

## Capped Spring Water Supply

Over ten years ago, [Caritas \(Catholic Relief Services in Haiti\)](#) capped a spring near Gandou and laid piping that transferred the water to a collection station near the village center. Several years ago the station where the people obtained the water wasn't operational and we replaced the system during one of our trips. Lately there has been problems with the pipeline carrying the water. The line was made of shallowly buried, thin PVC piping that was damaged in several places by farmers working with picks in their gardens.

Prior to the insecurity that has caused us to cancel our last few trips, we were planning on overseeing the replacement of the piping with a thicker PVC that would be buried deeper than the original piping. Because we have been unable to travel, we worked with a community member, Frantz Desir, to have the project completed. Frantz is doing a year of service in the community in exchange for his scholarship to obtain training in diesel mechanics. Frantz oversaw a group of local workers who successfully completed the pipeline replacement.



Frantz is now serving as our maintenance person Gandou. In addition to his diesel mechanics training, which allows him to keep the generators running and repair Father Voltaire's truck as needed, he has completed a course in solar panel systems and is currently attending training on electrical wiring.



## Shipping

The Haiti Ministry ships supplies to Gandou twice a year on a sea container. These shipments include peanut butter for our malnutrition program, items for our [microloan program](#) such as shoes for resale and treadle sewing machines, general supplies for the medical clinic and school. We are also hoping to send supplies and furniture for the new clinic in the future. Our next planned shipment will be in October.

Due to the insecurity and changes in the customs offices, shipping has become more difficult lately. Recently five customs agents were kidnapped which stopped things from moving out of the port in Port-au-Prince. [Food for the Poor](#), who manages our shipments for us, has had to stop accepting items to send. Please pray that God will intervene so the people of Haiti will get the food and supplies they need to live.

## Dental Clinic

Our last medical and dental trips took place last March. Since then, Dr. Marseille and the nurses have been meeting many of the medical needs in the parish. Unfortunately, there has not been any dental care available during this time. In order to fill this gap, we arranged for Dr. Peterson and Dr. Clifford, two Haitian dentists who have worked with our teams in the past, to spend a week in Gandou running a dental clinic. They arrived in Gandou yesterday and are spending four days treating patients.



## New Medical Clinic

Our big construction project right now is the new medical clinic. Crews broke ground on the building in April. Despite delays due to a rainy spring, they are making good progress. Initial work included transporting materials to Gandou and land prep. Now, they are beginning to lay the foundation.

Once completed, the new clinic will replace our small two-room clinic. It will allow for patient privacy (currently the waiting area, examination area, and nursing station are all in the same 16x16ft room). It will also have running water and electricity. There will be space for future expansion including laboratory and imaging capabilities.



Currently we have enough funding to complete the main building. We are still seeking funds for additional things such as solar paneling, finishing the courtyard, public latrines, clinic furnishings, and painting. We continue to prioritize our existing projects, so we ask that you not redirect your regular giving to the clinic construction; however, if you feel called to give above and beyond your regular support of the Haiti Ministry, donations are greatly appreciated.

## Water Purification

Our two-bucket, [in-home water purification program](#) is continuing to function well. Our three water technicians monthly visit over five hundred homes to provide education, repair systems, and test that systems are functioning properly. In May, they reported that 95% of the homes they visited had water that tested clean. One challenge the water program is facing is getting repair parts and supplies. Currently, [Gift of Water](#), the program who supplies the parts, is unable to ship anything to Gandou from their Port-au-Prince location due to gangs blocking the road south from the capital. We are working with their US based office to obtain the parts here and will try to ship them to Jacmel through a private shipping company. If we are able to get the parts to Gandou, we will expand this program to additional families in the fall. Providing clean water is one of the ways we are having a large impact on the health of the community.



## Construction Progress

We have a few construction projects that have recently been completed by local Gandou workers. They built a maintenance building at the school. This will be used to house some of the solar panel system that will be installed at the school. They have also built a house that belongs to the parish and be will used to house the physician in our clinic.



Dr. Marseille. For the last year, Dr. Marseille has been staying in the rectory. Another project that was recently completed is repairing a home for a family in [our Family Aid program](#)/home repair program.