



Where There is Water There is Life Water for a Dry and Thirsty Land

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Enhancing Trust

NEWSLETTER

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Bad environment but warm welcome!



In Gilotte/Leogâne there is no water source in the village. The people have to travel more than a kilometer to reach the place where they usually draw water for their many needs. We decided then to follow the children to where they get their water. Upon arrival we were surprised by the children's shouts and cheerful songs that contrasted severely with the hostile and wild environment. In fact, the place, far from resembling an oasis, was rather like a marsh with puddles of muddy water where there swarmed hundreds of thousands of frog larvae.

That's where we met 8 years old Mistale, or rather half of Mistale, because her head and part of her body disappeared into a rocky hole! While we were getting ready to go to her rescue, she pulled out her head and gave a big smile as she stretched out a bowl of surprisingly clear water. That was Gilotte's water source!

For Mistale and most people in the village, they assume clear water means good water. They do not know that the stomach aches, diarrhea, and death that sometime follows were directly related to the consumption of this contaminated beverage.

While many children in Gilotte have already died from water-borne diseases, fortunately many are still alive. But for how long? Without a proper source of good water, dire consequences remain a certain threat.

Drilling wells and installing hand pumps in villages such as Mistale's remain the solution to the loss of these innocent lives.

When you provide for clean water you provide the essentials to health because:

1-Pure drinking water reduces risk of water-borne infectious diseases.

2-Money does not need to be spent on medications but may rather be used for education and good food.

3-Healthy children go to school, help with the chores, and become healthy adults.

While the environment of Gilotte was undoubtedly hostile, the welcome we received was very warm!

Help keep the flame of life in these children and give them the gift of a well!



Back to school soon...A Child is Counting on You!

For kids as for parents, back to school can generate a good dose of stress. No matter which country you come from or the language you speak or your religion, you know how important it is to be well prepared for this event. No kid wants to attract attention because his parents have neglected to buy something important. Not the best way to make a good impression!

No matter what, children are happy to find their buddies, and parents are proud to participate in their children's learning process.

Back-to-school stress for most Haitian parents is quite different. Sadly, access to education in Haiti remains a theory, not a reality for more than 30 % of the people (EMMUS V 2012). It can be a question of being able to provide the school supplies, shoes, uniform, and school books, but then not having the

means to pay the school fees which remain an obligation in all private or public schools.



Very limited public investment in Education (more or less 10% of the national budget), massive poverty of more than 70% of the population, unfavorable social practices, and recurring crises such as natural disasters (Hurricane Matthew on October 4th 2016) make that there are two back-to-school dates in Haiti. The official one is in September for the better-off. The non-official one starts in January for many others. Among the children most affected by limited access of education are those in rural areas. In addition to having to miss the first three months of school, too many children do not have access to school books, school supplies OR a balanced diet. Furthermore they have heavy household responsibilities such as water collection, cattle keeping and harvest assistance from time to time. Faced with the challenges of their schooling, many feel they have no choice but to drop out. But without education or money these children will surely end up in the grip of dire poverty and misery.

Thanks to the support and constant prayers of many sons and daughters of God, Divine Help School in Paswadòm allows hundreds of children living in that area access to a good Christian education and a warm and well-balanced meal.

These children have brought happiness to parents, school staff and supporters. Indeed, Divine Help School performance in the Final Examination is always higher than the national average.



Thanks to a benefactor, last year 25 students received school books. They were able to have better grades and succeed. There are still many needs as we are expecting 450 students this coming school year.

Back to school is now! As you are getting ready to send your own child to school, know that a little girl or boy in Paswadòm School is counting on you to be sent back to teachers and classmates this fall.

There are two ways you can be involved in our school:

#1.) Sponsoring a child

#2.) Donating towards the book costs for our students or for the school lunch program. Sponsoring a child helps to make it possible for parents to pay a small portion of what the actual costs are. (appr. 10%) You will receive a picture of the child and some information about him or her, plus the opportunity to communicate with him or her during the school year.

This coming year, it will cost around \$12,000 for books for our students. In the past, we have sold them at our cost to the students. If it were possible, we would love to subsidize that cost so the parents could better afford them.

Fill in the enclosed slip of paper and return it along with your donation to our office in Iowa, or visit our website at www.wflhaiti.org

From the president's desk

Greetings again to all our wonderful friends!

“The Lord your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.” Zeph. 3:17 (NIV) What a wonderful thing that is—to have our Savior rejoicing over us with singing!! And to know Jesus is in Heaven interceding for us before the Father! And also to know that He sent His Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth! Our Father loves us so much!

I want to relay on to you the thankfulness the Haitian people have for the water they can freely receive through the wells that are drilled by you folks. I really see it as a team that God has put together—you providing the funds, and we are there to make it happen. There are so many needs for wells to continue to be drilled, and it can only happen by people like you, as you listen to God’s Spirit and share with the people of Haiti so they can have good clean water—water that doesn’t have to go through a purification process because it’s already pure!



We are grateful for the results of our third annual Iowa golf benefit, held the end of June, which will fund another well for the people of Haiti. To God be the glory! ~ *Leon*

Statistics for June 2017

Wells drilled: 11

Hand Pumps installed: 10

People served: approximately 3,500

Submersible pumps installed: 2

Hand pumps repaired: 24

People served: approximately 8,400