



ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

As Project Living Hope approaches its 10-year anniversary in March 2024, we hold firm to the **unshakeable hope** that God is unchanging, He is faithful, and He is strong in our time of struggles and need. We are reminded that God’s promises are irrevocable and we are to have hope in Him. Even with Haiti going through its worst season of instability and insecurity in its history, we as an organization, continue to have **unshakeable hope** for Haiti because of God’s promises.

Guesly Dessieux
Executive Director & Founder



THE

PROBLEM



HAITI'S DECADES OF STRUGGLES

Haiti is a country plagued by frequent natural disasters, extreme poverty, insecurity, and more. While corruption and internal conflict are the cause of some of the issues over the decades, we must acknowledge that the international community has also contributed to many of these issues. These obstacles have left Haiti and its people reliant on the assistance of others. **PLH seeks to break these chains of dependency by helping to build up strong families and communities.**

SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT CHALLENGES

Since the assassination of the president in 2021, gangs have gained more and more control of the country. Communities suffer violence from the gangs, and families have to flee their homes. **Inflation is soaring, and droughts are causing poor harvests. Hunger is at an all time high for the nation.**

200-300 gangs exist in the country.

90% of the capital is controlled by gangs.

200,000 people have been internally displaced due to gang violence.

4,700 civilian deaths and **2,500** kidnappings were reported in 2023.

4.9 million people are experiencing acute hunger and **1.8 million** are suffering from emergency levels of hunger. Haiti is 1 of the 5 countries in the world suffering catastrophic hunger.

Inflation peaked at **49.3%** in January of 2023, falling to 22.2% in November 2023.

PURPOSE



MISSION

Empowering Haitians to Build a Stronger Haiti

VISION

See an increase in strong, self-sustaining Haitian families and communities who no longer look to outsiders to meet their basic needs.

STRATEGY

Combat poverty by empowering individuals through Christian discipleship in four key areas: athletics, job skills training, disaster preparedness and community development.

METHODS





JOB SKILLS TRAINING

Teaching Haitians job skills that empower them to break free from the strain of poverty and the cycle of dependency and to become independent.



ATHLETICS

Offering youth a safe place to play, opportunity to cultivate their talent, Christian discipleship, and training to become servant leaders within their community.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Strengthening families and encouraging individuals through community events, classes, seminars, and sporting events.



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Creating small businesses to grow infrastructure and increase self-sustainability and partnering with community leaders and churches to provide emergency relief.

PROGRAM STATS



ATHLETICS

200 Soccer Players
70 Basketball Players
7 Coaches



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

4 Community Events
920 Event Attendees
41 Discipleship Course Participants

1,930 people reached in 2023!



JOB SKILLS TRAINING

4 Trade School Scholarship Students
45 Adult English Students
25 Youth Artisan Students
12 Personal Finance Course Participants



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

\$10,000 of food aid provided to families via 16 local churches
340 Food boxes provided to the families of our youth program participants
200+ Youth fed weekly

SOCCER HIGHLIGHTS



SUMMER TOURNAMENT

The PLH teams performed well in a regional tournament. **The U15 team made it to the semi-finals, and the U17 team took first place!**

NEW EQUIPMENT

We shipped hundreds of pairs of new cleats, sandals, shorts, and socks for our players to use. **Each player received their own new cleats to use during practices and games.**



GROWING NUMBERS

This spring, we had 130 players participating in the soccer academy. **By the end of the year, we had over 200 players!**

BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS



NEW IN 2023!

This past spring, PLH launched its first basketball program. We were excited to see how the sport would attract new youth. The informal practices grew quickly, and in the fall we started formal registration for the program.

"As a young Haitian girl who wanted to become a basketball player, I didn't see how I could make this dream come true, but thanks to PLH, my dream is coming true." - Joelda, PLH Girls Basketball Participant



We now have over 70 youth participating in basketball with 42 of those being girls!

EXPANDING YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Now, more than ever, youth in Haiti need a safe place to learn, play, and grow. PLH offers just that. In addition to sports programs, PLH provides classes for youth in artisan crafts and English.

"When I see soccer, basketball, English classes, and crafts, I see it's really a great project that I'd like to see grow even more. I ask you, please, to continue to support the young people. It's a great project, and I'm happy."

- Medencha, PLH Girls Basketball Participant



JOB SKILLS TRAINING



Left: Clotaire and Whensondy are in their final year studying auto-mechanics.
Right: Chrisman and Tchucky are studying electricity.



