Dear friends,

It’s been two years since the Category 4 Hurricane Matthew struck southwest Haiti in October 2016. Since then, immense progress has been made. With your support, our team continues to help families recover through construction training, home repairs, and the distribution of supplies. We also continue our work on long-term and sustainable housing solutions, including land tenure, housing loans, technical capacity building and innovative construction.

In Simon Pele, we are working with the community to ensure long-term viability and health through our water, sanitation, and hygiene program, and, through our work with the Haiti Property Law Working group, we are raising awareness on a topic that remains deeply misunderstood across the country. In Canaan, we have worked with the Mayor’s office to increase street lighting coverage and street signing to improve security among women and girls. We hope in the long-term these projects will prevent crime, increase economic opportunities for micro-enterprises and engage families in a process of land formalization. It was an exciting 2018, and we are committed to reaching more families and communities in 2019.

As we kick off the year, the Habitat Haiti team and I would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for your support in changing lives and building hope in Haiti. Your support allows us to continue serving the most vulnerable families in Haiti in building strength, stability, and self-reliance.

Thank you for your partnership!

Blessings,
Jean Frenel Tham
National Director
“Lekòl pwop” (Clean Schools) Poetry Contest

Water-related diseases and lack of access to sanitation cause more than one million deaths a year worldwide. Haiti faces considerable challenges in the drinking water and sanitation sector. Access to clean water and proper sanitation facilities is very low and services are of poor quality. Public institutions face challenges providing water due to the government’s limited resources. To support the Government of Haiti’s water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) efforts, Habitat for Humanity Haiti is expanding its WASH operations to assist Simon Pelé’s population in reducing disease-related illnesses. Habitat Haiti provides training on good hygiene practices, sensitization sessions and rehabilitation of sanitation facilities. Following awareness sessions on personal and environmental hygiene and trainings on the treatment and conservation of water, a contest was launched at the Simon Pelé schools around the theme, Lekòl pwop” (clean schools) to encourage the change of behavior of children with respect to hygiene. Contest participants were asked to present a text, a poem and a stage play around the theme.

The contest was an opportunity to encourage young people from Simon Pelé schools and, consequently, their families to take ownership of the hygiene lessons while highlighting their natural talents. This, certainly, will stimulate their contribution to the improvement of the living environment and the health of the Simon-Pelé population.

WASH IMPACT
- 37 teachers trained in hygiene practices
- 2018 students sensitized to hygiene
- 500 hygiene kits distributed in schools
- 14 schools sensitized to hygiene
- 43 students participated in the poetry contest


In 2011, Habitat founded the Haiti Property Law Working Group. The group has published two manuals: the first clarifies the procedures for buying and selling land in Haiti, and the second explains the different tenure types that exist under Haitian law and details the rights and responsibilities of owners and tenants. They are now working on a third manual that will focus on topics around land laws associated with inheritance.
2018 By the Numbers:

- 1250 houses repaired in Nippes
- 192 homes built in Grand’Anse
- 110 Masons trained
- 1000+ families with safer homes

**Impact of Hurricane Matthew Response**

In October 2016, Hurricane Matthew violently struck southwestern Haiti. The housing sector was severely damaged. The devastation caused by the hurricane affected millions and left over 300,000 homes needing repair or reconstruction. Habitat has done considerable work in these areas, including the construction of 192 new homes. We are grateful that many families were able to celebrate the holidays in their new homes.

**Jesula Jean**

Jesula Jean, lives in Nippes Petite Riviere. She shares her home with 10 family members. With the country’s current economy, she does not have a fixed income. She lives day by day. “Sometimes we can go several days without eating,” she said. “We do not have a garden anymore. We lost everything when Matthew struck. The house was flooded. The roof of the house was destroyed. We lived a long time in the house without a roof. We couldn't afford to repair the house. We did what we could with what we had. Today we are happy and satisfied with the work provided. We are very grateful.”

**Olivier**

When Hurricane Matthew hit the south of Haiti, it left his residence damaged and inhabitable. This single father of two little girls was devasted to find himself without a house. For weeks he was living under the debris because he had nowhere else to go. “When Matthew struck, I was inside the house. The roof fell on me. Thank God nothing happened to me. I stayed the whole night inside. Everyone thought I was dead,” he said. Olivier is very resilient. When Habitat was building his house, he helped anyway he could.
Thank you!

Habitat for Humanity Haiti would like to say a special thank you to the donors and partners who contributed to our work in 2018!