

Musicians for Missions 2010

Composing A Future For The Children of Haiti



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AREA MUSICIANS PERFORM TO STANDING OVATIONS FOR THE CHILDREN OF HAITI

Maternal and infant mortality rates in Haiti are the highest in the western hemisphere. One of every twelve women die during childbirth, while one of every five children die before the age of five. Local Carteret County resident & musician, Ginger Garner, is changing that by organizing and performing in a concert last Friday night. A concert she hopes will become a regular fixture for fundraising across the state of North Carolina.

MUSICIANS FOR MISSIONS (M4M) 2010 – March 5, 2010 marked the first M4M concert event, founded by Ginger Garner, a nationally recognized advocate for maternal and child health. Since 1992, Ginger's humanitarian work has taken her across the United States from New York City to Alaska, and has affected the lives of women and children as far away as Afghanistan. Now her focus is Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere. Ginger's vision for the Haiti Initiative Service is to help revitalize, rebuild, and renew Haiti through maternal and child health initiatives, which include education, public health, and medical missions.

FUNDRAISING FOCUS - A fund raising event for the people of Haiti, including a concert, raised over \$6,700 (early estimates show) on March 5, Friday evening in Swansboro. The fund-raising event is part of the Haiti Initiative Service (HIS), a joint effort of M4M, national and local corporations, Public Radio East (Official Media Sponsor), and Swansboro United Methodist Church. One-hundred per cent of the money is going to help the children, especially orphans, of Haiti.

Following a dinner sponsored by the SUMC Methodist Men, some 450 Eastern North Carolinians enjoyed a two-hour concert, featuring two dozen extremely talented North Carolina musicians. They included Ginger Garner, the Sine Nominee Singers, and several regional musicians. The Singers were directed by Public East Radio broadcaster Finley Woolston, who was emcee of the event along with Ginger Garner. The concert drew high praise and a standing ovation at the conclusion from those who attended. See www.music4haiti.org and www.gingergarner.com to see concert reviews, photographs, and video.

The January 12th earthquake in Haiti brought untold destruction and hardship, speeding up dedication and efforts to help those in need. Since May 2009 the Haiti Initiative Service at SUMC has raised almost \$50,000 to directly benefit Haiti.

If you would like more information about this topic or would like to schedule an interview with Ginger Garner and the Haiti Initiative Service, please contact Ginger Garner at 252.725.3619 or ginger@gingergarner.com. Also visit the website at www.Music4Haiti.org.

*photo taken by Al Carpenter, missionary to Haiti in July 2009, in the village of Cotin, Haiti. He was on his lunch break from a medical mission in the village, and was taking a walk with other missionaries when he spotted this little girl standing outside her home.