

Haiti REBUILDING AFTER "1/12" PURSUING OUR MISSION

double harvest 
Sowing Seeds of Life

The Mission of **DOUBLE HARVEST**

Double Harvest's mission is to establish and develop agricultural projects in Third World countries by providing capital resources and implementing best practices to increase food production and to build the local economy.

Being followers of Jesus Christ, we are guided by His example and the principles outlined in the Bible, and therefore support and implement ministries that reflect our deep concern for the physical and spiritual needs of people. Our objective is a "double harvest".



Sowing Seeds of Life

Just as “9/11” is burned into America’s memory, “1/12” is the scar left on Haitian minds. On that date in 2010, hundreds of thousands were killed and injured and over a million left homeless in this poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Reflecting on the devastation Haiti experienced, we at Double Harvest want to pause and give thanks. First of all to God, who provides all things for our good and is always present in tragedy. Then to you, our supporting constituency, for partnering with us in accomplishing our mission: Sowing Seeds of Life.



The year 2010 in Haiti saw untold tragedy, economic challenge, health scares (Cholera), and political volatility. Yet, we witnessed an outpouring of compassion in financial and practical aid from individuals, churches and businesses, allowing us to minister to the people in their time of need. The Double Harvest project is strategically located 10 miles east of Port-au-Prince, the center of much of the earthquake damage. **The year, 2011,** saw a normalization of activities at our project while still meeting the continuing challenges of a country in slow recovery. As a smaller organization, we are privileged to be counted as one of the “points of light”, bringing life-giving change to its immediate community.

A visit from the U.S. Ambassador to Haiti, Kenneth Merten, has affirmed what we are doing for the Haitian people. The project has also attracted the attention of government officials, agricultural people, other mission efforts, local schools and the media. With notoriety, however, comes responsibility. We pray that our influence will honor the God who graciously grants the opportunities. As our mission states, we are guided by Jesus’ example and the principles outlined in the Bible. In employing a “Business as Mission” model, from it’s beginning, the vision of Double Harvest has been to “help people help themselves”, instill a Christian work ethic, model business conduct with high integrity, and invest in compassion and spiritual ministries. This is a report on what has and is being accomplished.

*"Man does not live
on bread alone."*

-Luke 4:4



Fast Facts **ABOUT HAITI**

- Shares the island of Hispaniola with Dominican Republic
- Slightly smaller than the state of Maryland
- Population – 9.7 million
- Poorest country in the Western Hemisphere
- 80% live below the poverty line; 54% in abject poverty
- 54 babies out of 1000 die (live births)
- Only 53% over age 15 can read or write
- Economic instability, corruption and poor access to education
- Hurricanes, earthquakes, severe deforestation, lack of potable water
- Languages – French and Creole (some English is spoken)
- Roman Catholic and Protestant churches are prominent; 50% practice voodoo
- One and a half hour flight from Miami, Florida



Agriculture **KEY TO A COUNTRY'S GROWTH**

Agriculture serves as one of the basic components of a growing and healthy economy. In developing countries, pockets of commercial and technical industry exist, but updated and sustainable farming techniques in the vast rural areas remain underdeveloped or non-existent. To live people must eat. Sadly, in most poor countries, produce is imported at grossly inflated prices, forcing the majority of the population to rely on what little they can purchase or grow themselves. The results? A day-to-day existence, malnutrition, and hopelessness, all affecting the health, education and economy of the country.

As has been our practice for over 30 years, we empower an all-national staff to manage our projects with close guidance from board members. In Haiti, the agricultural enterprise established on our 200-acre property uses modern, environmentally sound technologies and hands-on know-how. Major grains such as corn, sorghum, beans and peanuts and a variety of vegetables are grown, and continue to find their way in to the marketplace at reasonable prices. For a number of crops there are two growing seasons. Greenhouses with concrete ebb & flood floors provide 70,000 sq. ft. of space to grow starter plants, flowers and ornamentals.



Reversing An Environmental Disaster

Haiti's hillsides are tragically deforested from years of indiscriminate logging and use of firewood. Severe erosion and dangerous flash flooding have resulted with the recurring tropical storms and hurricanes. Our farm has the capacity to grow two million tree seedlings for reforestation projects in the country.



2 Million Tree Seedlings!



2 Million Gallons Per Year!

Water – The Gift of Life

Over one billion men, women and children in the world do not have access to drinkable water, the cause of chronic illnesses and death. Haiti is no exception. We are blessed with a huge aquifer below our property. Our three wells, drilled deep, not only provide irrigation for the farm (along with diverted river water) but also clean, potable water for our employees, students and for villages nearby. We estimate that almost 22 million gallons a year of clean water are piped to these needy people. Our Clinic Medical Director reports that patient visits suffering with water-borne illnesses have been cut in half!

