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The Haiti Plunge mission is to challenge and empower young people to make a difference with their lives and to be of service to others.

It seems impossible that another year has ended and what better time for us to step back and reflect on all we have done in that space of time. This year the Haiti Plunge celebrated its 30th year since the original nine Berkshire students took the first trip and founded both the organization and the location where we still work with the people of a nine village agricultural cooperative in the Cabaret Region In April 2014 Haiti Plunge Inc. moved out of Desab and is focusing its next development stage in the villages of Tima and Brely. The Desab village leadership is now maintaining their infrastructure which includes schools, bakery, church, clinic, two roads, and a residence to house other organizations. Teaching women how to embroider has provided many families a second income. Throughout the years reforestation and erosion control has taken place. Under the initiative of the Desab leadership another organization, specializing in clean water, rebuilt the original capped spring in the village of Dortel which supplies water to four surrounding villages. 2014 saw sixty participants, 90 % were high school and college students, whose building projects included a basketball court in Tima and working on the Desab – Tima road loop which was completed in January '15. The team truck with John Mompont riding shotgun, was the first vehicle to drive on the road.



The 3.5 mile road was the dream of John Mompont from Tima who started the project 5 years ago. Every Saturday the Tima villagers with their picks and shovels, worked with John on this project. The challenges were many especially during the raining seasons which washed out a lot of their hard work with heavy rains. Each of the 2014 Haiti Plunge teams also took their turns working alongside the people.

The teams also invested a great deal of time and energy in reforesting the area of Tima especially where sinkholes were encroaching on major parts of the main road. Sandbags, loaded with rocks, were used to fill the sinkholes and nine inches of soil laid on top. Trees were planted on each sinkhole to hold the soil. Thus Project Oasis was initiated. Five oases have been completed to date. Reforestation is critical to this area of Haiti. During the rainy season the deforested areas cannot absorb the water thus creating dangerous flash flooding which can sweep children down the mountainside. Haiti also loses 1% of its topsoil annually. This topsoil is essential for the farmers' gardens.

The lifeline of the Haiti Plunge mission are our donors. The choices you make define who you are.

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