TRADE SCHOOL

PLH currently provides full-ride scholarships to four students from Camp Marie to study a skilled trade in Port-au-Prince. After completing their schooling, these young men will be hired to work on PLH projects and be able to find local work to support their families.

PERSONAL FINANCE CLASS

Few Haitians receive any training in how to manage their money or plan for their financial future. **This 7-week course teaches life-changing money management skills of budgeting, saving, and goal planning.**

"Thank you for making me part of the financial planning course. This training has equipped me with efficient and effective tools so that I can start preparing a better tomorrow right now."

- Seraphin

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



45 couples participated in the Valentine's Day Dinner.



130 women came out for the Women's Day celebration

COMMUNITY EVENTS

PLH aims to be a place where people can come to have fun, find fellowship, and be encouraged. In addition to sporting events and workshops, PLH hosts special community events throughout the year.

DISCIPLESHIP COURSE

This 10-week course looked at how to create a disciple-making movement. **The course had 41 participants including PLH staff, community members, and church leaders.**



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Youth Family Christmas Party

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTIES

PLH values family and knows the importance of pouring into the families in our community. Thanks to those who supported PLH this past Giving Tuesday, PLH was able to host two parties for families in the community: one for the youth in our programs and their parents and one for our staff and their families. **Each family received a gift of rice, beans, spaghetti, and oil to help feed their families during the holidays.**



Staff Family Party



Youth Family Christmas Party



Staff Family Party

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS



PLH partners with 16 local churches to provide food security to families through immediate food relief and investments in farming.

Haiti has a history of disasters including earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, famines, and political unrest. For the past couple of years, Haiti has faced a new disaster as gangs have all but taken over the country. Currently, millions of Haitians around the country are suffering from gang violence, extreme hunger, inflation, and joblessness, and they continue to be hit by natural disasters.

The preparedness and forward-thinking methods that PLH has put into place are already bearing fruit and have helped to preserve the organization and our community. These measures include a strong collaborative network in Camp Marie with pastors and community leaders, safety measures to secure the campus and equipment, and increased food and water security.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS



Players in our sports academy receive a weekly hot meal.



The gardens on the PLH campus provide produce used in our players and staff lunches, and staff are also able to take some produce home to help feed their families.



Families received Christmas food baskets during our player and staff Christmas parties.

PLH purchased a small bio-sand filter which allows us to filter drinking water for our programs. We hope to get our water filtration center up and running soon which will be able to produce a much larger supply of water and provide a place for community members to purchase drinking water.



SMALL BUSINESSES



“Investing in small businesses is a great opportunity to make a big impact on the community. Job creation and investing in local production are vital services for the Haitian people. Most young people in Haiti don’t have a job, meaning they can’t build a future for themselves. Haitians get most of their eggs and other products from the Dominican Republic and other countries, making Haiti dependent on imports. If we can start some small businesses, people can come to PLH to buy eggs, water, honey, fruit, etc.” - **Waldimyr Polynice, PLH Small Business Manager**

PLH has several small businesses in the works. Despite the current challenges in Haiti, we are determined to move these plans forward. It is our goal to get three small businesses up and running by the end of 2024.

Materials for two small chicken coops are currently en route to Haiti. Please pray that all materials for the coup and water center arrive and that these businesses have smooth starts.





EMPLOYMENT

As declared in the mission statement, PLH exists to empower Haitians. We believe that Haitians have the capacity and potential to build up Haiti to be sustainable and strong. PLH's goal is to provide employment, education, and encouragement. While the PLH programs provide education and encouragement, it is the day-to-day operations of the organization that provide vital empowerment through employment.



EMPLOYEE BENEFITS TO INCREASE SELF-SUFFICIENCY

In January 2023, PLH implemented two new employee benefits in an effort to increase our employee's self-sufficiency and encourage smart money management.



EMPLOYEE HEALTH ASSISTANCE PLAN



Per the health assistance plan, employees can request that PLH pay in full any large medical expenses for them or their immediate family members. The employee is then responsible to pay back, within six months, an amount up to one month's salary. Any expense beyond this amount is covered by the organization. This policy has helped employees pay for emergency surgeries and receive medical care that they may have otherwise neglected.

