



access

Allowing Children a Chance at Education

Greetings Secondary Schools of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board!

My name is Daniel Francavilla, and as a recent graduate of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, I'm proud to be presenting to you our student-run organization, **ACCESS: Allowing Children a Chance at Education, Inc.** Our registered non-profit organization was founded after I returned from an Exposure Trip to the **Dominican Republic** with fellow students and Chaplain **Tony Whelan** in February 2006. Since then, several youth have joined the cause of education in the developing world, and have been raising money and giving presentations for two years.

Through ACCESS, I've had the opportunity to make presentations at several schools within the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. Last May, I presented in the DPCDSB Catholic Education Centre chapel during **Catholic Education Week**, and in June at the **BEACON Family of Schools Youth Faith Ambassadors Retreat**.

After meeting with **Superintendent Cathy Saytar** and then being referred to **Superintendent of Program Marianne Mazzorato**, ACCESS has been eager to begin sharing our message. This year, ACCESS has been assigned to work individuals such as **Shelagh Peterson, Coordinator of Religious Education and Faith Formation**, in implementing initiatives within the board.

We have been in communication with the board since spring of 2008, however the particular project to which you will be introduced in this document requires a more urgent timeline. **This is what leads us to the long-awaited opportunity to reach out to the schools of the board through their Principals, Religion Department Heads, and Chaplains, and make a difference by providing a Haitian student with the chance to attend University.**

www.accesscharity.ca/chaplains.htm

Who is Phaniel Estinvil?

Phaniel is a young man born and raised in Haiti. He is the son of Reverend Miradiou Estinvil, a Baptist pastor. French is Phaniel's first language, but he has been learning English. Phaniel has been accepted into university in Haiti, but is unable to afford the costs, and therefore requires our assistance. ACCESS was first made aware of Phaniel by Stella Petrone, a retired Catholic high school religion teacher from Mississauga, who has dedicated herself to taking students and adults to Haiti and the Dominican Republic to expose them to poverty around the world.

A Message from Phaniel's Parents

Dear: Daniel Francavilla and ACCESS Charity

October 2008

Thank you for your willing to help our son Phaniel Estinvil. It has taken long to look for University for him, he chooses to study engineering in communication, we didn't find that option/choice for him in Haiti, finally he chooses management/administration.

We find this option in **Université notre Dame D'Haiti (UNDH) Faculté des Sciences Economiques Sociales et Politiques (FSESP)**. We have reservation for next year if it will be possible. The price is 1726.70 \$US per year + about 200 \$US monthly for daily transportation (**\$3,330 per year**).

Any more information you will need feel free to ask. As you help students in other country like Republic Dominican or if you can send him any other country to study, you are welcome. Thank you a lots, we pray daily for that dream to become a reality.

Miradiou & Dienata Estinvil

We wait for your answer

Haiti Phone # 011 509 2458 1120

Why chaplains and their schools should support this scholarship

Why can't Phaniel just earn the money, or find a local scholarship?

Haiti is the most impoverished nation in the Western Hemisphere. Over 80% of Haiti's people live in abject poverty and the unemployment rate is 70% to 80%. Even if Phaniel were to get a job, half of Haiti's population earns only \$60 or less per year.

Why is taking on this project so significant?

Being inspired by Phaniel's story allows students to become responsible for another student's future, and that of his entire community. Normally, the chances of Phaniel, or any student from Haiti, receiving a post-secondary education is extremely rare. Phaniel has worked tirelessly on his studies for the past several years, and has been accepted into university. Your school can be a part of this positive, global change - proving to students that they can make a difference!

Why are Chaplains and Religion Department Heads facilitating this?

As part of our Catholic faith we believe in helping one another, as you know. Regardless of our differences in race, denomination, location, or economic status, we are all God's people and must show compassion to our brothers and sisters around the world. Completing this project would truly exemplify that we are all one body in Christ. The fact is that the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is one of the largest school districts in Ontario. Today there are 23 secondary schools, with over 33,000 high school students - each with a Chaplain to help spread the word.

What can Chaplains and Secondary Schools do to help?

Strength in Numbers: By simply asking students to donate \$1 for ONE of their dress-down days in the board's 23 secondary schools, we would have together raised more than enough money for Phaniel Estinvil's Catholic university education for his entire four years!

Easy and Effective Help: Taking Action Today!

For your next regularly scheduled **Dress Down Day**, ask each student to bring in \$2 for this cause, in order to dress down. Or, hold an additional Dress Down Day, with students aware of the specific cause at hand. (Any additional funds collected will be allocated to our school in Jamaica).

Other Ways Schools Can Get Involved with ACCESS Charity

- > Inviting ACCESS to Make a Presentation at Your School
- > Participating in the Student Contests Program
- > Hosting a School Supply Drive
- > Contributing to the Speak Up for Change Journalism Program
- > Fundraising for a Primary School in Jamaica or Colombia

Further Contact and Monetary Details

Cheques can be made payable to "ACCESS: Allowing Children a Chance at Education, Inc." and you will be sent a letter acknowledging your school's contribution. Please feel free to include a letter or email stating how your school decided to raise the money, any message your students or staff may have for Phaniel. If you have any questions, please visit our website and feel free to contact us at any time via email at info@accesscharity.ca. Thanks for your time and dedication!

Daniel Francavilla, Founder

ACCESS: Allowing Children a Chance at Education, Inc.

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