HOPE FOR HAITIANS

2026 Lenten Campaign

Since 2001, Rockford based Hope for Haitians has been providing secure homes, safe water and more to Haitian families living in desperate poverty. We continue our sustainable development work in eight different communities in Northern Haiti. Among them is our newest project, the focus of this year's Lenten Campaign, St. Joseph Village, Hope for Haitians' 19th Village project.

Project Goals for 2026

- Build safe, secure homes for 26 additional families
- Launch agricultural initiatives to strengthen food security
- Expand economic development programs to create sustainable income opportunities

This initiative builds on existing efforts. So far, 75 families have received homes and a community center and 16 solar street lights have been completed for the village. *Details on the back of this sheet.*

As always, unrestricted gifts that support the areas of greatest need are most helpful. However, if your parish is inspired by a specific project, the following opportunities are available:

- Sponsor primary school education for one student ($150 each)
- Provide solar power for a community center ($15,000)
- Fund a weekly clinic ($16,200) or a quarterly mobile clinic ($4,000)
- Provide a safe home for a family ($13,500)
- Install solar power for a school computer lab ($8,000)

SCAN to see materials and locate your parish page

Three Ways Your Parish Can Participate:

Host a Lenten Campaign: A lenten campaign involves the parish and often the school and religious education classes. Hope for Haitian's board and staff are available for presentations, assemblies, and short remarks at Mass. We provide bulletin announcements, content for social media, coin collection boxes, flyers, and envelopes that all work together to support how you want to engage the parish.

Add us to Your Parish Tithe: For some parishes, including the work of Hope for Haitians as part of their regular tithe is a good way to care for the poor as a parish. For these situations, staff and or members of the board of Hope for Haitians can be invited to offer a thank you and update as it best fits your parish needs.

Short Appeal at a Different Time of Year: Lent is often a busy time in some parishes and a different time of the year is better suited to engaging members of the parish with the needs of the poor. A special appeal or a week-long engagement with a Sunday announcement, weekday presentations and a final Sunday collection can be a way to engage and effectively educate and inspire parishioners to support the work of Hope for Haitians.

LENT CONTACTS

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Hope one Village at a Time

St. Joseph Village Project, the 19th initiative by Hope for Haitians, is set in Acul Samedi, Haiti – a small farming community. The villagers, who mostly grow crops like manioc and peanuts, face a host of challenges with housing, water, community space, and safety being paramount. This project addresses six areas needed to create a sustainable community.

Housing:
The current housing scenario in Acul Samedi is abysmal, with many homes constructed from mud and sticks, providing scant protection from harsh weather. This project aims to change this by providing 101 families (505 individuals) with new, well-equipped homes, marking their first step towards sustainable livelihoods. *(Status: 75 Completed, 26 scheduled for construction this Spring)*

Safe, Clean Water:
Currently, people rely on two wells or direct river water, exposing them to waterborne diseases. Ailments like typhoid, cholera, and chronic diarrhea account for over half of Haiti's annual deaths. This project includes two new wells and water treatment systems, ensuring safe drinking water for all. *(Status:Scheduled for Spring of 2026)*

Community Space and safety:
The community center built as part of this project provides a shared space for events, supporting community growth. 15 solar-powered streetlights improve road safety at night, while solar lights in each of the 101 homes will enable families to extend study and work hours, enhancing safety and opportunities for residents. *(Status: Completed)*

Local Leadership Training:
Training local leaders boosts outcomes and sustainability by equipping them to manage projects and adapt to community needs.Their expertise helps maintain progress after external support ends, creating self-sustaining growth rooted in community strengths. *(Status: Completed)*

Economic Development:
With less than 5% of residents holding permanent jobs and over 21% having no income, sustainable local income sources are essential.These initiatives should be community-driven, reducing reliance on external support and benefiting all community members. *(Status: Initial project launched. More help needed)*

Improving Food Security:
Enhancing food security in rural Haiti means empowering farmers with tools and resources to boost productivity and control their harvests. Local leadership guides efforts like providing mills for processing crops, increasing income, and reducing import reliance. Strategies include training, improved tools, seeds, and market access, building a resilient, self-reliant food system for long-term security. *(Status: Initial project launched. More help needed)*

Additionally these two programs are now in place

Mobile Health Clinics - Quarterly clinics staffed by volunteer Haitian Doctors and Nurses meet basic healthcare needs.

Educational Support - Family based tuition assistance helps ensure that no student is deprived of the opportunity for an education because of poverty.