



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

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Enhancing Trust

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NEWSLETTER

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A Better Education, a Brighter Future

When a child has access to education in Haiti, it is a blessing; schooling helps our community to grow stronger and our children take the proper path of life. On behalf of the school at Pasbwadòm, we want to say thanks to the donors because the academic year 2017- 2018 is now history.



Each year, Water For Life helps hundreds of children by giving them a proper education. Without our generous prayer and financial partners, Water For Life would not have the funds to answer the needs of the students. May God bless you more, and we keep praying for your continued support in the academic year of 2018-2019 for a better education and a brighter future for our children.

Vanesca Celestin, an 8th grade student living at Gachelin on the road to Fond des Blanc, Haiti, said “I wake up at four a.m. to get myself ready to go to school. Every day, I walk almost one hour and a half.

Since kindergarten, I have attended the school Secours Divin (Divine Help). During that time, I was little. My mother took me to school in her arms, or sometimes generous people gave us a ride,” Vanesca continued.

She added: “My biggest dreams is to become an agronomist so I can help my community and my family. I like gardening a lot, and I would like to encourage people to do farming to reduce hunger in the community. If I cannot be an Agronomist, I would like to be a nurse. When someone in my surroundings get sick, I would be able to take care of him. When my friends are sick their parents have to walk miles to go to the hospital. I want this to stop one day. With God, my dreams can become true because nothing is too big for Him. Thanks.”

Wilnie Buissereth, a 7th grade student living at Pasbwadòm shared her dream that “I would like

to become a nurse to help my family, especially my mother; she always encourages me to go to school; she plays the roles of both mother and father. My mom told me my father left the house when I was six months old and never came back. As long as God keeps the school at



PasBwadòm, my dream will become true. For any reason, I will not stop going to school. May the Lord continue to bless everyone who helps the Secours Divin School (Divine Help) because education can help us develop our community,” added Wilnie.

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not weary, they will walk and not be faint.” Isaiah 40:30 (NIV)

May the God of love and compassion renews the hope of our donors every day and give them the strength they need to keep demonstrating the love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Promised Land

The majority of Haitians live in rural areas and depend on agricultural activities for their livelihoods. Agricultural development faces serious constraints like lack of water to irrigate the soil, deforestation, the absence of necessary tools to practice farming... A sustainable agriculture is important for Haiti to reduce the shortage of food. Without our amazing financial supporters, Pasbwadòm, located in the South of Haiti, would not have the blessing of five irrigation wells to produce plantains, watermelon, green pepper and others. Olès Bazile, native Pasbwadòm farmer (blue T-shirt on left)



says, “Before the irrigation pumps were installed, Pasbwadòm was a dry place with no hope for young people and children. The valley was covered with baharona trees, dust everywhere. The possibility to grow crops was very difficult.

I like agriculture. It seems like I am going to spend the rest of my life in farming, because it brings happiness to me and the community. With the coming of Water for Life we learned a new agricultural method. The irrigation pumps work perfectly for the gardens and we don't have to rely only on rain water for our crops to grow. As a child, I used to see my father and my uncle depend on the sparse rain for the corn and beans to grow. They always complained about the risk and loss due to drought.

Today most of the farmers follow the new irrigation methods without waiting for rain to irrigate their land. They book a water pump and contribute a small fee to the farmer association to cover the cost of the diesel fuel to operate the system. Water For Life donors play a vital role in the success of our farming. Without them we will not be able

to grow plantains, corn, beans, and other produces,” added Oles.

Selom, another farmer at Pasb-wadòm, lives in the community with his wife and five children. “Now beside plantains, we produce green peppers, water-melons, papayas etc. Without the generous support of Water for Life donors, our land would still be covered today with baha-rona trees, and farming would be so difficult for us here.”



Happy Ending for Emeline

Drinking water in Haiti still remains a challenge. In the rural areas, waterborne illnesses such as typhoid, cholera and chronic diarrhea can be considered as an important cause of death. Thanks to our generous donors for blessing the people of Kammy with this water well, by saving them from poor quality water and all water-related diseases. Kammy is located in the communal section of Boulmier in the South of Haiti; in this community people used to walk a few miles for their water.



Emeline Desire, on the right (green blouse), native of Kammy, says, “Since I was born, this community did not have access to clean drinking water. As a little girl I remember walking 30 to 45 minutes with two gallons of water, and becoming an adult I kept walking daily the same distance over and over with a 5-gallon bucket on top of my head.

Before God granted us this well through Water For Life, I had to go all the way to Cavaillon to find water which is 30 minutes from where I live. When I had the means, I paid for a motorcycle ride. Unfortunately, one day, I fell from the motorcycle and broke my left arm. After the accident, I could not dress myself without the help of my children or my neighbor; all of this for a cup of clean water. It was many long years of suffering to get a cup of fresh water.

This is why today I am so grateful for this water well. I never imagined one day I would have drinking water here at Kammy. My words are not

enough to express the joy I feel in my heart. I have peace of mind; my life is forever changed because of this water well. Thanks to God and the contributors of this well, my children and I do not have to take that much risk to find a cup of vital water. May God keep blessing in the name of Jesus all the people who provided the funds for the gift of clean water!” exclaimed Emeline, around 60 years old.

To all of you donors and prayer partners, we praise the Lord for fulfilling His word in your compassionate hearts and your generous donations: “*And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward*”. Matthew 10:42 (NIV)

From the President's Desk

Greetings in Jesus' name to each of you!

Joy and I are in the States right now. Our daughter and husband just had their second child born! We thank God for the beautiful miracle of life!!

There have been two golf outings for Water For Life in the last month, one in Indiana and one in Iowa. Each had a good turn-out, and we wish to thank each one who participated and those who sponsored the teams, holes, and events! As a result there will be more villages who will get to have their own well with good clean water. They are always so very thankful. I know it can be hard for us here in a developed country to imagine what it would be like to not have water at our fingertips. If you had to walk even “just” a mile to haul all your water back to your house, how would that be?? And it's very hot there! It is so easy to take water for granted, when it's so plentiful. And we can forget so easily every day what a privileged life we live compared to many in this world. Try to think about it when you wash your face and brush your teeth, how you often just let the water run all the time! But if you had to walk a kilometer, a mile or two to pump your water and carry it back in a bucket, perhaps up a mountain, you wouldn't waste water! But as we live there, we can see that happening, and then village leaders come to us to see if we could help them get good water in their own community, so at least it'd be closer and clean! We tell them they need to pray that someone or a group will be able and willing to fund a well for them.

That's where you folks come in, and to look back and see how many wells have been drilled over the years is a miracle from God! The Lord touched your hearts with compassion to help those who needed it, and we want to say Thank You!! Without you, people would not have what they have now. But there are still many many villages and areas without water, especially good clean water. When they use a river that has been used upriver for washing and animals and such, believe me, it's not clean. Many bacteria and parasites are crawling in that water! For those with access to filters, that can be a solution. But most rivers in Haiti have dried up, except when there's a rainstorm, so they can't even be counted on to supply a community's needs.

Proverbs 22:4 says, “*Humility and the fear of the Lord bring wealth and honor and life.*” (NIV)

May God bless you!! ~Leon

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Contact us at waterforlife@hotmail.com with your email address.

— May 2018 Statistics —

Wells drilled: 21
Pumps installed: 6
People served: approximately 2,100
Pump repaired: 32
People served: approximately 11,200
Mobile clinic outreach: 477 persons

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