New Kitchen/Cafeteria Operational

Funded by the Tom Van Wingerden Memorial Fund, a former storage building has been renovated to house Chloe's Kitchen, named after a granddaughter who predeceased him. Commercial appliances, purchased at auction in the U.S. and shipped by container, and a large eating area now serve almost 1000 meals a day to our employees, students, teachers and Clinic staff. For many this is the one meal they eat during the day, preferring to feed their families first.

The result – increased work output and morale.



1,000 Meals Each Work Day!



Aquaculture TILAPIA FISH PROJECT



The amount of seafood in the Haitians' diet pales in comparison to other Caribbean countries, although it is a well-loved food item. This is partly due to erosion and waste run-off polluting surrounding waters and a poor and inefficient fishing industry. With Tilapia being a hardy, fast-growing breed of fish, the Double Harvest Fish Project makes this nutritious food source more available and affordable.

We are continuing to enlarge this state-of-the-art fishery. It is designed to accommodate the highest possible concentration of fish per gallon of water. Integrated filters remove solids and strip out the harmful gasses that naturally build up in the water. In the interest of conservation, the waste water is also used as fertilizer for the farm vegetables with wonderful results! Presently, hatchery tanks are being constructed to provide fingerlings for our own project and, in the future, to other organizations or individuals planning to operate their own fishery. Double Harvest's goal is to harvest 18,000 pounds of fish per month. Plans are to eventually build a solar collector over the fishery to reduce the energy required to keep the oxygen pumps and filtration systems operating 24 hours a day.



Immediately after the earthquake of 2010, Double Harvest donated 40,000 fish to the people living in the villages nearby. This was a significant part of our Relief Food Program.



3,500 Eggs Each Day!

CHICKEN / EGG PROJECT

Eggs are also a popular and nutritious food in Haiti. As the project has grown in the last couple of years, each day almost 3,500 eggs are now available for sale to vendors and some grocery stores. The key to success is ensuring the chickens are “happy”. Good feed, a minimum of disturbance and a free-range approach are vitally important, and have produced what is judged as Grade A premium eggs! When past the laying stage, the hens are sold at market prices, making room for the next batch of chicks and layers. Eggs also became a part of our Relief Food Program.

HOUSING PROJECT - Rebuilding Continues

Prior to the 2010 earthquake, what was our modest Housing Project quickly became a major focus of our outreach after the tragic event. With 30% of the homes destroyed in surrounding villages, we offered our help and experience in building well-constructed, concrete block houses, approximately 25' x 25'. Our original goal of 200 homes has increased to 220...OR more as donations are received! Presently, each home costs \$5000 to build, but costs are rising in Haiti too.

To build the homes, Haitian masons and workers are employed, trained and supervised in correct construction methods – no cutting corners this time – ensuring that each structure will withstand hurricanes and earthquakes. Where possible, a new homeowner provides sweat equity. Once completed, a few trees from our Reforestation Project beautify the property. Having lived through the trauma of the earthquake, the anxiety literally melts away from people’s faces as the keys are handed over during a dedication ceremony. They have received the gift of a safe and reliable home.



Our Goal – 220 Homes!



Each Home - \$5,000

A photograph of two newborn babies lying in a hospital bed. They are wearing pink shirts and light-colored knit hats. The baby on the left is wearing a blue and white hat, while the baby on the right is wearing a pink and white hat. They are both looking towards the camera. The bed has white sheets and a blue patterned blanket. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the hospital room.

Medical & Surgical Clinic

HEALING LIVES

Double Harvest has offered medical services to the local villages and area since 1987. In Haiti, suffering is rampant but medical care is sadly often sub-standard or unavailable. In 2004, financed by friends of the ministry, a new Clinic building became operational. In what is considered one of the top medical/surgical facilities in the country, our Haitian medical staff continues to provide care to over 200 patients each day, some travelling hours to be seen. Complaints include malnourishment, severe abdominal pain, respiratory ailments, ear and fungal infections, parasites, and malaria. A minimal amount is charged to give value to their care. With the threat of Cholera in recent years, special education and remote clinic have offered critical information on sanitation, cooking and drinking habits.

With two well-equipped operating rooms, after the earthquake, the Clinic became a “hospital” treating thousands of maimed and injured. Prior to and since then, Double Harvest has hosted numerous surgery teams from various hospitals in the U.S. to conduct procedures for which our Haitian staff are not trained. Since July, 2010, over 1,600 surgeries have changed and saved peoples’ lives, correcting debilitating and long-standing health issues. The joy on patients’ and their families’ faces is reward enough for these compassionate medical professionals.



NEW Addition Being Constructed!

