

Vermont Haiti Project, Inc. 2018 Program Services

1) Duchity Vocational Center Expenses and revenue allocated: \$48,475

The vocational school has 76 currently enrolled students across construction, computer and tiling courses. The graduates from last year have been very successful, proving even further the value of this school. Ninety-five graduates from computer, agriculture, construction and plumbing programs are all employed in some capacity, more than half of them have full time work.

Construction primarily focused on finishing the community center located on the second floor of the main building: 18 louvered windows were installed, and the interior walls were finished and painted and three toilets were installed. This involved 36 workers: master masons, masons, laborers, carpenters, electricians, plumbers, painters, cooks, drivers and vocational school students. This space has become a hub of frequent activity for the community.

Supplies were purchased for a solar upgrade project planned for early 2019 to install more panels and a new inverter and control system.

VHP members traveled to Duchity with two Vermont high school groups. The first school's International Business class worked together with students at both the vocational school and a local high school,

providing interactive workshops in basic business, entrepreneurial skills, creating business plans, and brainstorming ideas. The group also gained first-hand experience at the Duchity outdoor market, engaging in local commerce, and interviewing vendors. A trip was also made to the village of Desab for meetings with the local microloan program group. The students learned about the program, discussed their progress, and engaged in future planning and ideas. The second visiting Vermont school group worked with local Duchity schools, both primary and high school. Activities for both groups included a workshop of traditional Haitian dance, hands-on Haitian style cooking, a walk-about and talk with a local herbalist, a visit to a garden/nursery/arboretum, and working with a vocational school graduate planting trees from his nursery.

2) Water purification

Expenses and revenue allocated: \$14,000

An additional 66 Biosand water filters were installed in the villages of Duchity, Grande Anse, Haiti and instruction for use and follow up were provided. Each filter can serve 10-20 people, resulting in over 1,000 more people having access to clean water. Our technicians met with people in the villages to teach about clean water and proper hygiene. Also an educator at the vocational school taught about clean water while providing buckets of clean water to those stopping by. The results are seen when people are not

getting waterborne illnesses and children are able to go to school.

3) Humane Infrastructure Development System (HIDS)

Expenses and revenue allocated: \$2,000

10 small domes were completed using the innovative panel design to withstand hurricanes and earthquakes. They are being used for kitchens, living rooms, bedrooms and offices. The first large dome built in 2017 is a computer classroom. These structures offer a sense of safety and preparedness.

A group of University of Vermont students traveled to Duchity for follow-up with staff and students at the vocational school. They were happy to learn that the 'zero water' septic system for maximizing nutrient recovery and creating compost is being utilized and working well. They worked on assessment of the school's current planting projects and planning future plantings. The group also assisted vocational school students and staff in building and painting wooden doors for several small domes to replace less secure tin doors.

4) Remaining program areas

Expenses and revenue allocated: \$1,120

VHP supported a tree nursery, replanting in hurricane-ravaged areas, and workshops for local birth attendants. Funds in the amount of \$500 were used for teacher

salaries at the severely under-resourced primary school in Desab.

The interest-free loan program in Desab that started in 2017 is continuing to thrive. An additional \$400 was allocated in 2018 and the program now has three groups of four women providing mentoring and being taught basic business and entrepreneurship.