



A healthy Christian home and family for every Haitian child.

## House Parent Position Description

One of the ways in which Children of the Promise (COTP) serves in Haiti is by providing foster care to orphaned and abandoned children, until an adoption can be facilitated and the child is united with their forever family. The goals of this care are twofold: 1) to provide an excellent safe, loving, Christian home environment where the children have ample opportunity for healthy growth and development, and 2) prepare each child for the hopeful transition of them being adopted by a forever family. This directly correlates to COTP's vision of a healthy Christian family for every Haitian child. To accomplish these goals, our approach is to provide foster care in Child Homes. House Parents, along with their Haitian staff counterparts, are the consistent caregiver/s for the 6-8 children of mixed ages in their home. House Parents work with a Haitian support staff (caregivers), as well as with other staff and volunteer support, to do their best to meet the needs of each child in their home.

### House Parent Duties and Responsibilities:

- Function as the primary caregiver for each child in your home based on their specific background and needs. This will include, but is not limited to:
  - Strive to create an environment for the children in your home that fosters healthy attachment with you.
  - Serve as the main advocate at COTP for the needs of each child in your home.
  - Give time and attention to the needs of children in your home.
  - Develop and implement individualized care plans for each child in the home, in collaboration with Foster Care leadership and COTP staff who can elaborate on each child's needs (medical, emotional, etc.)
  - Provide opportunities for the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and social development of children in your home.
  - Discipline/guidance
- Managing the home and it's systems
  - Household budget
  - Nannies/caregivers
  - Menu
  - Schedule and routine
  - Household maintenance: cleanliness and organization
  - Safety and security
  - Record keeping and reporting

\*House Parents have historically taken on additional roles at COTP, and this is something we remain open to. However, it is expected that House Parenting is the primary role, with the majority of their focus and time directed toward the children in their home.





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### **House Parent Expectations:**

- Prior to beginning your role, house parents will complete foster parenting training. This may include a combination of COTP's Foster Care training curriculum and external foster care training resources available to you. After beginning the role, house parents will engage in continuing education/training related to their role as provided by COTP.
- House Parents are expected to build into the child home community through a commitment to teamwork, support, and respect for other houseparents, caregivers, and foster children.
- Due to the complexity of the role of foster parenting, house parents will not be allowed to start the adoption process during their time as House Parents. House parents could potentially adopt from COTP at the conclusion of a commitment, if they meet the guidelines for adoption.
- Completion of a Creole language acquisition program. COTP will support HPs with resources and time to commit to this.
- Fundraising: House Parents will be expected to raise funds to cover their expenses.

### **House Parent Criterion (minimum requirements to be considered for the position)**

- Must clearly express their faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior, and also demonstrate a lifestyle of living out one's faith.
- Preferred 2-3 years experience as a parent, as a foster parent, and/or working with children ages 0-10 years old.
- Demonstrates a level of perspective and maturity as a result of their previous life experiences.
- Minimum two-year commitment.
- Complete and clear a criminal background check for working within a vulnerable sector.
- May be single or married.
- COTP is open to house parents that have children of their own who will be coming with them, but families with more than 2 children will not be considered.
- If House Parents have children, youngest child must be older than oldest foster child in the home.
- Stable physical, mental, and emotional well-being.
- If you are grieving a major loss/life change, we strongly encourage you to allow enough time before proceeding with this process.

### **The following will be requested for applicants COTP contacts for interview:**

- Life Story/autobiography for each House Parent
- Provides past employment and personal references
- A trip to Haiti would be required during the interview process prior to an applicant being accepted for the position.





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