

HAITI CONTINUES TO REBUILD

Categories: Community Development/Hygiene Assistance

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<http://www.jen-npo.org/en/contribute>

Community Development

Four Months Later

The end of May and beginning of June marked four months since the project began for water sanitation and environment, sustained by supporters of JEN and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Presently, there are many communities in Haiti that do not have their own systems to maintain a proper facility for clean water supply, and this issue combined with the lack of knowledge among local populations on health issues surrounding water creates a myriad of problems, one of which is the problem surrounding preventable illnesses such as cholera and diarrhea.

JEN has continued to travel to different communities in order to help spread knowledge on basic hygiene and sanitation practices, giving the local people the opportunity to ask questions. JEN has also continued to construct facilities for water supplies.

Hygiene Assistance

Inauguration Marks Encouraging Future

In June, JEN completed its first water and sanitation site in Jeanty with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in close collaboration with DINEPA (National Directorate for Water and Sanitation). An inauguration took place on June 30, attracting a large number of attendees.

The opening ceremony lasted for almost five hours, and included the presence of the new

members of the Water Management Committee (WMC) as well as a presentation on the concept of self-management and water distribution within the community.

Furthermore, an important focus has been placed on the need for all households to pay a monthly fee in order to use the water pumps, that of less than 1 US Dollar per month in order to ensure the pump's sustainability. In fact, Jeanty had had its own electric water pump previously given by another NGO, however due to irregular electricity distribution in Haiti, the pump was not maintained nor was it kept clean.

A large portion of the ceremony consisted of spreading awareness on proper hygiene through activities such as quizzes, games, and theatrical plays organized by volunteers and JEN staff members.

Hygiene Assistance

JEN Continues Success



Above: A water kiosk located in Lafferonnay

On October 27, JEN staff members took part in the inauguration of a second water and

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sanitation site. JEN has previously established Water Management Committees (WMCs) in rural areas in close collaboration with DINEPA.

The first site that JEN had built was in Jeanty, and was comprised of one water tank and two water kiosks. In fact, the newest site includes four new water kiosks and two water tanks which can store additional amounts of water for use during the evenings, for the pumping system acquires its energy from solar panels.

The inauguration ceremony lasted approximately two hours, as WMCs focused on presenting the concept of self-management and water distribution within the community in order to spread awareness on the maintenance of their newly built water and sanitation sites.

As a matter of fact, a different payment system has been developed for the first time which is based on consumption as opposed to the previously implemented monthly fee. With the new payment system in place, 25% of the income will be converted to the salary for the kiosk worker, which is an appealing incentive for the community members. Although this salary does not necessarily reach the 5 US dollars per day according to Haitian Labor Laws, it is an easy method for individuals to acquire an income.

Community Development

JEN Builds Storage Facility in Haiti

In June, a few weeks after JEN consolidated into a single office in Leogane, the issue as to where all the donated items would be stored came to light. Yet right as this issue was coming into debate, JEN received a RubHall as a donation from the NGO Handicap International. A RubHall is a tent that is 24 meters long and 10 meters wide that is wind resistant and water proof.

Although assembling the tent itself took an enormous amount of time and investment, in the end it was worth it, for the RubHall served as the primary storage facility for JEN in Haiti.

Furthermore, because Handicap International had ended its activities in Haiti, they donated wash items such as soap, buckets, and chlorine tablets to JEN. We are now certainly prepared for hurricane season, being ready to hand out necessary items much more efficiently.

As a matter of fact, some of the items have already been donated to those living in

Cabaret who have recently suffered severe diarrhea. Thus, the storage will serve many purposes from storing emergency relief supplies to simple items that can easily be distributed when needed.



Above: Inside the RubHall



The 7 EN's of JEN

- Engage
- Entrust
- Encourage
- Endeavor
- Enjoy
- Encounter
- Enable

DONATE NOW AND HELP THE CAUSE!

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