Our response to the 2010 earthquake revealed some limitations in our existing facility.

Presently, we are constructing an addition to the Clinic to house more exam rooms, an Eye Care center, a dental suite, a radiology and lab area, and additional storage. These will further enhance the medical care the Haitian people now receive. The second floor will eventually provide more accommodations for visiting mission teams. We are looking to our ministry friends to assist us financially with this project.

***200 Patients Each Day!
Over 1,500 Surgeries!***



The Aart Van Wingerden School

CHANGE THE LIFE OF A CHILD

Wherever poverty is rampant in the world, children are the ultimate victims. Hunger and malnutrition result in disease and deficient learning abilities. Haiti's 53% adult illiteracy rate is stark testimony to this tragedy. We believe one of the most effective ways to address these issues is through the care, education and training of children. Established in 1996 and named after Double Harvest's founder, the school now provides an excellent education for over 500 students (2011-12) offering Preschool – Grade 13. Students come from the local area by foot, bicycle and Tap-Tap (Haitian taxi). Their pressed uniforms, required in all schools, often belie the poor circumstances from which they come.

The school is staffed by Haitian teachers and a School Director. Besides the normally required academic classes, the students enjoy sports and music, Bible, computer and English classes, and occasional vocational training usually taught by individuals on mission trips from the USA and Canada. They compliment the competent and caring staff, all committed to the welfare and development of these precious lives. A hot noon meal is served each school day and the student's medical care is covered by our Clinic. Compassionate individuals and families in America are given the opportunity to sponsor one or more students for \$45 per month, an investment that will reap future rewards for the student and his/her country.



Interested in Sponsoring?

Contact us through our website or by mail for further information.

Spiritual Ministry

HEALING HEARTS

The organization's name and motto point to the value we place on the dual aspects of our mission: ministering to the physical and spiritual lives of people in the countries we serve. Real life change can only occur through a restored relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Our goal is to ensure that this message – the gospel – is clearly presented in every project we undertake and support. We believe we are Sowing Seeds of Life in individuals' hearts to transform their fears, guilt, morals and ethics, and to give them purpose, hope, peace and joy for this life and the next.

An American missionary living on the property directs this aspect of the ministry. Prior to each work day, morning devotions occur for the farm workers and gathering patients. He along with the Haitian pastor of the church meeting at our school offer prayer and comfort for surgery patients, while DVDs in the waiting area provide health education and show Christian films such as the Jesus Film. Mandatory Bible classes and individual counseling are available to our students. Beyond its regular worship services and activities, the church meeting on our property, organizes children's Vacation Bible School, Youth Camps and outreaches to the surrounding villages, lately to the notorious Cite Soleil in Port-au-Prince. Visiting mission teams often assist with these efforts. Sensing a responsibility to spiritual leaders, Double Harvest also hosts an annual Pastors Conference shortly after Christmas where almost 150 pastors and church leaders are housed, fed, taught and encouraged.