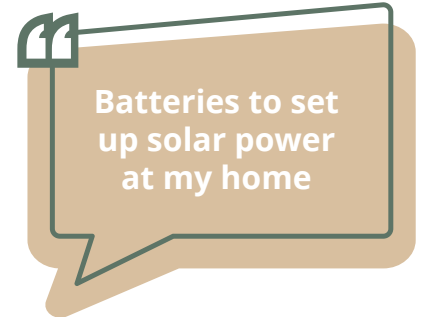
*"We thank each of you for the way you have helped us in our difficulties. In 2023, my son underwent surgery, and my wife gave birth to a girl. We didn't see what we were going to do to pay for these medical expenses, but God used you and PLH's Medical Assistance Plan." - **Obenson Pierre, PLH Security***

EMPLOYEE SAVINGS FUND



Haitians often have difficulty saving because there are always needs beyond their budget as well as family and friends asking for assistance. **With this savings benefit, PLH employees who contribute 10% of their salary to savings receive a 5% match from PLH.**

We asked some of our employees what they intend to use their 2023 savings for. Some of their answers included:



EMPLOYEE PHOTOS



Since March of 2023, the PLH Haitian staff have been running the campus and programs without any Americans onsite. We are proud to see the programs running and growing under their leadership.

HAITI LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION



Benedic Maxime
*Haiti Operations
Manager*



Guy Henry Destine
*Assistant Operations
Manager*



Wilson Emmanuel
Logistics and Inventory



Mariette Dorlus
Secretary



Herold Simeon
*Logistics and Heavy
Equipment Operator*

CAMPUS MAINTENANCE



Pictured from left to right: **Leon Baptiste, Richecarde "Sob" Cherubin, Jacky Charles, Fredo Solide, Benjy Pierre, and Clotaire Sidney**

EMPLOYEE PHOTOS



SECURITY



Pictured from left to right: **Obenson Pierre, Jean Kenson Alcidonis, Julio Pierre “Kado” Canel, and Theodor “Bodo” Winzor**

INSTITUTE



Pictured from left to right: **Gerald Grecilien, SONDY Pierre Charles, and Pierre-Claude Jean Louis**

EMPLOYEE PHOTOS



ATHLETICS



Rosemond Francois
Academy and Athletics Director



Jocelyn Preancy
Assistant Athletics Director



Soccer Academy coaches pictured from left to right:
Roudjy, Jephthe, Dorcant, Manes, Belizaire & Duckenson

SMALL BUSINESSES



Waldimyr "Wahi" Polynice
Small Business Manager



Jean "Big Jay" Saintard Mathurin
Assistant Small Business Manager



Rose-Andre Souffrant
Food Services Manager



EDUCATIONAL CENTER



BUILDING UPDATE

The steel package for the building is now in production!! This includes the trusses, roofing, and exterior walls. Once produced, the pieces will be loaded into a container until shipping to Haiti is possible. We anticipate construction happening in 2025.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Project Budget: **\$450,000**

Funds Raised to Date: **\$122,000**

Please pray for this project. Pray for full funding, for donated materials, for successful shipping, for the team that will oversee the construction, and for the people who will benefit from the Educational Center.



PARTNERSHIPS

Project Living Hope would not be where it is today if it were not for the partnership of individuals, churches, and businesses who have stood with the organization and shown commitment to the mission of empowering Haitians to build a stronger Haiti. Because we value these partnerships, PLH makes every effort to provide clear and informative communications, maintain transparency in financials and governance, and ensure maximum impact and empowerment.



CHAMPIONS

PLH is greatly blessed to have the partnership of champions, volunteers, churches, and businesses.



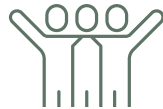
COMMUNICATIONS

PLH uses email, social media, mailers, and in-person events to keep our partners updated and well-informed of the work, plans, and progress.



TRANSPARENCY

PLH follows best practices in all things financial and legal, maintaining detailed financial records and adhering to US and Haitian operational requirements so that donors, grantors, and partners can have full confidence in the organization.



EMPOWERMENT

PLH employs, educates, and engages with individuals in Camp Marie, Haiti in order to empower Haitians to build up their own country.

