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Economic Development

For M. Dieumetre, the micro-loan program funded through Haiti Foundation of Hope has been a great help to him and his family. It was once difficult to find food but now he has multiple gardens and animals.

The micro-loan program is just one aspect of the economic development activities taking place in Terre Blanche and surrounding communities.

MICRO-LOANS

M. Dieumetre uses his micro-loan money to buy seeds. He grows millet, a corn-like grain common in Haiti. He has a garden near the river, and others on the hillside. He sells the millet at the market in Gonaives.

Along with the loan of money for small businesses, participants in the micro-loan program receive education on money management.

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING

Another economic development activity taking place is agricultural training. Haiti Foundation of Hope recently held agricultural training for 30 people. Part of the training included learning how to use drip irrigation. Each participant was given a drip kit to use in their own gardens.

Those who received training are excited to use their new knowledge and to share the knowledge with their neighbors and friends.

CURRENT STRUGGLE

Many people in Terre Blanche and the surrounding communities make their living off the land - growing crops or raising small livestock. Currently, the area is severely lacking rainfall. The river that runs through the area is almost dry. For almost all the farmers, the most recent crops have failed due to the drought conditions.

MISSION STATEMENT

Haiti Foundation of Hope is a Christian organization addressing the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the people in the impoverished and underserved rural communities of northern Haiti.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HOW TO HELP TODAY

You can support ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT by donating online or by sending a check in the mail.

You can help families during this time of drought by donating to the BEANS AND RICE fund.

Haiti Foundation of Hope is a 501(c)3 entity. All donations are tax deductible.



Graduating with Style

We celebrated another group of graduates from the Women's Trade School last month in Terre Blanche. Over the past 10 years, 46 women have completed the three-year program.

One of our volunteer medical teams was in Terre Blanche to attend the ceremony and celebrate with the graduates and their families and friends.

During their studies, the students learned skills such as sewing (they made their graduation gowns), childhood development, cooking and etiquette.

After passing a national exam, the graduates now have a certificate and skills that will help them care for and support their families.

One of the students who is still in the

program is Brezil Ann Rose. She started a trade school program 31 years ago but never finished because she was busy raising her children.

One day, she was passing through Terre Blanche and a friend told her about the Women's Trade School, in which the friend was enrolled. Brezil wasted no time getting herself enrolled and for the first time in almost three decades it looks like she might graduate from a trade school after all.

Brezil said that while she plans to



sell some of the items she'll make after graduating, a large reason she attends the trade school is to provide a better life for her family.

Sarah Jeglum, HFH team member, contributed to this article.



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