forward to helping Zacharie locate the financial support he needs to complete his bachelor's degree in social work. Should you wish to contribute to Zacharie's education, please contact us.

A shop-store project to promote employment after CHOAIDS: Our kids have worked on many beautiful artistic pieces that we believe will interest both locals and those abroad. We plan to open a combined shop-store where our children and others in the community with sewing and artistic skills can rent space to work and sell their items. We look forward to developing this entrepreneurial idea that will generate much-needed employment for our older children to become self-sufficient as they transition into adulthood.



What we are working on for 2025

- We are excited to announce that we will be hosting our first fundraising event in Tallahassee to raise money for our children's education. We hope that our donors, along with their friends and families, will attend and support this wonderful cause. More details about the event will be sent out via email and postal mail, including information on how you can contribute. Whether it's through ticket purchases, donations, or volunteering, there are many ways to get involved.
- Our urgent need to secure transportation for our children by purchasing a small bus to take them to and from school, medical appointments, and recreation activities has not changed. Your support is crucial in addressing this issue.
- We want to continue creating post-high school education opportunities, including trade and university education.
- Build a handwashing station and continue to expand the children's library.





Please make a financial contribution to support this life-changing work for children living with HIV in Haiti. Every donation counts, no matter how small. In 2024, the cost to care for each child is \$8,666, which breaks down to ***\$722 per month, \$144 per week, or just \$23 per day***. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help us care for our children today and prepare them for a brighter future.

Contact Us



Website

www.choaids.org



Phone

912) 515-1172

((440) 963-9512



E-mail

info@choaids.org



Social Media



Caring for Haitians Orphans with AIDS, Inc.



Mailing address

P.O. Box 5135

Tallahassee, FL 32314