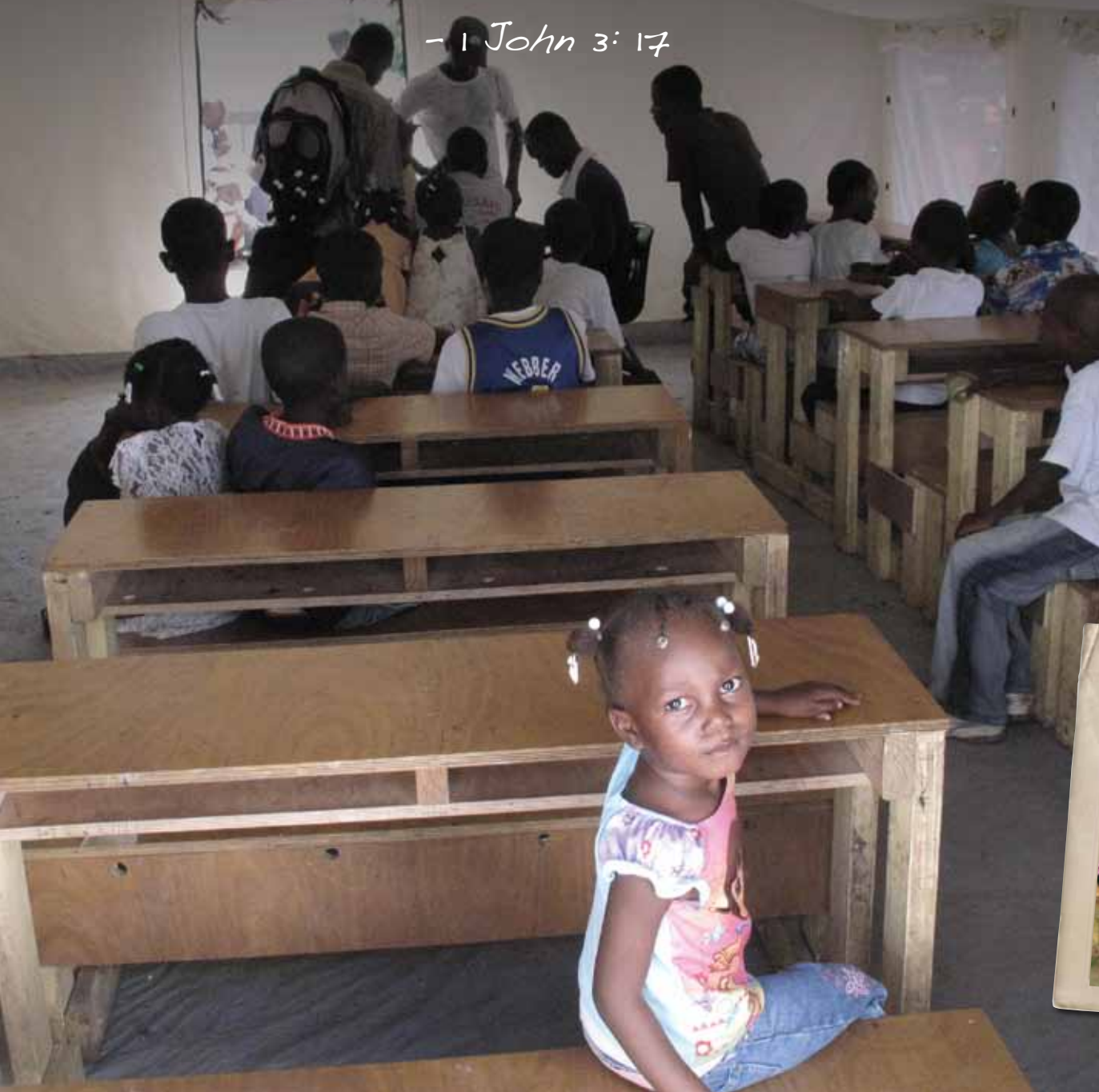
Compassion Outreach

Through the generosity of donors in the U.S. and Canada, we have the privilege of assisting poor villages in the surrounding area in various ways. A number of clothing, shoe and food distributions have taken place over the last year.

Two particular villages have received special focus. The Fishermen's Village, located about a 40 minute rugged drive east, lies on an inland lake consisting of 13% salt water (Oceans – 19%). Here, the “poor of the poor” live in desperate poverty with little to no means to sustain themselves. Regular food, water and clothing have been brought in. With the lake having been over-fished, efforts to help them grow Tilapia in cages in the lake have been disappointing. Recently, cooperation with another organization has seen a well drilled and a raise-bed garden pilot project attempted to offset the stony and brackish soil.

"If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?."

- 1 John 3: 17



The village of Le Rocher is situated about 30 minutes from the Double Harvest project.

If it has rained, four-wheel drive is essential. Here, a school and a church have been organized. Both meet under the same tents. School desks and church benches have been constructed by mission teams and services are led by our Spiritual Ministries Director. Clothing, shoe and food distributions have been conducted. Recently, a photography team took and printed pictures for the over 400 students, the first time the children had received a photo of themselves!



Mission Teams

These wonderful volunteers from the U.S. and Canada have greatly assisted us in accomplishing our mission. In an 18 month period we hosted over 50 such teams! For many it is a life-changing experience. In developing countries there are always additional projects that take a back-seat to the work at hand. Skilled workers have helped with our infrastructure and construction projects; general handymen have poured yards of concrete or renovated buildings on the property; women have helped organize and conduct clothing distributions or taught English classes; teams have conducted eye exams and installed water projects; surgery and dental teams have seen to the health issues so prevalent in third-world countries; spiritual ministry teams have assisted with Vacation Bible School, Youth Camps, special meetings and outreaches, and family life seminars. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to each of them.

Their partnership has aided us in accomplishing our mission – a “Double Harvest”!





**Thank you for helping to continue
“Sowing the Seeds of Life”!**



We still need your help as we move forward with our mission.

Donation Options: Prayers, Financial Support, Volunteering

All of our administrative and support costs are underwritten by the Van Wingerden Family.
As a result, 100% of the donations we receive go directly to the projects and work of DOUBLE HARVEST.



double
harvest

double harvest

Sowing Seeds of Life

Double Harvest, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3), non-profit organization.

Please visit our website today and read more about how your contributions are helping to continue Sowing the Seeds of Life. Or give us a call today.

55 South Main Street, Oberlin, OH 44074 • (440) 714-1694
info@doubleharvest.org • www.doubleharvest.org

Marketing Services donated by...

