

Dear friends and donors,

Since our last newsletter, and given the ongoing challenging situation in Haiti, we have provided few updates, hoping to have a year-end positive project update to share with you.

School of Cèdre / Grand'Anse, Southern Haiti

During 2019, construction work at the School of Cedre has continued. Progress has been slower than we were hoping for, resulting from multiple worksite closings. These were necessary in order to keep workers safe, or when materials couldn't be transported to the work site. The political instability that reigns in Haiti has worsened.



Construction site visit, May 2019

Oftentimes, street demonstrations result in blocking road access for days, or weeks; many demonstrations have been violent, some with casualties. Access to gasoline, food and healthcare is precarious. As such, schools have not been in session (or have been open sporadically) since september. Many folks are unable to go to their work on a regular basis. Government gridlock is to blame.



Uni 3, August 2019

In spite of these difficult political and business conditions, our tenacious engineer and dedicated school inspectors have led work to ensure that we could end the year with some positive news! School reconstruction is almost done, only finishing touches such as painting and site cleanup remain.



Restrooms, construction in progress



Cistern (water tower) to supply water to restrooms



Inside a classroom, painting in progress



School of Cèdre, global view, September 2019

Community School of Barette / Petit-Goave

This school, rebuilt with your support in 2013, lacked space for a recess school yard. Fortunately, the school director is now in possession of an adjoining parcel, allowing for a potential play area for the students. We began construction in early July. The parcel was cleared and leveled, and the fence was installed.

Unfortunately, we've had to put this project on hold, again due to the political instability in Haiti. Our September trip to visit both construction sites had to be postponed. Our plan includes a swing set for the little ones, and a basketball hoop for the older pupils. We hope to start work again on this project soon,

and look forward to the day when the children can use this safe playing area.



School of Barette, recess courtyard work in progress

We hope that the new year will bring solutions to the many problems that exist in Haiti, so that children could return to school, to learn and play in safe areas.

More than ever, your support means so much to us, and encourages us to push forward in our mission. We are grateful for your help and in the name of the children who benefit from it – please accept our sincere thanks.

Gladys Doebeli Rocourt
President

Véronique Doebeli Saxe
Vice President



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**Happy Holidays
& Best Wishes
for 2020!**