CHAMPIONS



Since its founding, PLH has been blessed with a strong network of partners and supporters. The PLH champions are generous with their prayers, funds, and energy. **In 2023, PLH had:**



**418
Donors**



**From 24
States**



**126
Monthly Givers**



**126
Prayer Team
Members**



**354
Event Attendees**



**7
Fundraising and
Community-Building Events**



**85
Volunteers**



**2,118
Volunteer Hours**



**17
Supporting
Businesses**



**6
Supporting
Churches**



COMMUNICATIONS



This year, we have striven to share Haiti's story -- the beautiful and the ugly. It is not all easy to share, and we know it isn't easy to hear. We are humbled by the number of people following the work being done in Haiti.

1,041 Subscribers

1,536 Mail Contacts

1,354 Social Media Followers



The PLH soccer players were excited to get their own cleats for the new 2023-24 academy season. The players will keep their cleats in the locker rooms on the PLH campus and receive them each practice. This will keep the cleats from being over used with non-academy play. The soccer academy and basketball program have seen huge growth in numbers this fall. We are excited for what God has in store for these youth.



To: Project Living Hope
Community Members

Thank you for following PLH! We invite you to share our communications with your friends and invite them to follow us as well.

“Postcards from Haiti” are a special piece of email communication sent to our community of monthly givers. If you would like to receive these more personal images and updates throughout the year, join our community of monthly givers today!



Join the Community!
www.plhope.org/join



OR SCAN
HERE →



Like Us On
Facebook

facebook.com/projectlivinghope



OR SCAN
HERE →



Follow Us On
Instagram

instagram.com/projectlivinghope



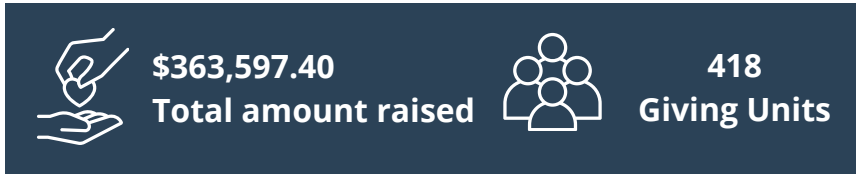
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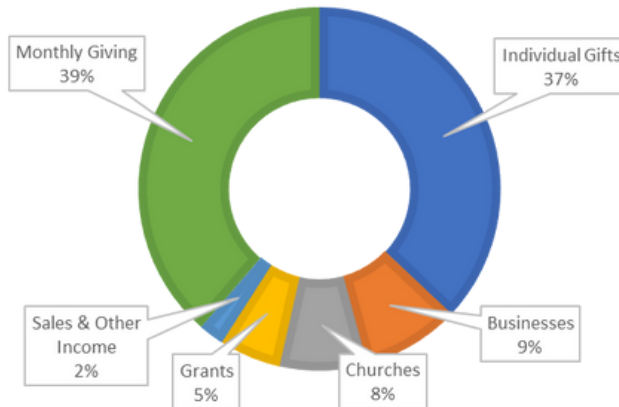
FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY



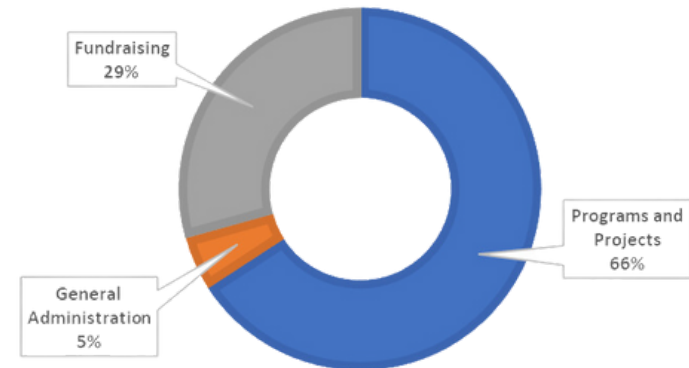
REVENUE



INCOME SOURCES



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY



ASSETS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Current assets:		
Cash and equivalents	\$196,962	\$219,951
Grants receivable	\$30,000	\$65,000
Total current assets	\$226,962	\$284,951
Property and equipment	\$871,785	\$813,360
Total assets	\$1,098,747	\$1,098,311

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Current liabilities	\$20,632	\$8,815
Net assets:		
Without donor restrictions:		
Net equity in property and equipment	\$871,785	\$813,360
Operating	\$114,613	\$218,027
Total net assets without donor restrictions	\$986,398	\$1,031,387
With donor restrictions	\$91,717	\$58,109
Total net assets	\$1,078,115	\$1,089,496
Total liabilities and net assets	\$1,098,747	\$1,098,311

PLH is proud to be supported by:





UPCOMING EVENTS

GOLFATHON

Fundraising happening now! Celebration Day: March 9, 2024

Join in the fun! As a participant, you invite your friends to give towards your fundraising goal and then hit balls with us at the celebration day at TopGolf in Hillsboro, Oregon.

