

THE CATALYST

A publication of the Haiti Plunge

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(Mailing Address)

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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.

THE MANY FACES OF HUNGER



Children running to the truck for food. Hurricane Matthew destroyed family gardens which would have produced the first crop after a 14-month drought.

The HPI truck always stops along the mountain road to give children a piwili (lollipop). This last trip after the hurricane warranted something more nutritional—peanut butter and bread.



A farmer tells his story of lost crops and the difficulty of feeding his family. He gratefully receives a small contribution from HPI donors that will help him purchase seeds to start a new garden.

A 32-year old Friendship



Charleus August met Sr. Eunice Tassone, over thirty years ago. He was the leader in the village of Desab. When she arrived in 1985 with one of the first HPI teams he greeted them with “ we have been waiting since 1804 for someone to find us and help us.” That was the year that the Haitians won their independence from France. Many of them feared the French would return and recapture them so they fled to the mountains and started a life there.

The health worker from the village of Brely sits with Holly Palardy, Asst. HPI director and an EMT and Nancy Clarke, also an EMT. They are teaching him how to set up a rehydration solution for cholera. HPI brought water purification tablets and rehydration packets made up of salt and sugar. Showing him how to mix everything in a quarter gallon size plastic bag and waiting thirty minutes before giving it to a patient is critical to recovery. The village health care worker plays a major role



2017 Trip Schedule

For anyone interested in participating in a Haiti Plunge team there is space available on the following teams. Applications can be downloaded from the website or by contacting HPI via email.

March 4—12 and 11—19 April 14—2
May 21—31 June 23—July 2 August 6—15
Oct. 15—22 Dec. 29—Jan.7 / '18

Trip cost is **\$1,650**. Fundraising brochures are available to help defray the cost.

Cost includes airfare, all on-site travel, meals, travel shirt, trip insurance and a day at Wahoo Bay Beach Resort. Participants live in tents at the HPI compound located in the the village of Brely, which is part of the Cabaret Region. There is no electricity or running water. The teams will continue assisting in hurricane relief efforts and with the building of raised gardens for women. Student nurses will work in the Desab clinic with Dr. Gabrielle and will do basic physicals on Brely school children. All team members will spend time teaching classes to village children whose parents cannot afford to send them to school.

Raised Garden Update:

The relief team made sure to check in on the raised gardens to see if any structural damage was caused by Hurricane Matthew. We are happy to report that our garden design stood strong. New seeds were distributed to the women so they can replant. These water efficient and goat protected gardens are now more important in this food insecure country as the approaching dry season makes planting in the ground very difficult.

Unique Christmas Gift For Haitian Chil-

dre Consider the gift of a Giving Tree, not the book by Silverstein but an actual Mango tree, for a child in Haiti. A Mango tree is the gift of life for the child receiving it. In 5—7 years they will have a food source which they can eat or sell and pay tuition to go to school. Last year 280 children ages 8-12 received a tree. This year trees will be given to newborns up to the age of 7. The greatest violence in Haiti is hunger and the gift of a tree is one way of providing food security.

Giving Tree Order Form:

Name _____ **No. of Trees** _____ **Amt. Enclosed** _____

Address _____

Name of person receiving gift card: _____

Donors are the lifeline to the Haiti Plunge mission.

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone in the water to create many ripples."

Mother Teresa

2016 3rd Quarter Major Donors

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