“We can’t close our eyes—we must take action and work to radically transform the lives of the most vulnerable children with impactful programs targeted to their needs”
OUR STORY

Haiti Now (Ayiti Now Corp) is a non-profit organization headquartered in Miami Beach, Florida. Immediately after the January 2010 earthquake, we landed in Haiti with a strong desire to help. The initiative to respond to the medical emergency started with Uchenna Aningo, PA-C. Haiti Now was founded by Alex Lizzappi during those days after the earthquake to assist effectively the people in need.

Haiti Now is working on behalf of restavek children have typically focused on raising awareness, engaging host families, encouraging education, and a variety of short-term solutions. But it hasn’t been enough.

Haiti-Now has worked to improve the lives of 600+ impoverished children in Haiti since 2010. Our goal is to successfully empower former restavek girls to achieve a lifetime of emotional and economic self-reliance.

Every girl—every single one—deserves the safety, education, and opportunity to grow up free of poverty and exploitation. We empower Haitian girls living in domestic servitude to achieve self-reliant and economically secure futures.
Haiti-Now (Ayiti Now Corp) is dedicated to provide Haiti’s most vulnerable girls with a safe housing, healthcare, an accelerated education, and entrepreneurial mentorship to help them develop the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to achieve an economically secure future.
OUR DRIVE

Our Vision
To see girls in domestic servitude overcome extreme poverty, heal emotional trauma, and live rewarding lives.

Our Conviction
We can’t close our eyes, we must take action. Together we can help Haiti’s restavek girls radically transform their lives. The time is now.

www.haiti-now.org  786.664.7747  info.hno@haiti-now.org
Today in Haiti, a quarter of a million girls—compelled by extreme poverty, social isolation, and lack of access to food and education—live in a state of domestic servitude. Known locally as restaveks, their lives are spent performing menial labor without pay, without education, without nutrition, and without hope. In the absence of family, full citizenship, and basic human rights, they endure physical, emotional, and sexual trauma.
Restavek is a long-standing practice in Haiti, where impoverished families send their children who are mostly girls to live with families who are better off to be cared for in exchange for domestic services.

1 Of Every 4 is the number of Unpaid Child Domestic Workers (Age 5-17) in Haiti

Restavek also describes the system in which these vulnerable children are neglected, abused, and exploited. Finally, it describes a childhood marked by neglect, isolation, and fear.
OUR SOLUTION

Despite this complex situation, together we can make a difference. We have developed a long-term solution to house, educate, and empower former Restavek girls.
OUR PROGRAMS

Working primarily with restavek children allowed us to more fully understand the trauma they endured, the complex forces shaping their lives, and the insufficient assistance they received.

Our comprehensive program levels take a fully engaged, hands-on approach. We hold ourselves responsible for each girl’s emotional development, physical health, social and cognitive growth, and academic achievement.

These programs create opportunities for Restavek girls to take control of their own lives while contributing to their families and communities.
SAFE HOUSE

If a girl manages to escape the restavek system she often has nowhere to go. Forced to live in the streets, they endure even more trauma while facing a significant risk of falling victim to child traffickers. Our safe-house provides a secure living environment and nurturing community.

What will the Haiti Now Home provide?

Accelerated Education  Mentoring
Health Care  Arts & Sports
Emotional Support  Healthy Socialization

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Access to education is an essential step in overcoming poverty and exploitation.

With a 15:1 student-to-teacher ratio, they will receive individual attention to help them develop socially, emotionally, and intellectually.

Every girl enrolled in our accelerated education program will attain a sixth-grade in just three years.

Our accelerated education program provides restavek girls with:

- Education Excellence
- Human Empowerment
- Universal Mindset
- Technological Foundation
- Social-Emotional learning
- Cognitive Skills
- 21st Century Skills
- Extracurricular activities
HEALTHCARE & EMOTIONAL COUNSELING

Throughout Haiti, access to adequate healthcare is severely limited. Haiti-Now provides full physical and mental health coverage to each girl. Healing their mental and emotional wounds is every bit as important as caring for their physical well-being.

BUSINESS INCUBATOR

In addition to providing alumni vocational training, we also provide access to a two-year business incubator and microcredit.

Students will also choose from 2 of the following incubator programs:

- “DIY” Business Option
- “Ready-Made” Business Option
Since 2010, Haiti-Now has been dedicated to improving the lives of impoverished children in Haiti through education. We partnered with a community school and established a successful Book Bank, distributing thousands of text books to hundreds of disadvantaged children. We provided literacy interventions, teacher training, tuition, housing, healthcare, and food assistance.
Alex Lizzappi is a successful entrepreneur living in Miami. His commitment to restavek children stems from his own experience as a marginalized child. Orphaned at age six and homeless by sixteen, Alex was nevertheless able to rise above his circumstances by reaching out for help. The kindness, generosity, and support he received fueled his ongoing desire to help other disenfranchised children.

Profoundly shaken by the devastating impact on children caused by the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, Alex launched Haiti Now. From the outset, he understood the importance of education in helping these children overcome their situation. Over years he successfully distributed thousands of textbooks to scores of children. He also began developing a plan for a safe house and accelerated education program that would also address the girl’s healthcare needs while preparing them for an economically secure future.