PORTLAND DINNER AND AUCTION

May 31, 2024 - Abernethy Center, Oregon City, Oregon

STAYTON AREA FUN RUN

June 2024

EUGENE FUNDRAISING DESSERT

July 2024

KEIZER FUNDRAISING DINNER

September 21, 2024 - Keizer Civic Center, Keizer, Oregon

PLH SALON

Quarterly in Portland, Salem and Eugene, Oregon

PLH Salons are small-scale events to educate, start conversations, and build community. At each PLH Salon event, guests will watch a video related to Haiti, join in discussion about the topics raised, and enjoy dessert together.

FET LAKAY (HOUSE PARTY)

Are you interested in organizing a small event to help share PLH within your community or network? Contact us or visit our website to learn about hosting a Fet Lakay.



CHRISTMAS PROJECT



FILL-A -BAG FOR PROGRAM YOUTH

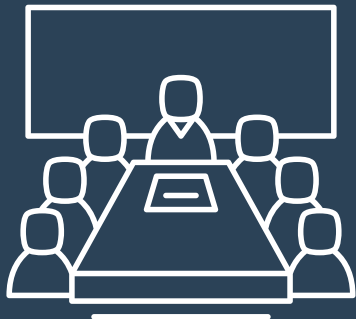
This past Christmas, PLH invited our champions and the Stayton-Sublimity public to fill a bag for a PLH player student in Haiti. Each bag includes basic hygiene items, a PLH coloring book and crayons, and materials to help the young person grow in their sport or area of study.

This first year of the Christmas Fill-a-Bag was a huge success! Altogether, 227 bags were filled and sent to Haiti. Once received, the bags will be given to the youth participating in the PLH programs.

- 142** Athlete bags
- 58** Artisan bags
- 27** English bags

We intend to make this an annual event each Christmas as well as offer it to churches during our Join the Community campaign each summer.

If your church or business would like to fill bags or host a collection barrel, contact us at info@plhope.org. We would love to expand this event to other parts of the state and country.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

PLH is led by a board of directors of ten members. The board meets quarterly and ensures that PLH remains true to the mission and vision, transparent and honest in the operations, and accountable to the champions.



Guesly Dessieux
*Executive Director
& Founder*



Sarah Comstock
Board Chairman



Sara Dessieux



Pierre Descieux



Bob Thatcher



Cyrus Ward



Nicole LeBlond



**Roger
Pedersen**



Kyda Dodson



Jake Biviano



Amy Bentz
*Communication
& Marketing Director*



Laura Polynice
*Administrative Assistant
& Haiti Liaison*



Jered Rothwilson
*Development
Director*



Bonnie Taylor
Event Coordinator



Rachel Wilson
Office Assistant

The US staff is led by Guesly Dessieux, Executive Director and Founder. This year, we added two part-time employees to help manage events and assist with administrative tasks.



GOALS



ENGAGEMENT

Create deeper connections between our champions and initiatives in Camp Marie while strengthening community ties through engagement of youth parents and fostering relationships through local small businesses.



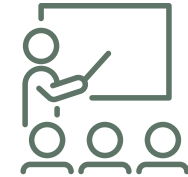
SMALL BUSINESS

Complete three of the small business plans that are currently in motion.



ATHLETICS

Launch volleyball and continue to pour into youth through the basketball and soccer programs.



EDUCATION

Develop and offer new workshops and courses in business, parenting, disaster response and more to continue to empower and encourage youth and adults in the community.

TAKE ACTION



JOIN THE COMMUNITY of Monthly Givers. Visit plhope.org/join or scan here →



GIVE TODAY to support the daily operation on the PLH campus.
Visit plhope.org/give or scan here →



JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM in prayer for PLH and Haiti.
Visit plhope.org/prayer or scan here →



VOLUNTEER with PLH. Visit plhope.org/volunteer or scan here →



ATTEND AN UPCOMING PLH EVENT and invite others to join you.
Visit plhope.org/events-calendar or scan here →



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